

For the purpose of implementation of the project: Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue, financed by the European Commission, DG Enlargement, Regional Co-operation and Programmes, through the program Civil Society Facility, Operating grants to IPA CSO Associations, Support to regional thematic associations, Grant Contract No.: 2014/351-922

Local Democracy Agency - LDA Subotica, Serbia announces:

CALL FOR EXPERT

**YOUTH MOBILITY IN THE WESTERN BALKANS PRESENT CHALLENGES AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES :
Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Kosovo*, Serbia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:**

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS AND PRACTICE

I Objective:

The objective of the Consultancy is to provide support to lead applicant European Association for Local Democracy (ALDA) and coapplicants (Local Democracy Agencies: Central and Southern Serbia, Subotica, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Mostar, Prijedor, Zavidovici in Bosnia and Herzegovina and ALDA Skopje) in the implementation of regional comparative research on the topic of youth mobility in the Western Balkans as an integral component of the project „Balkan regional platform for youth participation and dialogue”.

The main objective of the research component within the project in 2016 is to contribute to increasing the focus of governments in the Western Balkans to provide more favourable conditions for enhanced mobility of young people with the EU and within the region itself. More specifically, the research study will encompass a number of national policy measures adopted in respective countries in support to facilitated regional youth mobility in *education, training and employment*. The comparative study will serve as indicator of differences/discrepancies between the existing legislative/institutional framework and the position and needs of young people (aged 15-30), youth groups in the communities involved in this project so as to provide guidelines for their future activities. The Comparative study also gives an overview of the causes/tendencies of the brain drain in the region, the performance of the labour market, apprenticeship programmes, linkage between the education and labour market, youth unemployment statistics.

The research will focus on the population of vulnerable youth groups from the areas targeted by the Local Democracy Agencies (young people from rural areas and young especially marginalized, the unemployed, young people with low education, young people who are not involved in non-formal education, youth with low economic status).

The key findings and the presentation of the Comparative study results will be presented at the Second Forum for Local Democracy which will be held in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina in October 2016.

II Methodology and the scope of the work:

Expert(s) will be engaged to:

1. Design/propose adequate methodology and undertake regional comparative desk research that will result in an in-depth insight of present state of youth mobility in the Balkans
2. design questionnaires for local field researchers to collect local data that will complement regional comparative desk research,
3. organise online training/coaching for local research team members in LDAs
4. organise focus groups interviews with the assistance of LDAs local research team members, analyse collected feedback,
5. manage online consultations with relevant regional/country based stakeholders,
6. analyze collected data and produce conclusions based on regional and local responses/results of surveys undertaken,
7. Produce publication based on the research including the findings from the desk research as well as the draft conclusions from the online survey, focus groups and interviews.

Entire research work must be designed and conducted in a way to provide statistically reliable and relevant data. The Consultant(s) would be responsible to lead applicant ALDA and the coapplicants, for the quality of the material produced at the end of the project.

III Period of the engagement:

March – September 2016

IV Requirements:

- University degree in social/political/economic sciences, advanced degree is an asset
- At least 5 years of experience in the field of research work
- Knowledge of youth policies in the Balkan region and EU
- Good understanding of participatory democracy and education for active citizenship
- Good communication skills
- Knowledge of at least one of the local languages of the countries included (preferably a native speaker)
- Excellent knowledge of English (working level)
- Demonstrated analytical and writing capacity
- Experience in donor funded projects and working in international environment would be considered as advantage

Application and deadline

Interested candidates should send the package of 1) motivation letter, 2) CV and 3) two references relevant for the assignment exclusively to the following e-mail address: Local Democracy Agency Subotica: ldasubotica@aldaintranet.org before **25th March 2016**. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.