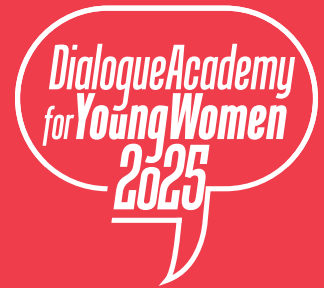


OSCE DIALOGUE ACADEMY FOR YOUNG WOMEN 2025

5 to 15 October, 2025, Nova Gorica, Slovenia and Gorizia, Italy



Organized by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The OSCE invites you to apply for the 11th OSCE Dialogue Academy for Young Women, which will take place from 5 to 15 October, 2025 in Nova Gorica, Slovenia and Gorizia, Italy. **Please send your application by midnight CET, 20th July 2025.**

About the OSCE Dialogue Academy

Since 2015, the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and the OSCE Mission to Serbia have jointly supported the OSCE Dialogue Academy for Young Women (DA), bringing together participants from their respective areas of responsibility. Each year, 24 young women from Prishtinë/Priština and Belgrade are selected to take part in an intensive ten-day programme to learn and discuss on the topics of women in politics, dialogue and peacebuilding. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with distinguished speakers and internationally recognized experts, who motivate and foster participants' personal and professional development through thought-provoking discussions and experience-sharing sessions. To date, ten editions of DA have been successfully implemented.

The DA builds on the values and principles of the "Follow Us" Initiative, which was established in 2012 by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and the OSCE Mission to Serbia. The initiative brought together prominent women from Prishtinë/Priština and Belgrade, to foster contact and dialogue between the two societies focusing on joint issues of interest, such as women in politics, dialogue and mediation, gender equality and women's empowerment.

Upon completion of the DA, participants become eligible to join the DA Network of Alumnae (DANA). The network, which now comprises 230 Alumnae from Prishtinë/Priština and Belgrade, will provide participants with opportunities to practically engage in promoting peace, confidence-building, solidarity, women's empowerment and dialogue. **As such, the DA is only the beginning of a longer journey that will continue as part of the DANA!**

Of note, since 2015, Alumnae have successfully implemented over 20 small-scale projects, participated in Alumnae exchange meetings, and contributed to different events in close co-operation with the OSCE.

Qualifications

We invite women between the ages of 20 and 27 from the areas covered by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and the OSCE Mission to Serbia to apply. Applicants should be students or young professionals in the fields of politics, law, international relations, social sciences, human rights protection, government, and media. Candidates should demonstrate genuine interest and/or engagement in civic activity (politics, voluntarism, community work, advocacy, and/or policy-making). Considering that lectures, discussions and all working materials will be in English, excellent English skills are essential for participation in the DA. The OSCE is committed to fostering an inclusive and diverse environment and actively encourages applications from young women of all backgrounds, including those with disabilities, from non-majority communities, and other underrepresented groups. All individuals are welcomed and valued for the unique perspectives they bring.

Selection process

The selection process will consist of the following steps:

Application Submission:

- In the first phase, applicants are required to submit their CV, a video and short written statement outlining their motivation for applying at the DA as well their personal interpretation of the DA's core identity and values.

Interview:

- Shortlisted candidates will be invited to participate in an online interview.

A total of 24 successful applicants who meet the qualification criteria will be selected to participate in the 2025 DA.

Structure and Themes

The 2025 DA will entail 10-day intensive programme held in Nova Gorica, Slovenia and Gorizia, Italy.

Throughout the programme, participants will enhance their knowledge and skills while exploring ways to collaborate on key themes such as dialogue, mediation, conflict resolution, gender equality, and women's empowerment. The programme includes an intensive learning module on "Dialogue, Mediation, and Confidence-Building", complemented by engaging panel discussions, interactive networking opportunities, and a variety of cultural activities.

The 2025 Dialogue Academy will also include a dynamic cultural programme aligned with its core themes, covering:

- Leadership for societal transformation;
- Inter-community dialogue and co-operation;
- Women's roles in contemporary political spaces;
- The impact of youth and women in peacebuilding;
- Inclusive security approaches for lasting peace.

Participants are expected to be present and actively engaged throughout all aspects of the programme. Discussions and sharing of opinions will be encouraged and highly valued, with respect of each other's differences in thought and background. Significant attention in the programme will be dedicated to networking activities and relationship-building between participants, for which participants are expected to be fully engaged.

Arrangements

All expenses related to participation in the 2025 DA will be covered by the OSCE, including:

- Travel to and from the Dialogue Academy venue (Nova Gorica, Slovenia and Gorizia, Italy). Please note that travel arrangements for participants from the OSCE Mission in Kosovo area of responsibility may include overnight stays in Belgrade, depending on final logistics;
- Health insurance;
- Accommodation;
- Course module costs;
- Meals and refreshments;
- Cultural/study visits.

Only the participants who will attend for the entire duration of the DA will obtain a Certificate of Completion to become DANA member.

Application

To apply for the 2025 DA, please submit your CV, a short video via WeTransfer link and the written statement to: dialogueacademy@osce.org

The CV¹ should include all of the listed elements:

1. Date of birth, city of birth and city of current residence;
2. Updated information on your employment and education;
3. Educational and professional courses relevant to the DA programme;
4. Languages spoken;
5. Contact details (i.e. personal phone and email address);
6. Contact email of two academic and/or professional references;
7. Should not exceed the length of three pages;
8. A statement whether you or any of your relatives are/are not employed within the OSCE.

The short video should not be longer than one minute and address the following guiding questions:

- How would the Dialogue Academy help you in further promoting dialogue and mutual understanding in your day-to-day life and in your community?
- How do you see this experience influencing the way you engage with people from different backgrounds or viewpoints?

The written statement should not exceed 400 words and focus on the following:

- Share an example of a moment when you had to challenge a stereotype or assumption, either about your identity or someone else's.
- What did you learn from this experience about yourself and your own capacity as a young woman, and how might this empower you to engage in dialogue and collaboration in a divided society?

PLEASE NOTE THAT APPLICATIONS THAT DO NOT FOLLOW ALL LISTED INSTRUCTIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Please send your application by midnight CET, 20th July 2025.

1. Please note that by providing this information you agree to processing of your personal data. Processing of your personal data will be done for the purpose of this activity only, and not for any other purpose.