



Erasmus+

INFOPACK

Erasmus Youth 2023 - Capacity building in the field
of Youth - Western Balkans

DIGITAL VS CORRUPT TRAINING COURSE

With Digitalisation Versus Corruption

PIROT, SERBIA




21st April (arrival date) – 26th April (departure date) 2024



Dear Participant, Partner and Friend

EPEKA Montenegro as coordinator and EPEKA Serbia as a host with Erasmus+ Programme support would like to welcome you to the **Digital Vs Corrupt Training Course** which will take place in Pirot, Serbia. We are very glad to hear you have been selected as a partner in the 30 month project and we are looking forward to meeting you in beautiful Serbia.

As a team, we do believe that different skills, knowledge, and attitudes of 24 participants coming from different countries would enrich our common experience, that's the reason why we would like to encourage you to take an active part sharing, learning and creating.





**Are you ready for that? If yes – let's get started!!!
We wish you a nice stay and fruitful work in Pirot,
Serbia!**



Description of the project:

DigitalVScorrupt is Erasmus+ CBY in WB project with main aim to fight Corruption in the EU and WB with digital tools and empowerment of youth and people in EU and WB.

Corruption is a complex social, political and economic phenomenon that affects all countries. Corruption undermines democratic institutions, slows economic development and contributes to governmental instability. Corruption attacks the foundation of democratic institutions by distorting electoral processes, perverting the rule of law and creating bureaucratic quagmires whose only reason for existing is the soliciting of bribes.

WB is struggling with the corruption already decades and the task of CSO's and Youth organizations is to tackle one of the hardest enemy of nowadays society to defend EU core values as Democracy, Rule of Law, Common Values and to promote Active citizenship and to bring closer WB to EU.

Objectives:

- with cross-sectoral cooperation carry out non-formal learning activities to empower youth workers and others on the field of countering corruption in WB and EU
- raising the capacities of the involved organization in WB to increase knowledge on the ICT field in the sense how digital tools can discover corruption
- implementation of the EU youth strategy in WB and raising awareness and importance of the EU values, Rule of Law, Common Values in the WB
- to foster dialogue on the local, national and international level with the political decisionmakers about the harm which Corruption is capable of doing regarding safety and stability of EU and WB against external forces.

Activities: meetings, trainings, national CB activities, youth exchanges, conferences and campaigns.

Type and number of persons: 900 persons involved from 14 countries.

Results: 75 educated youth workers on the field of corruption, 60 participants from 14 countries active on Youth exchange, 240 participants included in national CB activities, over 150 participants in conference.

Outputs: Training materials, Toolkits, Video's

Profile and preparation of participants

- Youth workers from different organizations in EU and outside of EU

The profile of participants differs according to the partner organization. Common to all participants is their membership to fight corruption. Working language of this Training Course meeting will be English.

The organizers and partners

The project is coordinated by the EPEKA Montenegro organization. Host is EPEKA Serbia. Partners are following:

- Phiren Amenca International Network (Belgium)
- Private Scientific Institution Institute for Applied Research for Bussines Skopje (North Macedonia)
- Transparency International Iceland (Iceland)
- Qendra Open Doors (Albania)
- EPEKA Berlin (Germany)
- Eycb Breclav (Czech Republic)
- Udruzenje Akustikum (BiH)
- Lykia Izcilik Ve Doga Sporlari Kulubu Dernegi (Turkey)
- Arcigay (Italia)
- CET Prizren (Kosovo)
- EPEKA Serbia (Serbia)
- Feio (Polska)

Travel information

Arrival day: Sunday, 21st April 2024 (we will start the program in the evening of **21th April 2024** with the welcome dinner. You are expected to arrive by **19:00. Information about the dinner place will be sent).**

Departure day: Friday, **26th April 2024** in the noon. There are programme elements just in the morning.

Partners are expected to take safe and economical means of transports. Please try to do it as green as possible. All partners have limited travel costs. All the travel proofs must be sent to the coordinator after the project (boarding passes, travel documents)

Location of many airports are nearby Pirot such as:

- Belgrade, Serbia
- Niš, Serbia
- Sofia, Bulgaria
- Skopje, North Macedonia

For more information check: [Momondo](#) [Skyscanner](#)

For transfers from airports to Pirot, contact us for the possibility of arranging a pick-up for you. If we will not be able to pick you up, we highly recommend Nis ekpress, GEA TOURS shuttle, Flixbus,... Pirot can be easily reached by bus Flix Bus: [FlixBus](#).

Belgrade Airport to Belgrade Bus Station:

They can be reached by bus: 600, 3A, 51, 511.

Link:

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Belgrade+Nikola+Tesla+Airport,+Belgrade,+Srbija/Belgrade+Bus+Station,+%C5%BDležni%C4%8Dka,+Belgrade,+Serbia/@44.8126596,20.2863793,12z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m14!4m13!1m5!1m1!1s0k475a688a5214cf59:0kc3184c4bc7f308f!2020d!59!1m5!1m1!1s0k475a7aacb8ca4d5d:0k7db94704474c1529!2m2!1d20.4542668!2d44.8100227!3e3?hl=sr&entri=ttu>

Then from the bus station a bus to Pirot. Timetable Belgrade - Pirot: <https://vv.polazak.rs/sr/red-voznje/Beograd-RS/Pirot-RS/>

On this link you can find the detailed information about every kind of transportation with the schedule and prices: <https://www.rome2rio.com/s/Nis-Airport-INI/Pirot>

Also, the distance from the main bus station to the hotel „Ana lux“ is 1 km. There is no public transportation between this two locations, so you can take a taxi (arrange it at the bus station) or go by foot.

Travel expenses are covered by the organizers 100%

Make sure you arrange the appropriate travel documents. Costs of visa are excluded in the reimbursement. Please provide the invoices. In case of questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

The venue and the accommodation

Hotel "Ana lux spa"

18300 Pirot

Srpskih vladara bb

You will be accommodated in twin room. There will be spa and fitness also in hotel.



Insurance

Please bring your valid European Health Insurance Card or other travel insurance that covers health treatment costs in case of non-EU citizenship. All participants will be additionally insured in case of accident.

Practical Information

Food: three daily meals will be provided (+ 2 coffee breaks).

Currency

The Serbian currency is Serbian Dinar. (1 euro is around 117 dinar) Paying by bank card is very usual, however it is recommendable to have cash on you. You can also find an ATM almost on every corner in the city center and hubs.

Weather & Attractions

Expect the temperatures between 10°C. Bring a winter jacket and good mood. What to do and see in Pirot in your spare time, you can check at: [Tourist Organisation Pirot \(topirot.com\)](http://topirot.com).

Youthpass

Every person who takes part in an Erasmus+ Youth in Action project is entitled to receive a Youthpass Certificate. The Youthpass Certification helps to record the acquisition of competencies, as well as to confirm participation and identify the respective project. Attention to the planning of the learning process and consideration of participants' personal learning outcomes are an integral part of the initiative. The policy seeks to encourage awareness of non-formal learning and youth work.

More information is available at: [YouthPass](#)

Whom you can contact

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Programme of the training course DigitalVsCorrupt in Serbia:

21.4.2024.

Day 1: Arrivals

09:00 - 19:00 Arrivals

19:00 Dinner

21.00 Get to know each other introduction games

21.30 Rules and programs of the youth exchange

22.00 Group dynamics

23.00 Party

22.4.2024.

Day 2: Introduction to corruption in the public sector

07:00 - 09:00 Breakfast

09:00 - 09:30 Registration and welcome

09:30 - 10:00 Energizer, presentation of trainers and participants, introduction to the program

10:00 - 10:15 Presentation of the Erasmus program

10:15 - 11:30 The concept of corruption and different forms in the public sector

11:30 - 12:00 Break

12:00 - 13:00 Workshop: Understanding the causes of corruption

13:00 - 15:00 Lunch

15:00 - 16:00 Group discussions on examples of corruption in the local public sector, questions and conclusions of the day

19:00 Dinner

21:00 Roma cultural evening

23.4.2024.

Day 3: Legal framework and ethical principles

07:00 - 09:00 Breakfast

09:00 - 10:30 Overview of the legal framework against corruption in Serbia

10:30 - 11:30 Lecture on ethical principles in the public sector

11:30 - 12:00 Break

12:00 - 13:00 Instead of a traditional discussion - World Caffé: "World Caffé" discussion format where participants rotate between different tables with questions about the fight against corruption, identification of ethical dilemmas and decision-making in a corrupt environment

13:00 - 15:00 Lunch

15:00 - 16:00 Panel discussion with experts from the legal and ethical field, questions and conclusions of the day

19:00 Dinner

21:00 Party - Sauna against corruption in the public sector

24.04.2024.

Day 4: Prevention and detection of corruption

07:00 - 09:00 Breakfast

09:00 - 10:30 Strategies for the prevention of corruption in public institutions

10:30 - 13:00 Working visit to relevant institutions in Pirot that fight against corruption

13:00 - 15:00 Lunch

15:00 - 17:00 Workshop: Examples of good practice in the fight against corruption in the public sector in the participating countries (presentation in groups)

19:00 Dinner

21:00 Local party

25.4.2024.

Day 5: Conference

07:00 - 09:00 Breakfast

11:00 - 14:00 Conference

14:00 - 15:00 Lunch

15:00 - 19:00 Free time

21:00 Intercultural evening

(Possible topic at the conference - The role of citizens in the fight against corruption)

The proposed program:

The first part of the TC will have a theoretical focus and will include experts from the consortium and invited prominent outside experts which will offer us data and facts about the situation on the field; it will be designed as a seminar with extensive time allocated to debates.

Firstly, there will be presentations of areas of the Public sector exposed to corruption and the possible solutions: judiciary, health and education sectors, government, intergovernmental bodies, public procurement, defence and security, etc. This will be followed by an overview of good practices from the associated partner IJS (Institut Jozefa Stefana) from Slovenia.

Secondly, we will consider in depth the effects corruption in these areas has on young people, since explaining to a target audience in what ways a phenomenon affects them directly is a crucial psychological mechanism to foster active participation and the will to oppose negative social phenomena.

A special part of the TC will be aimed at presenting the impact of corruption transparency and supervision of the financing of political parties, the Bribery and the use of connections and anti-EU politics from the governments inside and outside of EU.

Results of TC (5 working days + 2 travel days): workshops, public presentations, development of non-formal learning tools against corruption in public sector, development of methodology zero-tolerance behaviour against corruption, understanding of ICT tools how to fight with them corruption, best practices fighting corruption, youth work multipliers for workshops on the local level, toolkit draft of reporting corruption in public institution in public sector, youth work manual draft, report, administrative report, participants lists, evaluation Outputs will be freely available through project and partner websites and dedicated platforms (SALTO Youth and others): drafts, public music event, press release, media coverage, social media coverage, photography, video, Youthpasses.

26.4.2024.

Day 6:

09:00 Evaluation and awarding of the Youthpass certificate

10:00 Departures

About Pirot:

The town was built on the site of the Roman fortress Turre, it was only mentioned as Pirot in the 14th century. During the time of the Turks, especially in the 16th and 17th centuries, it was a beautiful and rich town, mostly thanks to its good location and trade connections. Today, Pirot has about 45,000 inhabitants. It cannot be said that the city shines, but the positive developments that have taken place in recent years are clearly visible. The Tigar tire factory is the main economic factor in the city, which is why mostly business tourists come to Pirot, who stay for a day or two and do not see anything of what the surroundings of Pirot can offer to tourists.

Places to visit:

1. Stara planina (Old Mountain)

Also known as the Balkan mountain, after which the entire peninsula got its name, it is the largest mountain in Eastern Serbia. It is under snow for five months a year, when it provides good conditions for skiers and snow lovers. We visited the mountain in the spring when the incredible nature of this mountain awakens.

The highest peak of the mountain, Midžor (2,169 m), forms the border between Serbia and Bulgaria and is quite far from Pirot, so you will have to plan a slightly longer stay if you want to visit this peak. Much more accessible is Baba's tooth, which is located at 1,785 meters above sea level and about 60 kilometers from Pirot. However, don't let the mileage fool you because the drive will take maybe 2 hours due to the winding road and bad pavement.



2. Stara planina waterfalls

Although these waterfalls are an integral part of Stara planina, they deserve to be singled out as a special additional reason for visit to Pirot.

As much as a third of the waterfalls in Serbia are located on the western side of Stara Planina. There are a lot of them, but the most beautiful ones are the ones on the Dojkinačka and Toplodolska rivers, near the village of Dojkinci , i.e. Topli Do. The paths to these waterfalls are marked and you can visit them independently, but prepare well: start early and bring enough food and water.

Near the village of Dojkinci, there is the Tupavica waterfall. At an altitude of 1,050 meters above sea level, it is of exceptional beauty and with a height of up to 25 meters it belongs to the most beautiful waterfalls in Serbia .



3. Ironed sausage

Ironed sausage is a Pirot specialty made from sheep, goat or beef meat, to which a combination of spices is added, and then it is ironed and dried. A bottle (usually full of wine) is most often used for ironing, they say everything else is sacrilegious. The finished ironed sausage has the shape of a horseshoe, it is cut into thin pieces only with a knife and goes well with local wine.

Unfortunately, you cannot find this sausage anywhere in Pirot in the spring. It is a winter specialty, so you will only be lucky if you visit Pirot at that time of the year. At the beginning of 2011, the first World Championship in making iron sausage was held in Pirot. The event later grew into the extremely popular Pirot Iron Sausage Fair, which takes place every February.



4. Monasteries

Pirot is an area of rich cultural and historical heritage, so there are many churches and monasteries that you can visit. The most famous are the monastery of St. George and the monastery of St. John the Theologian near Poganov.

The monastery of St. George is located in the village of Temska, a 20-minute drive from Pirot. The monastery was built in the 14th century, but on the basis of a monastery from the 11th century, which can be seen if you look at the ground part of the wall of the external facade. The monastery was built by the Dejanović brothers, relatives of Emperor Dušan.



The frescoes in the interior of the monastery are very well preserved, unfortunately photography is not allowed, so here's another reason to come yourself. Within the monastery there is also a very nice inn where the monks live.



5. Ponišavlja Museum

The Pirot museum is housed in the house of former merchant Hristo Jovanović , better known as Mali Rista, who was very wealthy, valued and respected in his time even by the Turks.

Entrance to the museum will cost you only 80 dinars, but it is worth much more. When you pass through the gate, you will have the impression that you have already been there. The culprit is Zdravko Šotra, who used this space and the house to film Zamfir's Zone and later Ivkova Slava (the museum was actually Ivko's house).



Along with the curator's beautiful story, you can enjoy getting to know the life of Mali Rista and his family, as well as information about life and customs at that time.

Little Rista built a house as a home for his family. According to tradition, it was built for two years and was completed on April 5, 1848. This is evidenced by an engraved text on the floor of the house. To build the house, Mal Rista needed permission from the Turkish authorities, because he intended it to be a large one-story house, which at that time was only allowed for Turks.

Nevertheless, Mali Rista received permission and thus, on the outskirts of Pirot, one of the most luxurious Christian houses in Pirot of that time was built .



6. Stone village of Gostuša

Gostuša is an old mountain village characterized by archaic architecture, which is why it is also called the "Stone Village", as well as the preservation of old customs and culture. Until the construction of the Belski bridge, which bridged Zavojsko jezero, this area was difficult to access.

As a result, Gostuša was almost completely isolated for a long time, which contributed to the preservation of the tradition of this village in every respect, and today Gostuša is an authentic village that most faithfully reflects the life of the Old Mountain population in the last century.

It is about 30 kilometers from Pirot to Gostuša, but be prepared for a journey that lasts over 60 minutes. The reason is the extremely bad road, especially after the lake. Immediately after the bridge, the asphalt road ends, and for the next few kilometers you will be faced with an extremely bad road, strewn with gravel and stones, where you will not be able to "put into another".



8. Momčilov Grad

Pirotski or Momčilov Grad is a city fortification next to Nišava and is located in the city itself, i.e. at the entrance to the city from the direction of Niš.



Considering the age of the fortress and the extremely large number of turbulent events, it can be said that the city walls are quite well preserved. At the moment, work is being done on the improvement of Momčil's town, and clear changes are visible on the plateau in front of the fortress, paved paths, planted grass and landscaped parks.

However, the interior of the fortress is in a very bad condition, but there are visible works, which I hope will be finished soon, because it is unacceptable for such an important monument to be neglected and unkempt, and it could easily become a symbol of the city. The tower itself cannot be reached because the gate is locked, so I hope this will be fixed as well.