

15
July
2022

BeeEFB DIGEST

Dear alumni,

It's high time we say hello to the summer season and we are looking forward to seeing you around the coast. In this monthly digest, you can read about our activities in June and some upcoming activities :)

The beeEffect Programme



**THE BEE
EFFECT
PROGRAMME**
Connect.
Act. **Impact.**

We received almost 60 applications for the 1st generation of the beeEffect programme and more than 20 applications from the alumni to serve as mentors, presenters, advisors. Our Programme team is now in the selection process and will publish the list of participants by 31 July. After participants are selected, we will match them with mentors and finalize the programme of the launching event (planned for 7-14 October), so stay tuned for more updates in August!

National Meet-Ups

Two groups of bees gathered together in June - 12 in Kosovo and 9 in BIH, and they discussed the **beeEffect Programme**, ideas for **Mini Hives** and other things they could do together within the Network. We are sharing a bit of atmosphere through photos and we remind you that the call for national meetups is always open - so whenever you feel like bringing people together to meet, exchange ideas and plan things - **please apply!**

Selected Joint Initiatives

We selected joint initiatives and they are already implementing their initiatives, so follow the platform and our social media groups for updates from the teams in upcoming period:

Check out the Joint Initiatives who were selected. In case you are interested in their activities stay tuned since we will post the calendar soon!

1

Promoting Green mobility movement in the Balkans EFB community advocates for Green mobility, by Filip Nelkovski, Ognjen Alagic, Marija Maras, Kosta Zivanovic, Tihana Lolic, Nejra Hiros, Dejan Tonic, Aleksandar Maksimovic

2

increasing civic awareness on the EU Green Agenda in Albania, by Migena Kalthi Karaj, Baisa Sefa, Aurora Mukaj, Blerta Derhemi, Redi Saliasi, Denis Gila

3

Resilient Leadership in the Time of Crisis, by Maja Vujaskovic Djureinovic, Svetlana Cosovic Stajic and Dejan Tonic

HIVE FIVE! **with Maja Vujaskovic**

Maja is the Belgrade national meetup host, coordinator of Resilient leadership joint initiative and an amazing alumna, and here's her Hive Five:

Your "blast from the PAST": What's your favorite memory/souvenir from your EFB?

There were many, but my favorite story about my LDP experience in 2007, in Germany. After few days of intensive and heated discussions about Balkans' politics, we watched together a movie "Whose Is This Song?", carrying powerful message about sooo much more in this region that unites us than divide us. I loved the message, it resonates well with my values and I have been revisiting the movie many times afterwards.

Years after: How did the EFB experience added to your career goals and professional projections?

Although my career took a different track since then, LDP program was a transformational experience for me. Insights and skills were applicable outside the scope of the programme but more importantly, meeting many smart and inspirational people and visiting key international institutions made my world "bigger" at that moment and opened up some new perspectives.

Your views on the EFB networking potential... Do you still buzz (with) the other bees from the hive?

Not as much as I would like to. Hope all new exciting beeEFB initiatives will help me become better in buzzing!

On the way forward: Your two cents on how should we grow as a community and on the avenues of getting there?

Network gives us a wonderful access to a diverse talent of alumni members. Working together can be a benefit to us personally and to the wider community.

Towards reignited engagement: What drives your motivation to stay engaged with the beeEFB community?

My main motivation is giving back. We all had that special person or an opportunity that helped us once to unlock our potential. I am grateful for what LDP gave me many years ago and would like to help keeping that spirit alive and support some new, young leaders.



Blast from the PAST



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Remember the 10 years of EFB celebration event from 2018? Time flies so fast, 15-year anniversary is just around the corner!

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EFB NEWS

The Balkans in Europe Policy Advisory Group (BiEPAG), the European Fund for the Balkans, and the Southeast Europe Association (SOG) organized an online discussion on different proposals to reinvigorate EU enlargement, which are currently being discussed in the public. Russia's invasion of Ukraine strongly altered the geostrategic positioning and relevance of the European Union, and evoked a new sense of urgency and importance of EU enlargement among member states. With the recent granting of candidate status to Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, it is high time to discuss the effectiveness of the enlargement process and of different proposals to reform it.

The panelists presented and discussed the different proposals, ranging from ESI's proposal to the "Staged Accession" proposal, developed by a group of think tankers, to the most recent mentioning of the French President Emmanuel Macron of a so-called "European Political Community". What is in there, how feasible are these models, how do the different models relate to each other, and who would support/oppose them and why are some of the questions we will focus on in this debate.

If you are interested to hear the discussion, visit [HERE](#).

In case you got ideas, questions, comments - email us at efbalumni@gmail.com.

See you on the **BeeEFB Platform**

May the hive **Bee** with you