

# Newsletter

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Summer / Fall Year 2015/2016

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**"Waves for Change"**

**Generation 2016 /18 is  
welcomed to UWC Mostar**

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# IN MEMORIAM



**ANTONIN BESSE**  
This November we said goodbye to Antonin Besse, a long year friend and supporter of the UWC movement and UWC Mostar in particular. Antonin Besse has been committed to the overall UWC movement for over 50 years. He donated the St Donat's Castle to the governing body of UWC Atlantic College in 1960. Two years later, in 1962, on that same spot, the first United World College opened its doors in Wales for students from Great Britain, Western Europe and North America to learn and live in a multicultural environment, while at the same time promoting peace and understanding in post - WWII Europe. Antonin Besse, along with David Sutcliffe and Pilvi Torsti, was one of the minds behind the idea of opening a UWC in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He was one of the biggest financial supporters of UWC Mostar in the initial years and later on as well. As part of the endowment fund "Bridge for the future", one endowed scholarship will be given in perpetuity to a student from Bosnia and Herzegovina and that is just part of his legacy. We have lost a great person, a true philanthropist and an honest friend. Our thoughts are with his family.



**MAGNUS PERSSON**  
Magnus Persson served on the Board of the Foundation Education in Action from 2010 -2014. Magnus was a politician in his hometown Karlstad serving as Deputy Chairman of the Municipality Council. Magnus was President of the Learning Teacher Network, a European educational network performing as an international platform for professional debate in the vanguard of educational progress. He has been a committed educational worker and an inspiration for his community and professional network. His death will leave a feeling of deep loss among all the people who knew him.

# UWC Mostar alumni network

UWC Mostar alumni!  
We believe that we can leverage the wealth of our growing alumni network to the benefit of both UWC Mostar and its alumni. However, before we can get started on making a real action, we first need to hear from those that matter most, you! So, pass on your details and share your thoughts. We would also gladly get in touch to further discuss your ideas or think of ways for you to be involved. Filling in the Google form will take only a couple of minutes: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1L3wvFzDiUd5Y6meAwqJs6Vmuek2a-VkD4ld-7OYSB-w/viewform?usp=send\\_form#start=publishanalytics](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1L3wvFzDiUd5Y6meAwqJs6Vmuek2a-VkD4ld-7OYSB-w/viewform?usp=send_form#start=publishanalytics)

# Croatian teacher Ivona Sušac presents Etwinning Program

eTwinning is part of EU program Erasmus+, the new program for education, youth, culture and sport to be implemented in period 2014 - 2020. Teachers from all participating countries can register and use the eTwinning online tools to meet virtually, exchange ideas and practice examples, team up in Groups, learn together in Learning Events and engage in online-based projects. In May 2016 UWC Mostar and our Croatian teacher Ivona Sušac hosted 32 teachers and educational workers from Mostar with the aim of presenting the project and encourage the involvement of teachers and schools from Herzegovina in this valuable communication and cooperation platform.



# Mimar Mira

The Center for Peace and Multi-ethnic Cooperation has awarded UWC Mostar Headmistress Valentina Mindoljević with the "Mimar Mira" (Peace Builder) award!

Under the slogan "Mostar does not forget its friends", the Center recognizes outstanding individual contributions to the cultural, artistic, social and political development of the City of Mostar. Valentina has received this award for her personal and professional commitment to peace and reconciliation embodied in the work and achievements of UWC Mostar. Other awardees include: Luciano Pavarotti (posthumous), Senad Hadžifejzović, Vildana Selimbegović, Blaž Slišković, Vahid Halilhodžić, Safet Zec, Aleksandra Savić (Club Aleksa) and many more.



# University of Wisconsin delegation visits UWC Mostar

A five-member delegation from the University of Wisconsin visited UWC Mostar and met with Headmistress Valentina Mindoljević and History teacher Dženan Hakalović to discuss the challenges of the BH educational system and the good practices promoted by the College.



# UWC short course "Waves for Change"

UWC in Mostar, with the help of its students and external facilitators held the traditional short course called "Waves for Change" on the topic of social movements. During these 10 days, 18 participants from 12 different countries explored history of social movements, ways of protesting, the power of art and creative response in social movements and social movements in the region.



# Mostar Summer Youth Program (MSYP) 2016

The Mostar Summer Youth Program (MSYP) is a free summer educational program that provides youth aged 14-19 from Mostar and the surrounding area with opportunities to improve their self-confidence and key skills. MSYP empowers participants in their educational, social and professional ambitions, by connecting them with organizations and businesses working in and around Mostar. MSYP aspires to be a hub for youth leadership, volunteerism, and entrepreneurship. UWC Mostar was once more proud to host MSYP in June. This amazing initiative brought together 70 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina to discuss and learn about religious studies, civic activism and nonviolent social change, human rights, gender and feminism in contemporary BiH, media studies, literature and identity and many more interesting topics!

# Together We Create

UWC Mostar Headmistress Valentina Mindoljević gave a motivational speech to young people from over 40 cities in Bosnia and Herzegovina at the Schuler Helfen Leben (SHL) BiH Event - "Together We Create". SHL has been doing very important work in the field of youth education and activism in the Western Balkans for over 20 years!



# Induction Week – Welcome Firsties

End of August in the UWC Mostar community was marked by preparations for the arrival and welcome of first year students. 200 students from 61 countries



- Afghanistan (1)
- Albania (3)
- Australia (3)
- Austria (3)
- Belgium (2)
- Bosnia and Herzegovina (61)
- Brazil (1)
- Canada (5)
- Chile (1)
- China (2)
- Colombia (2)
- Croatia (1)
- Czech Republic (2)
- Denmark (4)
- Finland (2)
- France (5)
- Germany (5)
- Great Britain (5)
- Greenland (1)
- Guatemala (1)
- Hong Kong (1)
- Hungary (2)
- India (3)
- Iraq (1)
- Israel (5)
- Italy (7)
- Jamaica (1)
- Jordan (1)
- Kosovo (2)
- Lebanon (1)
- Lithuania (1)
- Mexico (3)
- Macedonia (1)
- Malaysia (1)
- Malta (1)
- Montenegro (4)
- Myanmar (1)
- Nepal (3)
- Netherlands (4)
- Niger (1)
- Norway (4)
- Pakistan (5)
- Palestine (1)
- Poland (2)
- Portugal (1)
- Romania (1)
- Senegal (1)
- Serbia (2)
- Slovakia (2)
- Slovenia (3)
- South Africa (1)
- Spain (2)
- Sweden (2)
- Syria (1)
- Taiwan (2)
- Turkey (5)
- Ukraine (1)
- United Arab Emirates (2)
- United States of America (6)
- Uzbekistan (1)
- Zimbabwe (1)

# UWC Hub launch

UWC International launched The UWC Hub as a result of continuous efforts to offer a unique platform for the UWC community to stay engaged and maintain personal and professional contacts. The overall aim of the UWC Hub is to strengthen the UWC community, to encourage

engagement and positive action, to increase UWC's collective impact and advance the UWC mission. Create your own profile, if you belong to the alumni community or are current or former staff member, and remain part of the UWC family! <https://www.uwc.org/alumni/uwc-hub>



# Gift from Center for Peace and Multi-ethnic Cooperation Mostar

We received a very precious gift from the Center for Peace and Multi-ethnic Cooperation Mostar for our 10th year anniversary. The College has been recognized as an agent for the promotion of peace and coexistence in Mostar with this beautiful picture of Nelson Mandela holding the Mostar Peace Award received in 2006!

# Red Cross building - new classrooms!

Since the early days, the City of Mostar has been a strong supporter of our school. The latest proof lies in the Red Cross building, which has been given to UWC Mostar for renovation and use. This building has been out of use for years, but thanks to our generous donors and enthusiastic and creative students, the space has found its new purpose in the form of classrooms. As part of the UWC Day celebrations our Environmental CAS has planted flowers and decorated the external parts of the building.





# Students visit organic farm near Mostar

Association “Nešto više” (Something more) from Sarajevo is currently implementing the project “I can also be a farmer”, with the aim of offering sustainable employment solutions to persons with disabilities. Through a series of workshops, the participants will get basic skills on how to farm in an urban environment close their homes. All the activities are held in Humilišani near Mostar, where the Association also produces and sells organic fruits and vegetables.

Several students and teacher Rita Fuchs visited the farm recently and here’s an impression from one of them: “Last week we went to an organic farm near Mostar, called “Nešto Više”. We had a great time, picked up some veggies, and learnt about all their sustainable and beautiful projects! I will volunteer there whenever they need me and whenever I can during weekends”. (Kate Burke, UWC Mostar 2015-2017)



# Princess of Lichtenstein visits UWC Mostar

UWC Mostar was honored to host Princess Marie von Liechtenstein, who visited the school, our residencies and met with students and school representatives to discuss our work and future plans.

# Endowment update

UWC (United World Colleges) International and the UWC Mostar Endowment 'Bridge to the Future'

are proud to announce that, with the \$1 million donation by Shelby Davis, the Endowment has achieved funds totalling

EUR 7.5 million, which will enable additional 30 - 40 scholarships for students attending the college.

The successful work of the Endowment continues with the following new Endowed scholarships:



Kurt Hahn



Anne Frank



Jasminka Bratić



Meijis - De Mol Van Otterloo

# Maglić hike

The Magnificent trails of our hikers on their way to Maglić, the highest peak at an elevation of 2,386 metres in the hill ranges of Plješevica, Grmeč, Cincar and Raduša.



# Race for the cure

“Race for the cure” is an event organized annually in over 150 cities worldwide with the aim of raising awareness and supporting the fight of women with breast cancer. UWC Mostar student delegation participated in this year’s race held in Sarajevo.



# Street basket tournament

UWC Mostar basketball CAS participated in the second “street basket” tournament for primary and secondary school students “Beko S.ketch Street Basketball Mostar”.



# Around the World in 80 minutes

UWC Mostar PRESENTS

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 MINUTES

UNITED WORLD COLLEGE IN MOSTAR INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE SPECIAL EVENT ORGANISED BY OUR STUDENTS

Sunday, 25th of September 2016 at 11:00, Spanish square

CELEBRATION OF 54TH UWC ANNIVERSARY





# European Researchers Night

The European Researchers Night has been organized for the fifth year in a row in Bosnia and Herzegovina, this year under the slogan "Discover the Unknown". UWC Mostar was once more the local partner for the City of Mostar.

We organized science experiments for the youngest, demonstrated our robot and tried to promote science among citizens of all ages.



# Fun with elderly CAS

Caring for the community is one of the key pillars of UWC Mostar's mission statement. Every week, students and teachers visit our numerous local CAS partners to help them learn English, organize creative workshops or simply spend time with them.

Last week our "Fun with Elderly" CAS performed for and with their friends from the Elderly Home in Mostar.



# College fair

UWC Mostar has traditionally hosted guests from 16 US and Canadian Colleges who presented study-abroad opportunities to highschool students from Mostar. The following Colleges had their representation at the Fair:

- Colby College
- Colorado College
- Earlham College
- Gettysburg College
- Methodist University
- Mt. Holyoke
- Quest University
- Reed College
- Ringling College of Art & Design
- St. John's College
- St. Olaf College
- University of Oklahoma
- University of Rochester
- University of Saskatchewan
- Wartburg College
- Whitman College



# Preventing Violence by Nurturing Cultural and Historical Heritage" - Highschool fair

This year's highschool fair has been organized under the motto "Preventing violence by nurturing cultural and historic heritage". UWC Mostar has been working on building a portfolio on the given topic with the Mostar Gymnasium and two primary schools Ilije Jakovljević and Zalik.

The team decided to focus on the work of famous poets from Mostar, who promoted peace and tolerance in their works. The UWC Mostar team presented quotes of Nelson Mandela, the Honorary President of the UWC movement. Our students also presented the school to all primary schools from Mostar. It was a great opportunity to connect and work with other schools from Mostar!

# Football tournament

Happy to have received the #FootballPeople grant to organize a football match and workshop for UWC Mostar students and their peers from the primary school Silvije Strahimir Kranjčević Mostar! We value such encounters as they are an opportunity to promote tolerance and celebrate diversity.

The events took part during the International Week for Tolerance! Thank you Marjana Tomaš, Bruno Stojčić, Hamid Ahmed, Aida Šertović and all the others for their great help!



# PROJECT WEEK 2016



Vlašić Mountain Project Week



Neum Cycle Project



Project Week TOCFIK (Teachers, O-random letter to connect the word, Cooks/Chefs, Farmers, In, Kotorsko)



Hike to Prenj





# UWC Congress

“I sat in front of my laptop for fifteen minutes not knowing what to write. Then I figured that even the fact that I can't put the experience in couple of sentences, says a lot about it. I was excited to present UWC Mostar in front of other schools, but at the same time, I was a bit scared because of the size of the event. “Are we going to be too idealistic and at the end not be able to do anything? The impact I leave, if I leave it, will be irrelevant?”. But then, we got to Trieste and I was overwhelmed. So many faces, so much excitement, so much small talk in a first minute, then deep talk about human rights and education in the fifth... My opinion

mattered. I talked to influential people and they looked me in the eyes, listened to what I had to say and treated me as their equal. Panels and presentations were a wake-up call, a reminder that there's always more things I can do - both in my life and here in our UWC. We were idealistic, but until the end of the congress, I didn't care. Resolutions we the students proposed were resolutions teachers proposed in their meetings too. Things became more tangible, more real, we didn't just propose things, but we worked on realizing them, and I can't be happier to have had the opportunity to do so”. (Hana Huskić, UWC Mostar 2015-2017)



# Poetry night in Nevesinje

Highschool "Aleksa Šantić" from Nevesinje invited UWC Mostar students to perform jointly at the poetry event "Love is more than a word" and send out a strong message of tolerance, love and friendship. The event was supported by OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina as part of the activities marking the International Day for Tolerance. A huge thank you goes to our Serbian teacher Tanja Cvoro for organizing the visit.

# UN Marrakech Climate Change Conference

A UWC Mostar delegation attended the UN Marrakech Climate Change Conference! Our community could follow the events there through the first-hand experiences of our delegation, who created a wonderful blog. Check it out here!

# European Debate Competition

"At the beginning of November, we had the privilege of attending the European Debate Competition in Hamburg, Germany. During the week we debated in many rounds, and won four of them! The competition was an amazing chance to improve our debating, get real world experience in competitions and enjoy the beauty of Hamburg". (Carmi UWC Mostar 2015-2017)



# Šantić Poetry Nights

“Students from our College, as in previous years, participated in 97th Šantić poetry nights. The event took place on the 5th of October in Vladičanski Dvor. The ceremony was opened by two of our students, thanks to teacher Tanja Čvoro, who always arranges the program. I was reciting a poem written by Aleksa Šantić, while Aiša Hodžić accompanied me playing "Spring Time" on the piano. Other guests at the ceremony were a duo from East Sarajevo and a famous ex-Yu actor Petar Božović”. (Martina Dimitrijević, UWC Mostar 2015-17)



# Literary Festival Poligon

September has gifted us with so many exciting cultural events in Mostar and fortunately UWC Mostar can be part of them. The literary Festival Poligon featured a number of guests from neighboring countries discussing contemporary literary topics through round-tables, exhibitions and lectures. Along with a and Mostar Rock School, we had the honor of hosting some of the program parts in our school!



# Day of European Languages

Last week, UWC Mostar and the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton National Library jointly celebrated the European Day of Languages with a workshop for primary school students called "Let's travel through Europe". Our students presented their countries of origin and taught the visitors some interesting words in their respective languages! Participants came from three schools: Third primary school, Primary school "Ilija Jakovljević" Mostar and Primary school "Silvije Strahimir Kranjčević".







Aleksandra Dykas



Anja Mandić



Chiara Lampis



Khuda Burdi

## Summer adventures

To show that we are interested in our students' whereabouts during the summer holidays, but also to portray their social engagement even beyond the academic surrounding, we asked them to send us their summer stories. Aleksandra Dykas (UWC Mostar 2014-2016), volunteer at the World Youth Day 2016 in Krakow. Ahmed Kamal (UWC Mostar 2015-2017) participant at the

Technology, Innovation, & Entrepreneurship (TIE) session of the Yale Young Global Scholars summer program held from July 26th to August 8th. Chiara Lampis (UWC Mostar 2015-2017) has been helping out on a new initiative called Local Food The Hague (Lokaal Voedsel Den Haag), which is a weekly market where people can buy local, high quality fresh food

that hasn't been manipulated or sprayed for a good price. Anja Mandić, Ahmed Kamal Waris and Yahya Muhyiddin participated in Yale Young Global Scholars Program and spent two weeks in New Haven, Connecticut. Khuda Burdi helped organize the Young Leaders Workshop, conducted by the Gilgit-Baltistan YES Alumni in Ghakhuch, Gilgit-Baltistan.

## EYP Sarajevo – Arsalan Ghani

People in focus: Arsalan Ghani (UWC Mostar 2015-2017) Best delegate at the European Youth Parliament held in Sarajevo, as the only international participant! Arsalan will participate in the National EYP conference that will be held in April with other delegates from Sarajevo, Mostar, Tuzla and Zenica.



### IMPRESSUM

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