



*"Building bridges between people and cultures through inspiring, quality education"*



## Class of 2024, UWC Mostar

*Address to the Graduating Class of 2024, May 18th, 2024, Graduation Ceremony*

*My Dearest Class of 2024,*

*You have just completed one phase of life and are going on to the next. It will take different forms for each one of you. But there is a unifying principle in that it is all happening in this world - this small rock going round a small star. All that you have learnt is the alphabet of*

*the world that will allow you to read the big book that is the planet and add your own pages to it. In these times, in the last few years when one has seen wars and violence, irrational and destructive in its essence, what we would like you to carry with you is the essence of UWC. The kindness and understanding that is needed to help and heal. To solve the old and new, ancient and transient problems that the passage of humanity on the face of this planet means. And to celebrate what life is, in terms of knowing, feeling and creating, directing your own lives and lives of others, human and non human, towards harmony.*

*This is the age where you saw an alien lifeform, albeit made by us, enter our lives, Artificial Intelligence. By being able to reach out and touch many levels of human lives, through this, technology becomes even more integral to humanity. It too requires wisdom and kindness to assimilate and incorporate into our lives in gentle ways.*

*At UWC Mostar, our mission is clear: to build bridges between people and cultures through inspiring, quality education. And you, dear Class of 2024, embody this mission in every sense. From your conceiving of and executing projects like the 12 hour race, bald for a cause, cooperating with the local community for many projects, to your immersion in the Balkan Studies curriculum, you have embraced the ethos of "the city is our campus" model, recognizing that true learning extends far beyond the confines of a classroom. Also a Hahnian principal! I would even say that through your participation in Service CASs and Project Weeks, you have not only integrated with but also served the local community, leaving an indelible mark of kindness and compassion wherever you go. You are not just graduates of UWC Mostar; you are ambassadors of the UWC movement, ambassadors of Mostar, and ambassadors of Bosnia and Herzegovina.*

*My dear graduating class, as you venture forth into the world, carry with you the lessons learned within these walls – the importance of empathy, the power of education, and the transformative potential of kindness. Remember that you are not just ambassadors of UWC Mostar but ambassadors of hope, compassion, and understanding. Your journey has only just begun, and the world eagerly awaits the mark you will make upon it.*

*In the words of John Steinbeck, "humanity shall not only exist, it shall prevail." Let these words guide you as you navigate the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. And may you always be guided by the spirit of curiosity, courage, and compassion that has defined your time at UWC Mostar.*

*Let me leave you with the timeless words of Rabindranath Tagore:*

*"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;*

*Where knowledge is free;*

*Where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls;*

*Where words come out from the depth of truth;*

*Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;*

*Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;*

*Where the mind is led forward by thee into ever-widening thought and action—*

*Into that heaven of freedom, let my country awake."*

*Congratulations, Class of 2024! The world is yours to shape, and I have no doubt that you will do so with grace, integrity, and boundless kindness. Go forth and make us proud.*

*Sonia Rawat  
Head of UWC Mostar*







## Graduation Ceremony 2024 Gallery



Graduation Ceremony 2024



**10 years of the UWC Mostar Endowment "Bridge to the Future":  
Celebrating dedication and resilience of UWC Mostar headteachers**

We are excited to announce the Valentina Mindoljević and Dženan Hakalović Endowed Scholarship to honour Valentina's and Dženan's dedication and resilience as Heads of UWC Mostar in times of crisis. With huge commitment, passion and determination for the mission of UWC Mostar, Valentina and Dženan led the College through the period of financial distress and the Covid pandemics. Together with the support of all staff during these challenging times, their hard work and dedication is an inspiration for UWC Mostar students and alumni. A student will be at UWC Mostar under their named scholarship into perpetuity.

For more information on the Endowment and sholarships please visit [UWC Mostar Endowment "Bridge to the Future"](#)

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## Cooperations and activities



### Delphi Economic Forum IX

Participating in the "Delphi Economic Forum IX Annual Meeting" April 10-13, 2024 and contributing to impactful discussions about the state and future of our societies, Head of UWC Mostar, Sonia Rawat, took place in the panel discussion "Investing in our Future: Lessons from Pisa for Addressing the Human Capital and Learning Crisis"

[More.](#)



### UWC Mostar students at the Delphi Economic Forum IX

Four UWC graduates and students, representing UWC Mostar and UWC Maastricht participated in a special panel discussion at the esteemed Delphi Forum 2024. Representing communities in Bosnia & Herzegovina and Cyprus, these UWC panelists explored the transformative power of education in building bridges and helping students act as 'agents of peace'. [Read more](#)



### Workshop for ESS Teachers

This month, UWC Mostar hosted a workshop for UWC ESS teachers.

IB Category 2 workshop is based on the revised ESS curriculum starting next year. Students will have an opportunity to take ESS as a HL course for the first time.

We welcomed representatives from [UWC Robert Bosch College](#), [UWC Dilijan](#), [UWC Red Cross Nordic](#), [UWC Adriatic](#), [UWC Maastricht](#) and [UWC Mostar](#). [More](#)



### Cooperations of the month

We get to pick two favourites every month, here they are for the month of May:

[University Department Cooperations](#) - this month was marked by wonderful cooperations and presentations from the University of British Columbia, the University of Tampa, and the University of Rochester.

[Concert - Rock School Mostar, Music School Mostar, Music School Ivana pl. Zajca and UWC Mostar](#), organized a joint, traditional concert this May as a gift to the citizens of Mostar, but also showing the wonderful long-term and significant cooperation and bond between the schools and the music that gathers us all together.

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## Events and Initiatives





Congratulations to UWC Mostar student Nedim Begović, winner of the Federal Physics Competition  
- Mechanics and Thermodynamics, who will be competing at the Physics Olympiad!  
Follow our social media for updates on student competitions!

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Take a look at some beautiful images from our many Outdoor Activities during the past month,  
hiking, great weather and great company with our Outdoor Department!





**Mostar MSYP**

Interactive Classes

Social Entrepreneurship Challenge (SEC) Day

Extracurriculars

# MOSTAR SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME

17 June - 5 July, 2024

Announcing [Mostar Summer Youth Programme 2024](#)



#### UWC Mostar: May in the Media

Upcoming articles in August: [Lawikly, Spain](#). The story of UWC Mostar [Mreža Mira](#): UWC Nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize Second Time

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## Alumni



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### UWC Mostar & Booking.com

Use the [UWC Mostar micropage](#) on Booking.com when reserving accommodation for your trip, Booking.com will automatically donate a small percentage of the amount to our school, more specifically, to the travel fund for scholarships students coming to study at UWC Mostar.

It's a really easy way to make a meaningful contribution, so please encourage parents, family and friends to use it!



**Booking.com**

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Read the latest UWC International Newsletter



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