



UWC Mostar Annual Report School Year 2023/2024



Welcome to UWC Mostar

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

UWC Mostar offers a practical demonstration of education that unites, inspires and engages students and the wider community to strive for a peaceful and sustainable future through active local partnerships. UWC Mostar aims to develop educational practices relevant for post-conflict and transitional societies.

This year marked another exceptional chapter in UWC Mostar's journey of fostering global understanding and education excellence. As one of the leading institutions in the United World Colleges (UWC) movement, we continued to uphold our commitment to inspiring students to create a more peaceful and sustainable future.

Key Academic and Institutional Achievements

- **Academic Performance:** UWC Mostar students once again excelled academically, with the majority achieving great results in the International Baccalaureate (IB) programme, reinforcing our position as one of the leaders in global education.
- **Innovative Learning Initiatives:** We introduced annual courses and experiential learning programs, fostering creativity, critical thinking, and cross-cultural dialogue.

Community Impact and Global Engagement

- **Local and Global Outreach:** Students and staff collaborated on impactful community service projects, including initiatives addressing youth education, environmental sustainability, and intercultural cooperation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

- **Building Bridges Across Cultures:** UWC Mostar strengthened its role as a hub for intercultural exchange, bringing together over 200 students from more than 50 countries.

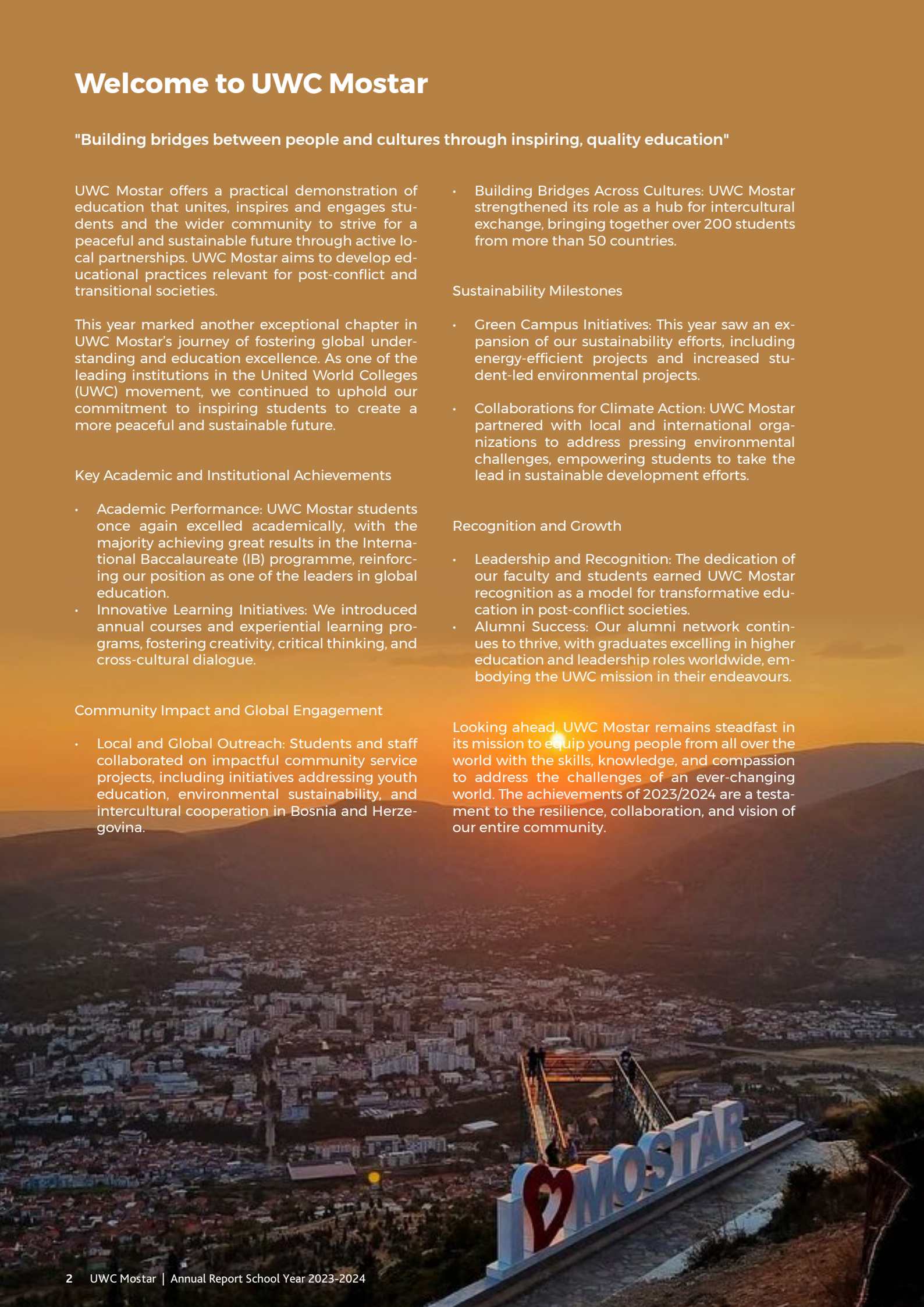
Sustainability Milestones

- **Green Campus Initiatives:** This year saw an expansion of our sustainability efforts, including energy-efficient projects and increased student-led environmental projects.
- **Collaborations for Climate Action:** UWC Mostar partnered with local and international organizations to address pressing environmental challenges, empowering students to take the lead in sustainable development efforts.

Recognition and Growth

- **Leadership and Recognition:** The dedication of our faculty and students earned UWC Mostar recognition as a model for transformative education in post-conflict societies.
- **Alumni Success:** Our alumni network continues to thrive, with graduates excelling in higher education and leadership roles worldwide, embodying the UWC mission in their endeavours.

Looking ahead, UWC Mostar remains steadfast in its mission to equip young people from all over the world with the skills, knowledge, and compassion to address the challenges of an ever-changing world. The achievements of 2023/2024 are a testament to the resilience, collaboration, and vision of our entire community.



Dear Friends of UWC Mostar,

If one theme defined this year, it was undoubtedly Peace and Conflict. While long-standing conflicts persisted with little hope of resolution, new ones emerged, dividing the world and fueling tensions across various communities, including academic campuses worldwide. Advances in generative AI, notably ChatGPT becoming the fastest-growing application in history, sparked a different kind of conflict—some felt threatened by the technology, while others embraced it too quickly, raising concerns that young people might neglect foundational skills in favor of relying on tools to perform tasks.

At UWC Mostar, the theme of peace is woven deeply into our work. One highlight of the year was the Peace Conference, conceptualized and organized under the leadership of our staff member and UWC alumna Dasha Davidouskaya to mark UWC Day. The event was a resounding success, not just in its execution but in the energy and collaboration leading up to it. With an inspiring keynote speech by Faith Abiodun, Executive Director of the UWC International Office, dynamic panel discussions featuring educators and grassroots peace workers from Mostar and Bosnia and Herzegovina, and workshops led by our staff, students, and external organizations, the conference exemplified the ethos of UWC Mostar. We are hopeful this will become an annual tradition, setting the tone for the year as it did so powerfully this time.

This year also marked a significant milestone—the 10th anniversary of the UWC Mostar Endowment. This has been instrumental in ensuring the college's financial stability and enabling scholarships for talented students from Bosnia and Herzegovina. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Adriaan van Otterloo and Fleur Meijs for their visionary leadership in creating the Bridge to the Future Endowment. Their generosity and dedication have transformed countless lives by making a UWC education accessible to those who need it most.

At UWC Mostar, our mission is clear: to build bridges between people and cultures through inspiring, high-quality education. This year, our students once again exemplified this mission. They initiated and executed impactful projects like the 12-Hour Race and Bald for a Cause, collaborated with the local community on numerous initiatives, and fully embraced our "the city is our campus" ethos. Recognizing that true learning extends far beyond the classroom, they became ambassadors of the UWC movement, of Mostar, and of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

As we look ahead, we draw strength from the words of poet William Butler Yeats, who wrote:

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."

Indeed, the fire ignited in our students will continue to illuminate paths of peace and understanding in the world. I have no doubt that they will contribute to the vision captured so beautifully by John Steinbeck when he said in his Nobel Prize acceptance speech, "Humanity shall not only endure; it shall prevail."

In Hope and in Peace,

Sonia Rawat



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01 Educational Excellence

Exploring the academic achievements and innovative programs that define UWC Mostar's educational approach.

Foundation Education in Action

The Foundation Education in Action, the legal successor of the Finnish Association “From Conflict to Internationalism,” was established to advance educational reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). The Foundation’s primary aim is to promote the introduction of modern teaching and learning methods in the national curriculum while providing professional development opportunities for educators throughout the country. To date, over 1,000 teachers, headmasters, pedagogical institute employees, and ministers have participated in the workshops, conferences, and study visits organized under the Foundation’s umbrella. Through these initiatives, the Foundation continues to foster innovation and inclusivity in education, empowering educators to inspire the next generation of leaders.

Governing Board

The Foundation Education in Action is governed by an international Governing Board comprising of four members, chaired by Dr. Pilvi Torsti. The Foundation was co-founded by Ms. Elisabeth Rehn and Dr. Lamija Tanović, who both bring a wealth of experience and commitment to educational and societal advancement.

Founders:

- Elisabeth Rehn: A former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Balkans and UN Under-Secretary-General, Ms. Rehn has an extensive understanding of the region. She was the Patron of the UWC-IBO Initiative in BiH and served as Chair of the Association “Education from Conflict to Internationalism.”
- Lamija Tanović: A Professor of Physics at the Sarajevo School of Science and Technology and a former Chair of the Executive Committee of the UWC-IBO Initiative, Dr. Tanović also held prominent positions at the BiH Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including Head of the International Department for Education and Culture.

Mission:

The Foundation’s mission is to equip the next generations of young people in Bosnia and Herzegovina with the knowledge, skills, leadership qualities, and international values needed to overcome ethnic divides and drive progress into the 21st century.

Chair of the Board:

- Dr. Pilvi Torsti (Finland): Dr. Torsti brings decades of experience in education, governance, and innovation. As the Director of the European Training Foundation and a former State Secretary in Finland, she has contributed significantly to the development of education policies and the UN Agenda 2030 goals. Dr. Torsti played a pivotal role in founding the United World College (UWC) Mostar in 2006 and continues to champion the integration of Finnish educational expertise into global initiatives.

Board Members:

- Jasminka Bratić (BiH): Former Assistant Minister of Justice for Herzegovina-Neretva Canton and Chair of the UWC Mostar College Board.
- Ivan Lorenčič (Slovenia): A distinguished education expert and former Director of the National Education Institute of Slovenia, Mr. Lorenčič has led professional development programs for teachers in BiH since 2005.
- Adriaan de Mol van Otterloo (The Netherlands): Chief Investment Officer at UWC Endowment, former Trustee of Amera (Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance), and graduate of UWC Adriatic.

The Foundation Education in Action remains a non-governmental, non-political, and non-profit organization, building on the legacy of the UWC-IBO Initiative, which established UWC Mostar in 2006.



UWC Mostar

Subcommittees

The subcommittee's task is to act as an advisory body that will propose solutions to any problems encountered in the work of the College at the invitation of the Head of College, or upon the College Board establishing itself that a problem exists, in close communication with the Head of College. In their work, the subcommittees cooperate closely with the coordinators who manage the subject area from whom they can request all the necessary information. Subcommittees submit the reports on their work, opinions and proposals on the necessary activities to the College Board, which then makes the final decision.

UWC MOSTAR GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

GOVERNING BOARD
OF THE FOUNDATION
"EDUCATION IN ACTION"
(Foundation Education in Action is
the legal founder of UWC Mostar)

COLLEGE BOARD
OF UWC MOSTAR

WORKING BODIES OF THE COLLEGE BOARD (SUBCOMMITTEES)

ACADEMIC

PASTORAL AND
WELLBEING

FINANCE

CAS AND
OUTDOOR

IMPACT
AND OUTREACH

2006

United World College in Mostar (UWC Mostar)

UWC Mostar is an integral part of the UWC movement, which was founded in 1962 based on the vision of German educationalist Kurt Hahn. Hahn believed that bringing young people from diverse cultural, religious, and racial backgrounds together could help foster mutual understanding and prevent future conflicts.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, UWC Mostar's mission extends beyond academic excellence—it aims to influence young people seeking to shape their future in a society still grappling with the legacy of its past. By educating young individuals to appreciate their differences while promoting tolerance, equality, and critical thinking, UWC Mostar plays a pivotal role in reconciliation efforts developing an educational model for post-conflict and transitional societies while serving as an example of integrated education and peaceful coexistence amidst diverse backgrounds.

The college broadens its special mission by extending these transformative opportunities to students from around the world, particularly those from other post-conflict regions, with a focus on the Balkans.

College Board

UWC Mostar is registered as a private secondary school under the law of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The College Board governs the institution, appoints the College Head (with the formal approval of the Foundation Education in Action), and oversees the school's strategic direction.

UWC Mostar is governed by the College Board comprising of 13 members, representing the Founder (the Foundation Education in Action), college staff, parents, UWC International, alumni.

The College Board's responsibilities include appointing the College Head and advising and monitoring the Head's work, adopting policy documents, approving the annual working plan and budget of the school, financial management, and being directly responsible to UWC International for adherence to UWC criteria and standards.

College Board in mandate October 2023-2027.

Chair of the College Board: Ivan Lorenčić

1. Jasminka Bratić (Deputy Chair)
2. Fleur Meijs
3. Elvira Dilberović
4. Andrew Bennett
5. Mirna Doyle
6. Sandra Ann Thomas
7. Marcin Stanek
8. Mia Glamuzina
9. Judy Peritz Wynne
10. Damir Čobo
11. Anja Weiss
12. Ruijie Jerry Huang



Overview of UWC Mostar Students (2023/2024)

Student Body Composition

UWC Mostar proudly welcomed its 18th generation of students for the academic years 2023-2025, continuing its tradition of fostering diversity and intercultural understanding. This year's student body highlights the college's mission of uniting young individuals from a wide array of backgrounds to build bridges across cultures and foster mutual understanding.

In total, during the school year 2023/2024, UWC Mostar was attended by 208 students from 65 countries of the world.

18th generation (2023-2025)

107 students from 57 countries

Albania (1), Argentina (1), Austria (2), Australia (1), Bangladesh (2), Belarus (1), Bosnia and Herzegovina (25), Brazil (1), Bulgaria (2), Canada (2), China (4), Colombia (1), Costa Rica (1), Croatia (1), Cyprus (4), Czech Republic (1), Denmark (2), El Salvador (1), Finland (1), Germany (4), Great Britain (2), Greece (1), Hungary (1), India (1), Italy (2), Japan (1), Jordan (1), Latvia (1), Luxemburg (1), Kenya (1), Mauritius (1), Mexico (1), Montenegro (1), Moldova (1), Nepal (1), Netherlands (3), Nigeria (1), North Macedonia (1), Norway (2), Palestine (1), Poland (1), Portugal (1), Romania (1), Russia (3), Rwanda (1), Serbia (3), Singapore (1), Slovakia (1), Slovenia (1), South Africa (1), Spain (1), Syria (3), Ukraine (2), United States of America (4), Uruguay (1), Venezuela (1), Yemen (1)

UWC Mostar Staff

In 2023/2024 school year, UWC Mostar employed a dedicated team of 61 staff members from 11 countries, reflecting the college's diverse and inclusive ethos.

Nationalities Represented:

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belarus, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Croatia, India, Italy, Poland, Serbia, The Netherlands, United Kingdom.

This overview highlights the diversity of UWC Mostar's student and staff community, reflecting its mission of bringing together individuals from across the globe to learn, collaborate, and contribute to a more peaceful and sustainable world.



208

Students



65

Countries of the World



18th

Generation of Students

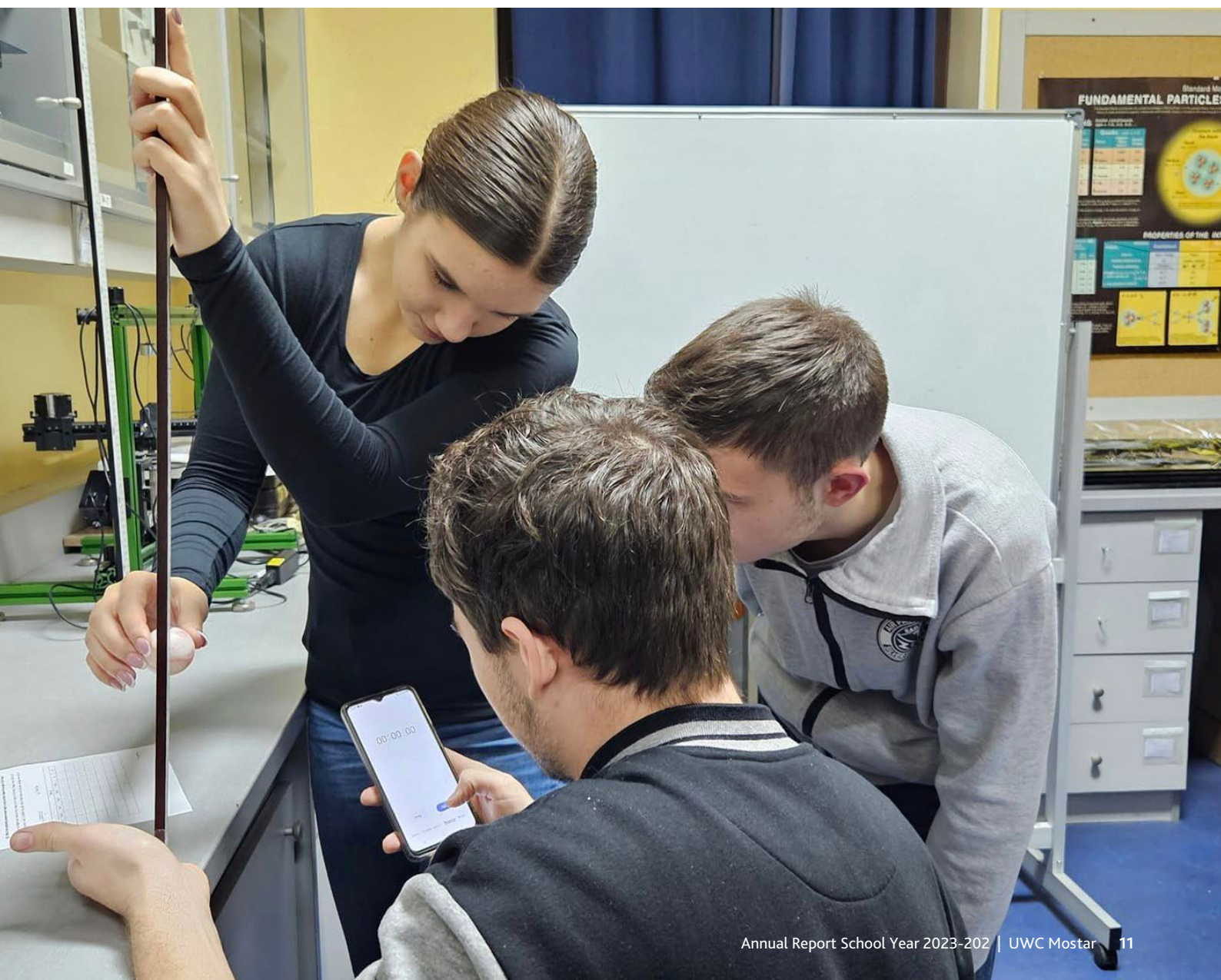
Academic Overview

At UWC Mostar, education is more than academic excellence—it's about nurturing students prepared to create positive change in the world. The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme remains at the core of our academic offerings, with a curriculum designed to foster critical thinking, global awareness, and leadership skills.

Our academic philosophy extends beyond classroom instruction. The Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) program is a cornerstone of holistic learning, where students engage in meaningful initiatives that benefit both the UWC Mostar and local communities. For example:

- **The Peace Conference:** Students participate and organize community-wide events promoting dialogue and reconciliation.
- **Balkan Studies Course:** Students explore the region's history and culture, deepening their understanding of the local context.
- **Global Awareness Sessions:** Organized by students, these discussions tackle global challenges and foster cross-cultural understanding.

These initiatives embody our mission of working with the Mostar community to build bridges and mutual respect, rather than working solely for the community.



School and University Statistics

School Statistics

UWC Mostar continued to achieve strong academic results in the 2023/2024 academic year, outperforming global averages in the IB Diploma Programme:

- Number of diploma and retake candidates registered in the session: 96
- Number of candidates who successfully passed the diploma: 90
- Average points obtained by candidates who passed the diploma: 35
- Highest diploma points awarded to a candidate: 44
- Average grade obtained at the school by candidates who passed the diploma: 5.52

Highlights of 2023/2024 Results:

- Highest Score: 44 points
- Mean Diploma Point Score: 34 (world average: 30.24)
- Average Grade per Subject: 5.33 (world average: 4.84)

The sustained high performance of our students reflects UWC Mostar's commitment to academic excellence and the support of a dedicated teaching staff.



University Statistics

The graduating class of 2023 continued UWC Mostar's tradition of excellence in university placement, securing spots at prestigious institutions worldwide.

University Final Decisions:

- United States: 68 students
- Netherlands: 10 students
- Europe (Other): 2 students
- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 4 students
- Croatia: 2 students
- Slovenia: 1 student
- Ireland: 1 student
- France: 1 student
- Poland: 1 student
- China: 1 student
- Australia: 1 student
- Austria: 1 student
- Germany: 2 students
- Serbia: 1 student
- Canada: 1 student
- Gap Year: 10 students



Scholarships:

Graduates received scholarships ranging from \$14,000 to full awards of \$92,000 annually. The collective value of scholarships for four years reached an impressive \$368,000, with many students securing full-ride scholarships. The amount is for all 4 years.

Notable University Acceptances (2021-2023):

United States:

- Yale University
- University of Chicago
- University of Pennsylvania
- UC Berkeley
- Brown University
- Cornell University
- George Washington University
- Middlebury College
- Skidmore College
- Trinity College



Europe:

- Poland: Warsaw University
- Austria: University of Vienna
- Slovenia: University of Ljubljana

Australia:

- University of Melbourne

These achievements underscore UWC Mostar's success in preparing students for global citizenship and academic excellence at the highest levels.



02 **Community Engagement**

Creating positive change and strengthening bonds with the community through shared participation and action

Cooperations and Highlights - Community Engagement and Outreach



UWC Mostar stands out for its extensive range of educational, humanitarian, cultural, outdoor, and sports activities in collaboration with the local community of Mostar, the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton, and partners at the entity and state levels. In this academic year, the college organized more than 100 activities that strengthened its mission of global education and community engagement. These included eco-cleaning initiatives, Project Week, teacher development seminars, and student-led projects. Each activity embodies the spirit of collaboration and mutual growth, and we extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to their success.

In Focus: Professional Development for Teachers from BiH and Ecological Campaign

1

Professional Development of Teachers

UWC Mostar runs special professional development workshops involving secondary school teachers and educators from across Bosnia and Herzegovina, as part of the College's outreach activities. Through its experience with the IB education model and the UWC ethos, UWC Mostar aims to contribute to the conversation on education reform in Bosnia, by demonstrating the practical aspects of a modern structured curriculum such as the IB. Through series of workshops, UWCM informs teachers about modern educational trends and pedagogical paradigms based on the IB program. These workshops bring together teachers from across BiH also to work together and exchange experiences from their schools." Model of IB teaching of History and Balkan Studies within the UWC program in Mostar.

2

Professional Development Workshops for Physics and Mathematics Teachers

In cooperation with Pedagogic Institutes from Mostar, UWC Mostar organized a Physics workshop attended by 49 elementary and secondary school Physics teachers and a Mathematics workshop with 85 participants from elementary and secondary schools from Herzegovina-Neretva Canton, covering best practices and IB methodologies for the respective subjects.

Future Cooperations

Representatives of the Institute for Education, Pedagogical Institutes Mostar, OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, APOSO - Agency for preschool, elementary and secondary education, Ministry of Education of Western Herzegovina, and representatives of local secondary schools in Mostar, participated in a one-day program visit to UWC Mostar.

The main aim of the event was to focus on future cooperation, teacher professional development, and structured activities.





3

Ecology projects

Sustainable Cities

Student groups worked together on scientific and technological topics, allowing for concepts and perceptions from across the disciplines to be shared in line with the aim, to "encourage an understanding of the relationships between scientific disciplines and the overarching nature of the scientific method".

The project at UWC Mostar had both a practical and a theoretical angle and allowed students to appreciate the environmental, social, and ethical implications of science and technology. It also allowed them to understand the limitations of scientific study. The emphasis was on interdisciplinary cooperation and the processes involved in scientific investigation.

The aim was to develop and apply the students' information and communication technology skills in the study of science and raise awareness of the ecological, social, economic, and environmental implications of using science and technology.

Research and collaboration focused on sustainable cities and the incorporation of certain facets of sustainability in Urban Living using a City Context.

4

Cleaner City Campaign

UWC Mostar students and members of the Gimnazija Mostar Eco Section joined together in the school year 2023/2024 for an ongoing activity of cleaning the City of Mostar. This year the joint activities covered the areas of the Old town in Mostar.

The aim of the campaign is raising awareness of the importance of the cleanliness of city surfaces, making Mostar a green city, and taking care of the cultural heritage of the city.





Project Week - Cultivating Awareness, Building Peace, Strengthening Communities

Project Week is a hallmark of the UWC co-curricular learning experience, offering students a unique opportunity to push boundaries, discover themselves, and contribute meaningfully to the world around them. This initiative is not just a personal journey—it embodies UWC Mostar's mission by fostering ecological awareness, peace-building, and community outreach in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Students engage in transformative projects across three key categories:

Service Projects:

Through partnerships with local organizations, students address pressing social and environmental issues, such as waste management, reforestation, and youth education. By engaging directly with community members, they develop empathy, cultural sensitivity, and a shared commitment to sustainable development. These projects raise ecological awareness by promoting practices like recycling and conservation while nurturing peace by fostering collaboration and trust.

Expedition Projects:

Students explore the natural beauty and historical landmarks of Bosnia and Herzegovina, often combining adventure with education. Whether trekking through protected natural reserves or visiting sites that reflect the country's complex history, these expeditions encourage a deep appreciation for ecological preservation and cultural heritage. By connecting with the environment and understanding the past, students contribute to a collective vision of peace and coexistence.

Creativity Projects:

Artistic and innovative initiatives during Project Week allow students to express their perspectives on global challenges like climate change and social inequality. Projects such as creating public art installations, hosting cultural exchange workshops, or developing eco-friendly solutions amplify community voices, inspire action, and leave a lasting impact.

Empowering Change Through Outreach

Beyond individual growth, Project Week reinforces UWC Mostar's commitment to outreach and development. By working hand-in-hand with local communities, students build bridges across cultures, strengthen relationships, and inspire shared progress. This engagement not only empowers students as changemakers but also helps communities envision sustainable and inclusive futures.

A Legacy of Ecological and Social Awareness

Project Week instills in students and the community alike the values of ecological stewardship, peace, and unity. It exemplifies the transformative power of experiential education, creating ripples of positive change that extend far beyond the UWC campus.

This year the projects recognized for their outreach, ecological and social impact included: Nature Nurturers: Sustainable Agriculture in Association "Nešto Više", Renew and Renovate, Bob the Builder, Walls Can Make a Difference, Native Plants of Herzegovina and Let's Be Sustainable.

Through service, exploration, and creativity, Project Week is a living testament to UWC Mostar's mission to inspire and equip young people to build a more peaceful and sustainable world.



Peace Conference 2023

The first Peace Conference organized by UWC Mostar marked the International Day of Peace and celebrated UWC Day. The conference programme welcomed more than 300 participants, many interesting workshops, and panels with the topics of: "Education as a way to Build Peace" and "Grassroot Peace Building: Experiences from Mostar".

The aims of the conference covered the topics of:

- Thinking beyond the traditional dichotomy of conflict and peace and cultivating an intellectual exchange through the inclusion of diverse perspectives
- Thinking beyond the traditional dichotomy of conflict and peace and cultivating an intellectual exchange through the inclusion of diverse perspectives
- Elevating our understanding of peace-related issues by fostering a diverse and inclusive environment that encourages us to embrace a broader international perspective
- Creating a dynamic platform of intellectual exchange and profound reflection, allowing us to reflect deeply on the true nature of peace
- Empowering and inspiring each other to drive positive change within the UWC Mostar community and beyond

UWC Mostar's main panel on the topic of "Education as a Way to Build Peace" had the honour of welcoming the keynote speaker Faith Abiodun, UWC Executive Director who greatly contributed to the Peace Conference with a wealth of experience as an education and social enterprise leader, international affairs analyst, writer, and speaker.



Bridging Culture Short Course

As a part of our ongoing commitment to fostering positive change and building a more inclusive world, UWC Mostar organizes a “Bridging Cultures” Short Course every summer.

The course aims to equip participants with the skills and knowledge to bridge cultural divides and promote effective communication in diverse settings. The program focuses on key principles of multicultural understanding and nonviolent communication, providing practical tools that can be applied in various personal and professional contexts.

This year we welcomed participants from BiH, Montenegro, Serbia, North Macedonia, and Albania providing them with an opportunity to be a part of interesting workshops, meet peers from the region, talk about identity, non-violent communication, activism, and peace-building.



UWC Mostar at Delphi Forum 2024

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 panellists explored the transformative power of education in building bridges and helping students act as 'agents of peace'.

The United for Peace EU-UWC youth leadership forum by UWC in collaboration with the European Commission in Nicosia, Cyprus.

The event brought together close to 200 people, including Cypriot and international UWC students, UWC faculty, UWC alumni, Cypriot high school students, educators, civil society partners, and others from both sides of the divide.

This international and intergenerational event provided an inspirational showcase of the transformative power of education in contributing to inter-communal dialogue. It allowed young people to play an active role as agents of change and advocates for peace.

The main themes that were covered at this event were youth inclusion, peace education, and the role of the EU. All five attending UWCs; UWC Mostar, UWC Maastricht, UWC Red Cross Nordic, UWC Adriatic, and UWC Robert Bosch organized UWC Experience workshops led by their students. These gave the Cypriot students from local schools a chance to get a glimpse of life as a student at a UWC.

UWC Mostar students introduced the impact on the community in Mostar by presenting the service CASs as an important part of the outreach work in the community done by students. They also explained how the open campus helps to integrate better with the local community.

UWC Mostar delegation also participated in a Panel Discussion as the first UWC with the explicit aim of contributing to the reconstruction of a post-conflict society.



Alumni Contributions to our Community

The impact of UWC Mostar extends far beyond the classroom, thanks to its vibrant and engaged alumni network.

- **Driving Social Change:** Alumni leverage their experiences at UWC Mostar to lead initiatives addressing education reform, environmental sustainability, and intercultural dialogue in Bosnia and Herzegovina and beyond.
- **Mentorship and Support:** Many graduates return to the college to mentor current students, offering guidance on academic pathways, career choices, and personal development.
- **Global Ambassadors:** Alumni actively promote the UWC mission by sharing their stories, fostering global awareness, and championing causes aligned with the values of peace, equality, and sustainability.
- **Community Engagement:** From organizing grassroots campaigns to contributing to local NGOs, alumni strengthen the connections between UWC Mostar and the wider community, ensuring the institution remains a dynamic force for positive change.
- **Professional Excellence:** By excelling in fields such as public policy, education, technology, and healthcare, UWC Mostar alumni not only exemplify leadership but also bring visibility to the institution's unique mission and vision.

Through these contributions, UWC Mostar alumni continue to embody the ideals of the UWC movement, inspiring future generations and reinforcing the college's role as a transformative force in education and society.



The Alumni Board of UWC Mostar introduces Career day

In collaboration with the UWC Mostar University Counselling Department, the Alumni Board launched a series of online webinars and interactive sessions designed to support current students. These events focus on key topics such as university applications, navigating student life, and exploring diverse career paths.

This initiative connects students with alumni who share their personal experiences, insights, and advice, fostering a supportive network that empowers students to make informed decisions about their futures. By bridging the gap between alumni and current students, Career Day reinforces the enduring bond within the UWC Mostar community and highlights the transformative potential of shared knowledge and mentorship.



Looking ahead, UWC Mostar remains steadfast in its mission to equip young people from all over the world with the skills, knowledge, and compassion to address the challenges of an ever-changing world. The achievements of 2023/2024 are a testament to the resilience, collaboration, and vision of our entire community.



03 Sustainability and Leadership

UWC Mostar is dedicated to fostering educational excellence, promoting cultural understanding, and empowering its community to drive positive change.



Ensure Sustainable Financial Means for Future Operations

Achieve long-term financial stability to support the continuous growth, development, and operation of UWC Mostar, ensuring its ability to fulfill its mission for generations to come.



Professional Development

Commit to the ongoing professional growth of teaching and administrative staff, enhancing instructional quality, fostering innovation, and strengthening organizational effectiveness.



Curriculum Development

Elevate the quality and relevance of the educational curriculum to align with UWC's core values, addressing the evolving needs of students and preparing them to tackle global challenges with confidence and compassion.



Strengthening Alumni Network

Build and sustain a vibrant, connected alumni community that actively supports UWC Mostar and contributes to the broader UWC movement, offering mentorship and partnership opportunities.

Development and Leadership

Enhance Residential Life and Pastoral Care

Foster a safe, inclusive, and nurturing residential environment that prioritizes students' well-being, personal development, and sense of belonging.



Improve College Facilities

Upgrade and maintain facilities that cater to the academic, residential, and extracurricular needs of the college, creating a supportive environment for holistic education.

Extend UWC Mostar's Impact on the Local Community

Deepen the college's positive influence within Mostar and the surrounding region by fostering meaningful collaborations, community engagement, and cultural exchange.

Bridge to the Future

The UWC Mostar Endowment "Bridge to the Future" was set up in October 2013 with an objective to create an endowment to secure permanent funding for the College.

Bridge to the Future funds scholarships for students to attend UWC Mostar. The endowment has been set up as a charity in the UK to ensure good governance and best-in-class stewardship of donor funds. The capital of the endowment is invested and the income and capital gains are used to distribute to UWC Mostar to cover scholarships. One endowment to provide funding for a scholarship at UWC Mostar every year into perpetuity "costs" €350,000.



What is an Endowment?

The endowment is a fund to provide long term financing for scholarships. The gifts of donors become the assets of the endowment and are invested in stock markets and other financial investments. The income and capital gains of the investments are used to make donations to UWC Mostar to cover the costs of students receiving a scholarship. The aim of the endowment is to preserve the value of the assets over the long term.

Since January 2024 the global UWC Endowment Fund, www.uwcendowment.com, manages the endowment funds for other UWCs and UWC International.



"We are the ones who can bring change in different aspects. We need to bring people together through education, discussion, and communication. We have to take the initiative to stand up tall and say, 'Yes, we are the change.'"



Anđela Skramončin, UWC Mostar (United for Peace EU-UWC youth leadership forum)

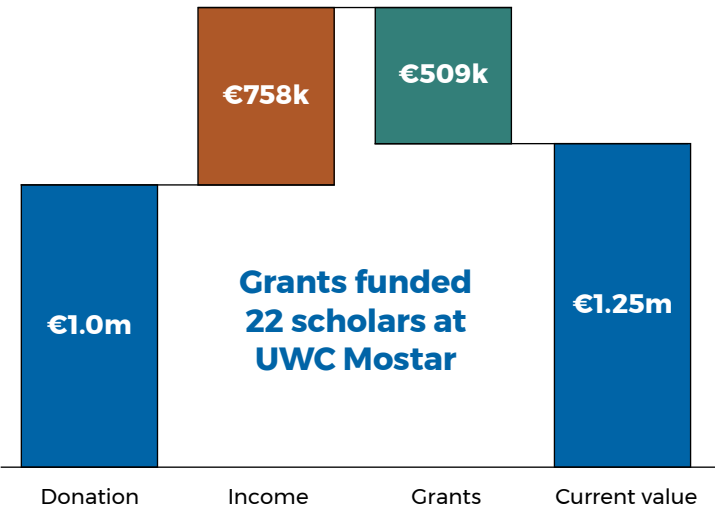
Review of the year

Ten years ago, the first students attended UWC Mostar with a scholarship from Bridge to the Future - UWC Mostar endowment in 2014. We celebrated the 10th years' anniversary during the UWC Mostar graduation ceremony in May. Our ambition in 2013 was to raise €30 million and we are getting close with €24.1 million of funds invested.

Over these 10 years, we received €18,5 million in donations, invested these funds generating €9 million in investment returns, used €3,5 million to sponsor 161 students attending UWC Mostar and have a UWC Mostar endowment with net assets of €24 million to continue to provide scholarships into perpetuity.

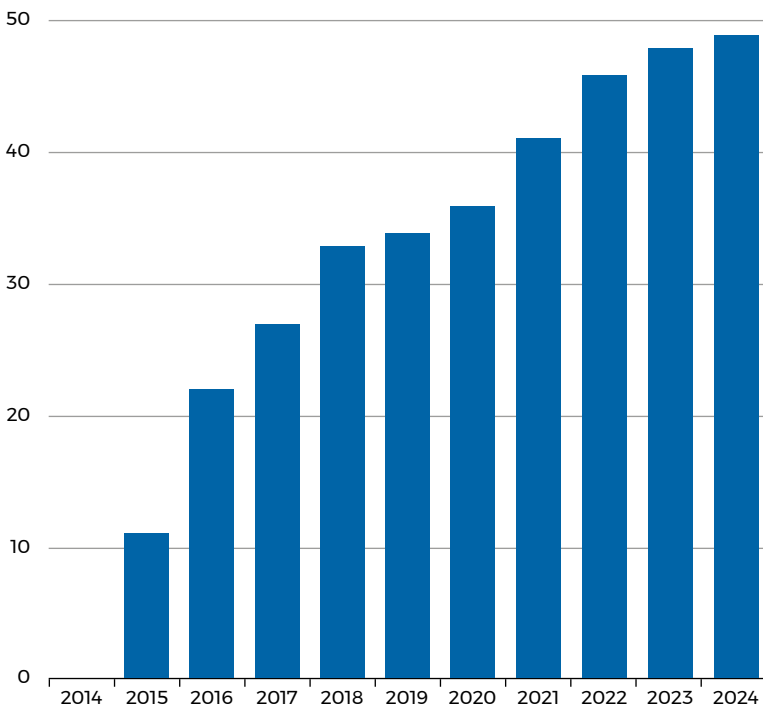
The investment performance was reasonable with a 8% increase in the 23/24 financial year, with the underlying investments generating on average a 10.4% return. With the launch of the global UWC Endowment Fund in January 2024, Bridge to the Future invests its funds together with endowments of other UWCs.

To illustrate how the endowment works, in the right side is a graph which sets out the impact of a EUR1 million donation in 2014, its growth in income, its expenses in scholarships grants and the current value in Aug 2024.

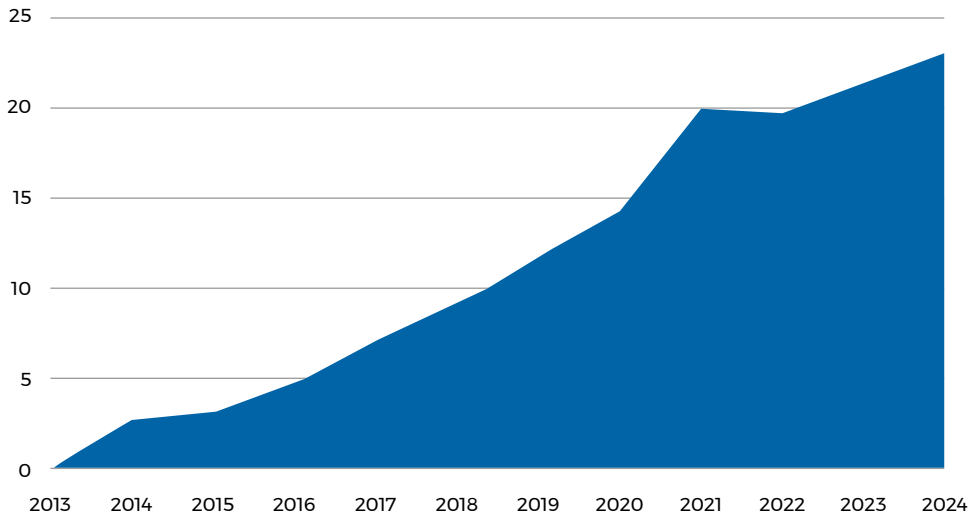


Number of the Endowment scholarships at the start of the school year

The endowment Board awarded 25 new scholarships to students starting September 2024 and combined with 24 second year students, bringing the total number of students with a scholarship at UWC Mostar from the endowment to 49.



Value of endowment in € million at 31 Aug



161 scholars*



EUR 24.1 mln value of funds invested



> 400 donors



EUR 18.5mln total donations received



EUR 3.5mln donated in scholarships



EUR 9.2mln in investment growth

* Up to July 2024 before 24/25 College year

“Every little helps” – the alumni €1 campaign – so far 284 alumni donors contributed over 8 years and funded €206k endowment

With more than 1000 alumni, UWC Mostar alumni can make a significant contribution by all donating a small amount every month. The €1 alumni giving campaign was started in 2017 to encourage alumni to give back to the College in the hope to set up an annual scholarship funded by UWC Mostar alumni. Two donors have generously agreed to match any €1 donated by UWC Mostar alumni, thus tripling any donation immediately. So please join us and sign up via <https://www.mostarendowment.com/alumni.html>

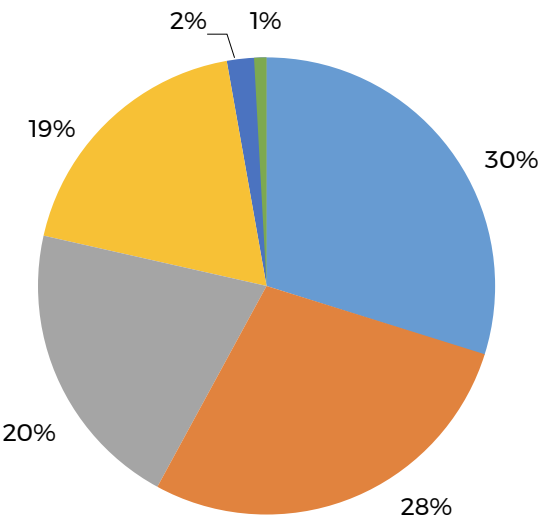
04 Financial Report

Financial Report 2023/2024

(all figures in Euros)

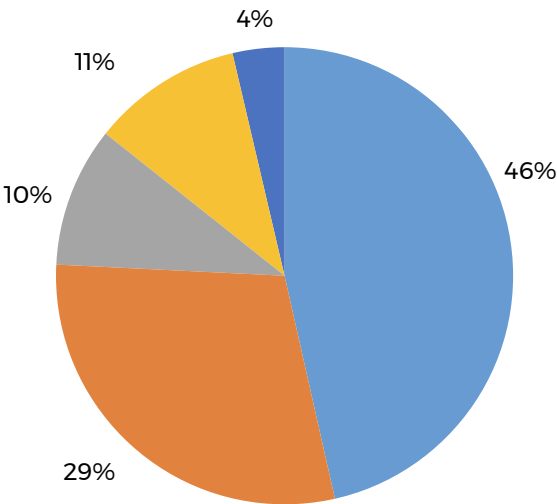
OPERATING INCOME

● Parental Contribution	958,810
● UWC International scholarship programs	904,384
● Endowment Fund	664,000
● UWC National Committees	606,460
● Government and Foundations	59,251
● Other Income	27,023



OPERATING EXPENSES

● Staff costs	1,479,695
● Boarding	937,722
● Educational program	310,658
● Administration and Governance	340,507
● Depreciation	115,481

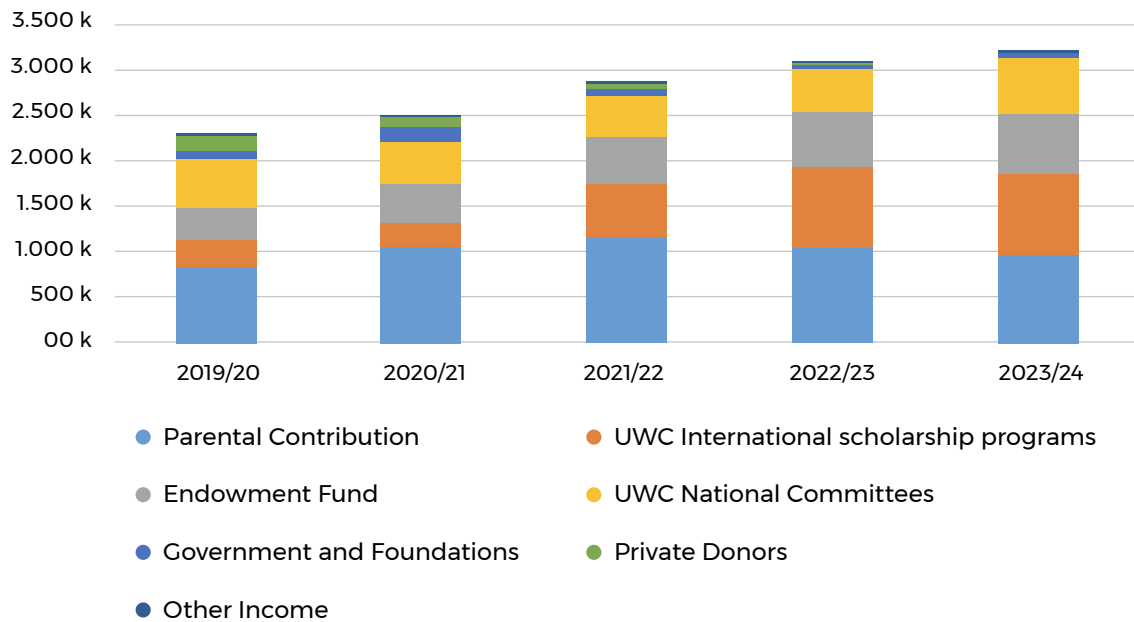


NOTES

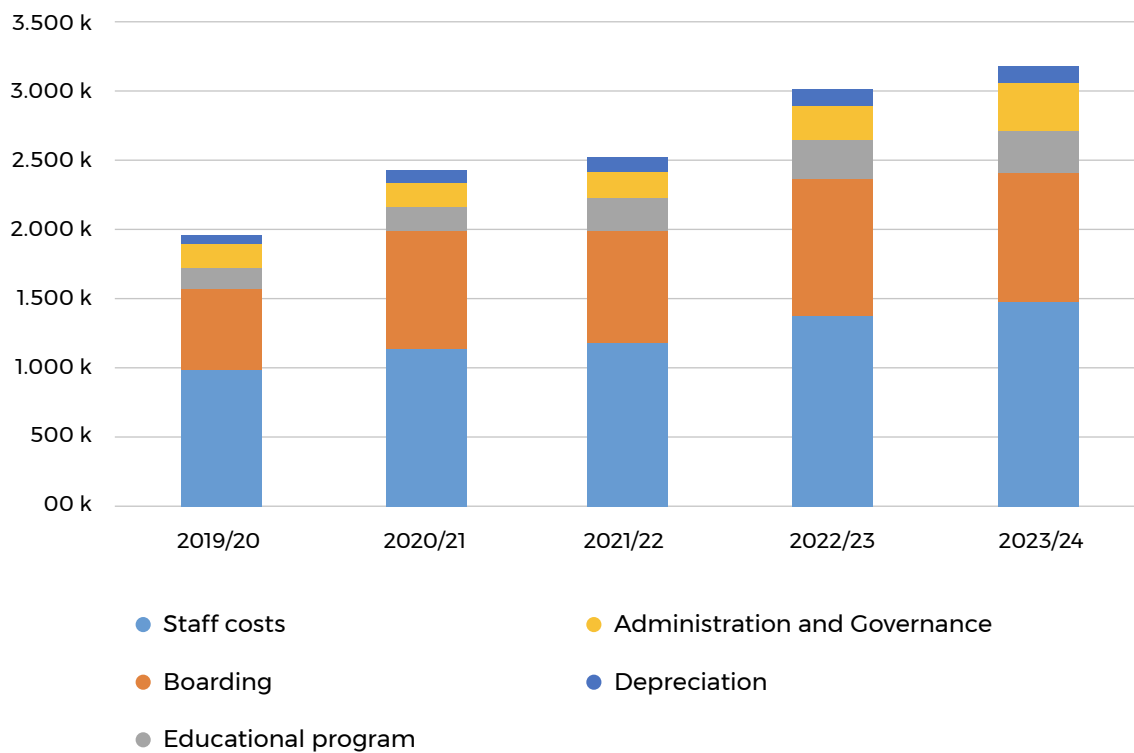
Income and expenses in respect of large capital projects have not been included above.
Capital investments were €53,990.

FIVE-YEAR ANALYSIS

Operating Income in Euros 2019-24



Operating Expenses in Euros, 2019-24



Acknowledgments

On the behalf of UWC Mostar

Ministry of Education of Montenegro

Foundations and Organizations

Fondacija sv. Kiril i Metodije, Bugarska

Association be Catalyst

Deutsche Stiftung

Fondazione Italy

Campus 15

Private Donors

Dare to Dream Matching

UWC alumni - 1 EUR Campaign

May Zia

Family Rechenberg

Family Johnson

Andrew Bennett

Adriaan van der Linden

Aleksandra Termiko

Jill Longson & Kolin Habgood

On the behalf of Endowment "Bridge to the Future"

Donors and Supporters

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Aleksandra Boutin

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Dimitar Koparov

Dominique and Guy America

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Elaine Kerr

Elisabeth Ashbridge

Elisabeth Rehn

Elisabeth and David Sutcliffe

Elmar Ritzinger's

Emma Widdis

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Ewald Engelen

Eszter Marton

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Fleur Meijs and Adriaan de Mol van

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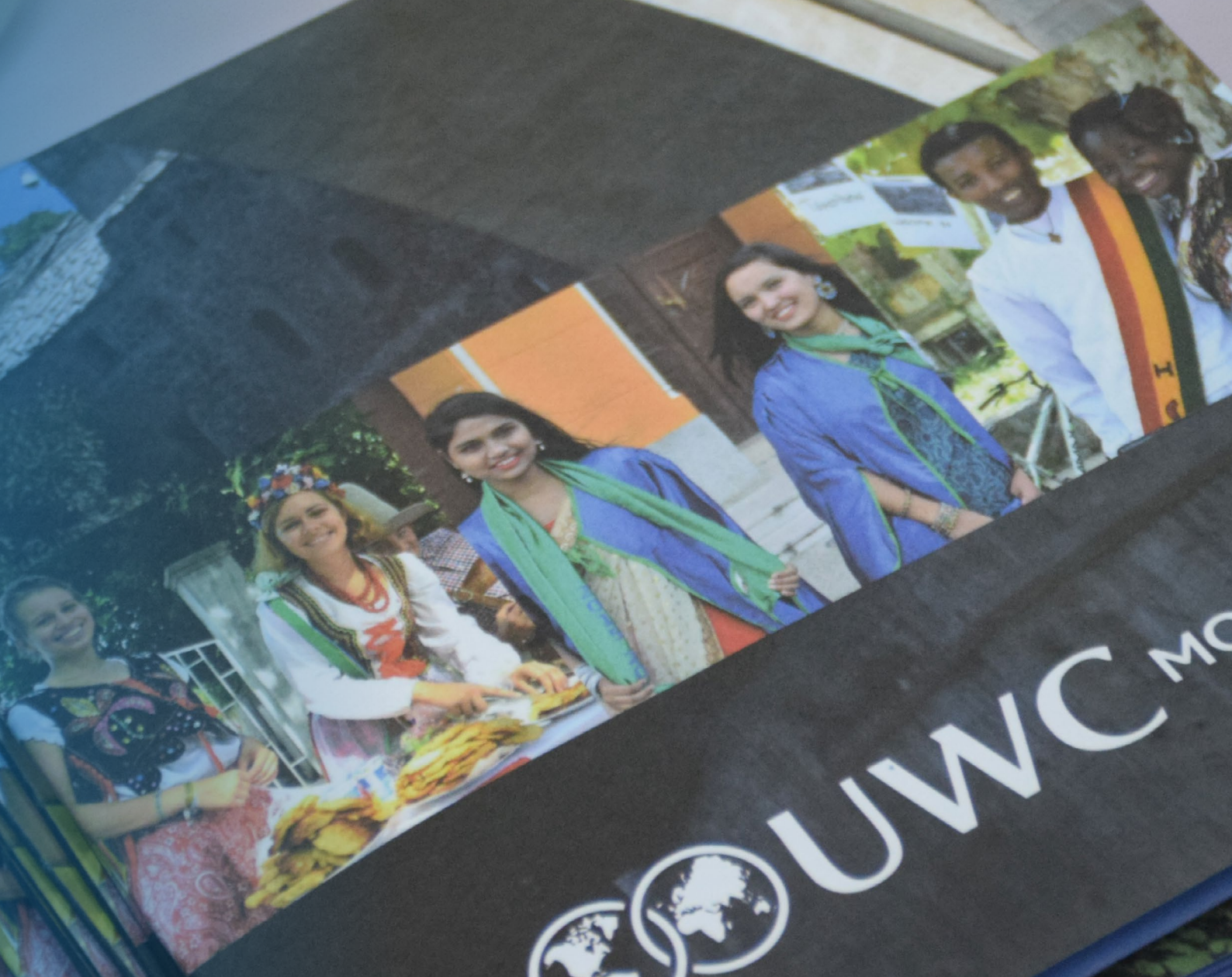
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 Alberto Crespo Iniesta
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