



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

Note from the Head

Dear Friends of UWC Mostar,

As we heard the strong winds and rainstorms late on the night of October 3rd and shut all our doors and windows, we did not fully grasp the havoc being unleashed less than 50 km from us in Mostar.

The morning brought the news of flash floods and landslides that had devastated areas around Jablanica, Konjic, and other parts of Bosnia & Herzegovina. More than a week later, rescue operations continue, with around 20 lives lost, and there is still no clear timeline for when the road to Sarajevo from Mostar will reopen. With entire sections of rail washed away, it is likely that the train connection to Sarajevo will take months to resume.

In this grim situation, it has been the youth of UWC Mostar and the Gimnazija who have shown me a ray of hope once again. And of course, our staff members, too—some of whom not only stepped in immediately to assist with rescue operations but also guided our students in the most practical and impactful ways to support during such natural disasters. From fundraising campaigns to bake sales, and from adapting Project Weeks (which were scheduled to start the following Monday) to contributing toward flood relief efforts, the UWC Mostar community has truly warmed my heart.

In the midst of all that goes wrong in the world, our youth—our children—show us that, together, we can always make a difference. We can stand up when needed, lend a hand when needed, and rise to the occasion, whatever it may be, reigniting our faith in humanity and the power of fellowship, unity, and community. Our young people live up to Mahatma Gandhi's words: *"In a gentle way, you can shake the world."*

In Solidarity,

Sonia Rawat

Head of UWC Mostar

Cooperations and activities



United for Peace EU-UWC, Cyprus 2024

United for Peace EU-UWC youth leadership forum took place this September, hosted 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.

[Read More](#)

Center for Professional Development of Teachers

Implemented by UWC Mostar's Center for Professional Development of Teachers, the "Teachers for Future" program is a professional development initiative for biology, chemistry, and physics teachers.

The project is financially supported by the Schmitz Foundation and the invitation to participate was open to all high schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

A total of 25 schools were selected to participate in the program. Selection was based on geographical diversity, with an emphasis on including schools from smaller towns that had not previously participated in the TFF project.

The workshops covered the following topics:

- Systems of Evaluation and Assessment of Knowledge in Biology, Selma Šarančić, IB DP Biology
 - Experimental Teaching in Biology, Hatidža Zaklan IB DP Biology
 - Systemic Thinking in Practice, Emina Alibegović Džih, IB DP Environmental Systems and Societies, Theory of Knowledge

- Holistic Approach to Environmental Studies, Emina Alibegović Džih, IB DP Environmental Systems and Societies, Theory of Knowledge

[Read More](#)



Humanitarian Campaigns



Statement of Solidarity with victims of devastating floods in BiH

In the wake of devastating floods, our hearts go out to those who have lost loved ones, homes, and a sense of security.

The overwhelming challenges in this difficult time are felt deeply by all of us. Know that you are not alone — we at UWC Mostar also stand with you, ready to offer support, relief, and hope. As communities rally together to rebuild, may you find strength in solidarity, and may the kindness and resilience of those around you light the path to recovery.

We send our deepest condolences and unwavering support during this time of unimaginable loss and hardship.

To donate for help, please go to:

<https://pomoziba.org/campaign/1463/poplave-2024>

[Pomozi.ba](https://pomoziba.org) humanitarian number 17039.



Humanitarian Campaign by Gimnazija Mostar and UWC Mostar

Gimnazija Mostar and UWC Mostar students organized and implemented humanitarian campaign and raised funds that will be donated with the purpose of helping the people of Jablanica area, hit by catastrophic flooding and landslides this month. [More](#)

UWC Mostar for BiH - Fundraising for flood relief

In times of crisis, every act of kindness matters. Whether it's donating to relief efforts, volunteering your time, or simply offering emotional support, every step you take contributes to helping those in need. No action is too small — together, we can make a lasting impact on the lives of flood victims and others facing hardships. Your support can help them rebuild and recover, one step at a time. In the wake of recent devastating floods in Bosnia and Herzegovina, a group of students from the UWC Mostar Endowment Fund Investment Club started an online fundraiser to help those in need.

[Donation Link](#)



Gimnazija Mostar and UWC Mostar helping the people of Jablanica

UWC Mostar student volunteers helping and showing their support for the people in heavy flood and landslide stricken areas in BiH - packing necessary items, hygiene products, baby food and water, helping and preparing the packages for transport in cooperation with humanitarian organization [@pomozi.ba](#)

Together with Gimnazija Mostar, UWC Mostar organized and implemented one more humanitarian campaign collecting clothing, food and necessary items in order to help the victims of flooded areas in BiH. All items were collected and transported to the Merhamet Association in Jablanica. [More](#)



UWC Mostar's Volunteer Team, October 2024

Helping and showing their support for the people in heavy flood and landslide stricken areas in BiH
 - packing necessary items, hygiene products, baby food and water, helping and preparing the
 packages for transport in cooperation with humanitarian organization pomozi.ba.

Each action can make a difference, every act of kindness matters!

Events and Cooperations



EU Researchers' Night in Mostar 2024!

The European Researchers' Night is the largest science outreach event in Europe. In 2024 and 2025, 47 projects will run events in **23 countries**.

Universities and research institutes across Europe open their doors and share their work through presentations, experiments, games, discussions and other interactive formats. It's a chance to go behind the scenes, meet researchers and discover how the seemingly abstract world of science is affecting our everyday life.

The European Researchers' Night



brings research and researchers closer to the public

- ♦ promotes research projects
- ♦ increases the interest of young people in science and research careers
- ♦ shows how researchers' work affects our daily lives

The event in Mostar, hosted by UWC Mostar, welcomed students, researchers and presenters who shared their knowledge, passion, and inspired us all. It was a pleasure to see such a diverse gathering of minds, all united in the spirit of learning and discovery.

Special thank you to [Noć istraživača Bosne i Hercegovine](#) and [Europe House](#).
[More](#)



UWC Mostar - Davis UWC Scholars Program

The Davis UWC Scholars Program provides need-based financial aid to graduates of the 18 United World College (UWC) high schools to pursue higher education. These scholars study at almost 100 college and university partners across the United States.

Co-founded by philanthropist Shelby Davis and international educator Phil Geier in 2000, the Davis UWC Program operates on two guiding principles:

- ♦ **Support exceptional students** so they can access outstanding higher educational opportunities in the United States.
- ♦ **Transform U.S. colleges and universities** into more globally engaged spaces that benefit students from all backgrounds.

Organized by the University Counselling Department of UWC Mostar, we had the great pleasure of welcoming 11 Davis partner institutions to Mostar!

[Read more](#)



Children's Week 2024

In cooperation with [JU "VI osnovna škola" Mostar](#) our students celebrated Children's Week! The week celebrates and recognises the talents, skills, achievements and rights of children all over the world and for the second year in a row we organize a special facepainting activity in cooperation with a local elementary school. [More](#)



October hike to Žlijeb - [Gallery](#)

Alumni



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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