



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

#### Newsletter | UWC Mostar

Dear Students, Parents, Staff, Alumni, and Community Members,

I hope you are doing well. Here in the Northern Hemisphere, closer to the North Pole, in Bosnia and Herzegovina, we said goodbye to daylight saving time. For those of you who have been here around this time, you know how astonishing the fall colours unfold during this time. We can genuinely say summer is over, and we are switching seasons. Academic Year 2025-2026 is well underway.

October was an exciting month for our students and staff as we had our annual project week. A total of 24 projects were organised for our entire student body. I say entirely, although some partly, all our students were present during this project week. I am also thrilled to see that projects were happening outdoors and indoors, in and around Mostar, and with many collaborations with valued local partners. I applaud the students for taking the initiative, but I also want to share great recognition for Iva and Gabrijel, who supported our students and staff on various projects and with their logistical challenges. Project week is always a moment to display what we, as a movement and college, represent, as many of the projects align with our mission. Some projects won awards and had the opportunity to present their projects to the board, so they also gained insight into the experiences of our students. Though the board is technically at a distance, they feel deeply committed to our college, and I thank them for their ongoing support.

The students could present to the board because the board held its first annual board meeting. I was happy to show progress with the LT members to the board. Many challenges remain as well. Therefore, the meeting was not only productive but also an opportunity for me, especially, to reflect on how to move forward with the college in the most meaningful and efficient way possible. Among other things, it was discussed how to make our mission and vision more tangible by designing more focused strategic plans for the future. We are moving in the right direction, but we should always reflect on how we can continue to improve and avoid falling into the trap of complacency.

What was also discussed, not only with the board but also with members of the wider community, is how to celebrate our 20th anniversary. Academic Year 2026-2027 will be the year in which we celebrate the fact that this beautiful college was established 20 years ago. In the coming months, I hope to share more news on how we intend to celebrate, and I look forward to celebrating this wonderful occasion with all of you.

For now, our students are working toward winter break, which is already around the corner.

That means for our second year more deadlines around academic work and university applications. I wish them all the best, but also wish they find time to keep connected with the community and what there is more to UWC life. For our first year students, they are on full speed in their designated subjects. I am sure they are excited, but sometimes feel a sense of missing home and other friends. As a community, let us stay together and ensure we support each other in the best possible way.

For now, warm greetings from a Mostar that is not as hot any more. Soon we will have our sandals-to-boots day, but rest assured, boots-to-sandals day will come again as well.

Head of UWC Mostar  
Hendrik Willem Flier

## News and Events



### Project Weeks at UWC Mostar 2025

Yes, every year, all UWC students across all colleges participate in a week-long Project Week – one of the most exciting and educational parts of co-curricular learning at UWC Mostar.

These projects, designed by both students and staff, challenge participants to:

- Grow personally and step out of their comfort zone
- Explore passions and learn through experience
- Share knowledge with the UWC community
- Build friendships and discover new perspectives

But Project Week is more than just a learning experience – it's an important outreach activity that strengthens our connection with the local community, deepens collaboration with partners, and fulfills our mission of building bridges between people and cultures.

By joining a Project Week, our students also become ambassadors of UWC Mostar, helping create meaningful connections across Bosnia and Herzegovina, whether it is through Service Projects –

learning through service in partnership with local organizations; Expedition Projects – learning through exploring nature or historical sites or Creativity Projects – learning through creation. This year, 24 student-led projects were implemented — using project-based learning, collaboration, and teamwork to deliver a truly unique educational experience.

To take a look at our projects for 2025 visit our social media [official pages](#)





### **College Board Annual Meeting held at UWC Mostar**

UWC Mostar had the pleasure of hosting the College Board Annual Meeting this October. The event brought together board members and staff who engaged in meaningful discussions on various topics related to education, assessment, and global collaboration. Throughout the meeting, insights and best practices were explored, as well as current challenges and reflections on strategies to enhance learning outcomes and student engagement across diverse contexts. Hosting this event every year is an important opportunity for UWC Mostar to contribute to ongoing dialogue on the future of education and to strengthen connections and cooperation with the College Board.

## **Cooperations and Activities**



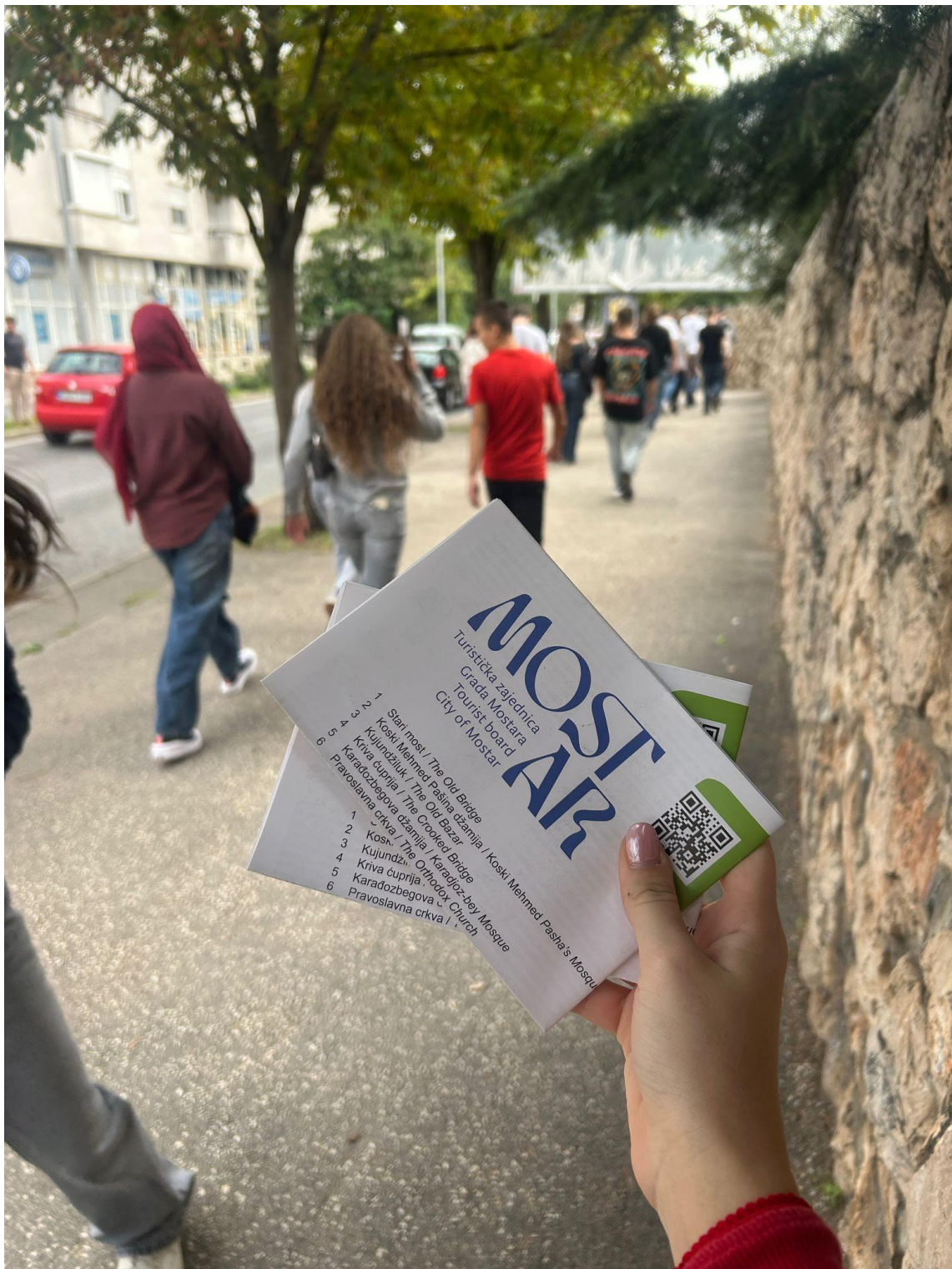
**Pomozi.ba in cooperation with UWC Mostar**

Our deepest appreciation to the Humanitarian Organization [pomozi.ba](https://pomozi.ba) who have donated a scholarship for the education of a student from Gaza, who now lives and studies in Mostar, at UWC Mostar.

The association Pomozi.ba is a non-profit humanitarian organization that helps people in need throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina and beyond. The Pomozi.ba teams provide assistance in meeting basic human needs to returnees, elderly and frail individuals, single mothers, families without regular income, orphaned children, persons with disabilities, migrants and others. Since its establishment in 2012, the association Pomozi.ba has helped around 2,000,000 people through various projects and humanitarian actions

[More](#)

(Featured: Head of UWC Mostar Hendrik Flier and Representative of Pomozi.ba Aida Halilagić.)



Have You Ever Experienced Your City from a Tourist's Perspective?

One more collaboration with Gimnazija Mostar brought together 96 students from both Gimnazija Mostar and UWC Mostar, in cooperation with the Tourist Board of the City of Mostar marking the World Tourism Day.

Together with the Tourist Board of the City of Mostar, our students visited the City's major tourist destinations with the aim of strengthening a shared identity and spirit of exploration.

They learned about Mostar, its rich history, explored the local way of life, and discovered more about themselves and others, while enjoying time together.



### Outdoor Activities

From Rujište to Kamenac, through Bijele Vode and Prijedorac — 25 km of winding trails, 1702 m of climb, and countless moments that made it all worth it.

Night under the stars, laughter echoing through the forest, and food that tasted even better after the climb.

Mountains truly have their own way of healing and humbling you...

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## Alumni



### Alumni reunion 2026!

We are inviting generations of 2010, 2011, 2016 and 2021 to mark their 15-, 10- and 5-year reunion in Mostar on 5th-7th June. We are also happy to welcome all other alumni who wish to reconnect and celebrate our joint journey.

Mark your calendar as we hope to see many of you in Mostar in June.

More information and registration form coming soon!

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## Job opportunities at UWC Mostar

### Join our team!

UWC Mostar seeks to appoint dedicated educators who are committed to the intellectual, social, and ethical development of students and who recognize that learning also takes place beyond the classroom. We value candidates who are drawn to the distinctive educational experience of the United World Colleges, and to UWC Mostar's unique mission within the movement.

For information and details on currently open vacancies and how to apply, please visit:

[www.uwcmostar.ba](http://www.uwcmostar.ba)

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## Read the latest UWC International Newsletter



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