

SBSR 2020 edition: Young Leaders for Democracy and Security

A training program for young leaders on how to build secure societies in the Black Sea Region and the Balkans

(Concluding Panel - September 3, 2020, Bucharest, Romania)

Program

Security in the Black Sea Region. Shared Challenges, Sustainable Future Program is an interactive and practical training program dedicated to young and emerging leaders in the Black Sea Region and the Balkans. Its aim is to foster and enhance leadership, conflict resolution, critical thinking, strategy and cooperation skills.

Organizers

The program, at its 7th edition, is organized by the “Mihai Viteazul” National Intelligence Academy, Romania in partnership with Harvard Kennedy School of Government, US. It stands under the high patronage of the Romanian Presidential Administration. The 2020 edition shall be dedicated to training young and emerging leaders on how to build secure societies in the Black Sea Region and the Balkans.

Special mentoring feature

The program has a hybrid format, based on an online and an onsite component. It includes

- an interactive, online course¹, which participants can attend during June 1st-July 13, 2020. Presentation available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O025a1IY2U0&feature=youtu.be>
- a webinar to be held in late August with reputed academic and policy lecturers on hybrid warfare – details to be announced to registered participants.
- a one day interactive workshop to be held in Bucharest, Romania (September 3, 2020), during **the Black Sea and The Balkans Dialogue Week**, as a back to back event with the *New Strategy Center’s Black Sea and the Balkans Forum*, to be organised in the same venue (September 4-6, 2020). The back to back format provides the opportunity for young and senior leaders in the two regions to meet, share ideas and debate on how to build secure societies in the future. It will include **a special mentoring session** with senior policy makers present at the Forum, bridging vision across generations of leaders.

¹ Designed through the CRESCENT project - Mind the gap in media Coverage and Strategic Communication in Case of Security Threats – the development of critical thinking and responsible reaction, identification code 2018-1-RO01-KA202-049449, financed through ERASMUS+, Key Action 2 – Strategic Partnership for Vocational Education and Training.

**SECURITY IN THE BLACK SEA REGION:
SHARED CHALLENGES, SUSTAINABLE FUTURE PROGRAM
YOUNG LEADERS FOR DEMOCRACY AND SECURITY**

Program Statement

**#teamwork #initiative #creative thinking #gender balance #mutual understanding.
#inter-faith dialogue #respect. #equity**

Being addressed to the Black Sea Region and the Balkans emerging decision makers in the fields of intelligence, security, foreign affairs and public diplomacy, one of the main aims of the program is to create the right framework in which young generations can interact freely and creatively, as well as debate with senior stakeholders, academia and high level officials, in full respect of each other and of potentially diverging interests, to promote mutual understanding and respect.

Acknowledging multiculturalism, diversity and inter-faith acceptance as tools to transform societies, the training program aims to contribute to accelerating the pace at which gender balance, community cohesion and inter-faith acceptance is reached in the Black Sea Region and the Balkans, with all categories of citizens participating in leadership on an equal footing, thus preventing loss of talent and biased decision making.

Training format



The 2020 edition of SBSR, *Young Leaders for Democracy and Security*, combines formal and informal, online and onsite education strategies, to foster learning by doing and ownership.

Eligibility:

Young aspiring leaders in intelligence, security, foreign affairs and public diplomacy, under 35 years old; early and middle-career professionals and PhD students with working knowledge of English. Experience in international relations, intelligence, security and/or diplomacy is considered a plus.