







#### Economies of focus

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovin<mark>a, Kosovo</mark>\*, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia

# IT'S TIME TO CHANGE, TIME TO ACT TIME FOR YOUTH

### 21.27%

of the overall Western Balkans Six population are **YOUTH** - people aged **18-24**,

so why 50% of them do not even discuss government decisions?

32% do not care at all about government decision-making, while 20% do not want to be publicly exposed.

Young people think about finding better opportunities outside the region!

51% worry most about employment

It takes around 2 years for a young person to land a first job after leaving school

So it doesn't surprise that **71%** of them would consider leaving and working abroad.

25% of youth population is not in education, employment or training!

59% believe that financial insecurity contributes to radicalization and violent extremism.

## ON A MORE POSITIVE NOTE

# 61%

agree that what brings Western Balkan citizens together is more important than what separates them!



consider as a good thing having people from other parts of the region coming to live and work in their economy.

Companies in the region are becoming open towards youth

**80%** would hire educated but inexperienced young person &

**85%** of youth would be ready to acquire additional qualifications to advance at work.









#### LET'S TALK ABOUT SOLUTIONS FOR YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY AND PARTICIPATION!

- O Career guidance and labour market information
- 0 Employment subsidies
- O Equal opportunities for vulnerable groups
- 0 EU like programmes
  - O European Solidarity Corps
  - O Erasmus +
  - O EU's Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans
  - O EU Youth Guarantee
- O More internship, traineeship and apprenticeship opportunities
- O Good quality offers of jobs, apprenticeships, internships, and trainings

REGIONAL POOL OF EXPERTS CONSISTED OF YOUTH AND POLICY MAKERS FROM THE WESTERN BALKANS WILL WORK WITHIN RCC'S WB YOUTH LAB PROJECT ON CREATING SOLUTIONS FOR ISSUES RELATED TO YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT AND YOUTH PARTICIPATION.

# IT'S YOUTH TIME

#### Sources

Public Opinion Balkan Barometer Business Opinion Balkan Barometer ESAP Report on youth employment

