**“CSO’s work within COVID-19 Pandemic - Disaster, challenge, or opportunity? How to go further? ”**

On Thursday, April 29, the e-table “CSO’s work within COVID-19 Pandemic - Disaster, challenge, or opportunity? How to go further? ” organized by the Youth Resource Center Tuzla and the HoN of ALF B&H Miralem Tursinović.

The aim of the meeting, which lasted just over two hours, was to find the challenges and opportunities that NGOs and civil society organizations face or have encountered in the COVID era. The e-board had three speakers: Slobodan Blagovcanin. Dimitrios Cavouras and Robert Križanič.

The meeting started with the opening remarks of Miralem Tursinović, where he welcomed all participants and asked them to say something more about themselves in a few sentences and about the challenges and problems they encountered during the COVID period.

After the presentation of all participants, it could be concluded that the problems are quite similar, and that participants can learn a lot from common experiences, but also work together to achieve even better results.

The first speaker was Slobodan Blagovčanin, who spoke about the CAT BiH project, and the importance of digital marketing in the civil sector. Slobodan presented a number of positive experiences of the CAT BiH project, and positive online figures that the project itself brought throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. Slobodan also spoke about the online audience and how it is possible to transfer projects, actions and initiatives to the online world in order to reach as many people as possible. He also talked to the participants about the digital academy organized by CAT with over 20 young people from various civil society organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The second speaker was Dimitrios Cavouras, who talked to participants about many topics including how the pandemic affected our societies and economies and brought a global and unprecedented public health and about the social crisis the csos are responding by providing in the front line help either in the medical sector with awareness etc.

The third speaker was Robert Križanič, who spoke about the challenges and problems faced by civil society organizations, and how to deal with them. Robert also gave a couple of good examples but also ended his speech with an inspiring part about how all this behind us may be a new opportunity for further and future work.

After a few questions and answers from the speakers, all participants agreed that this e-board was of great help, and that at least for now it would be necessary to organize such things in the future.

Some of the conclusions from the E-table were:

* It is necessary to raise awareness about the necessity to help and support the citizens in all countries in those pandemic (economically, psychologically, etc)
* CSO's should increase pressure on governments to become more effectively involved in the process of immunizing citizens and thus reducing the pandemic;
* All organizations within the ALF that deal with psychological help should develop tools to help people suffering the psychological consequences of a pandemic;
* The ALF should take full advantage of the pandemic situation to moderate all its activities to be as visible online as possible.
* Bearing in mind that the end of the crisis is not in sight in the whole world, we need to be based on activities that are epidemiologically safe, but also to use all possibilities of "off line" cooperation, so as not to lose connections between networks and secretariat.
* it is necessary to work on strengthening online educators, and finding more tools, in addition to zoom, above all, which is noticeable lack of motivation of members in online meetings.

***Tuzla, april 29th. 2021.***

***Miralem Tursinović***

***HoN ALF BiH***