

PUBLIC CALL FOR CSOs:
Join the Youth with Disabilities Regional Platform
YOUTH CORD
(Creating Opportunities Regionally for Disability)

Are you a Civil Society Organization (CSO) of youth with disabilities? Or you are CSO dedicated to empowering youth with disabilities? Are you registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo¹, or Montenegro? Are you passionate about fostering inclusion, advocacy, and positive change? We invite these CSOs across the region to apply and become a vital part of the **Youth with Disabilities Regional Platform: Youth CORD!**

The aim of this initiative is to create a space for advocacy, and to amplify the voices and leadership of young individuals, especially women and girls, and contribute to all 3 pillars of Youth Action Plan (ENGAGE, EMPOWER and CONNECT) through youth engagement at regional level. This will help to create a more interconnected, well-informed, and powerful network of young people with disabilities – a constituency that has otherwise been underrepresented at disability rights conventions and whose work remains fragmented.

Through this initiative, we aim to:

- ◆ Strengthen regional cooperation among organizations working with and for youth with disabilities.
- ◆ Exchange best practices, resources, and innovative solutions for inclusion.
- ◆ Develop impactful advocacy strategies and initiatives that drive meaningful policy changes.
- ◆ Foster leadership opportunities for young people with disabilities.

Our platform **brings together young leaders and changemakers from across the region** to:

- ✿ Share experiences and knowledge
- 🌐 Strengthen regional cooperation and inclusion
- 💡 Drive impactful initiatives and policies
- 🗣️ Advocate for the rights and opportunities of youth with disabilities.

Platform will be consisted of 5 CSOs from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia, who will act as a focal point for their countries.

Through this Call, 1 organization will be selected from BiH, 1 from Montenegro and 1 from Kosovo.

1 Hereinafter concerning Kosovo: This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Key Responsibilities of Youth CORD Focal Points:

Selected CSOs serving as focal points will be expected to:

- ◆ Collaborate with youth organizations in their respective countries to develop the vision, mission, and program of the Regional Youth Disability Network.
- ◆ Stimulate interest in the Regional Youth Disability Network among youth disability organizations within their country.
- ◆ Facilitate the engagement of national members in the Regional Youth Disability Network's programs and project activities, such as capacity-building programs, study visits, advocacy actions, and campaigns.

Eligibility Criteria and Expectations from Youth CORD members:


CSOs must meet the following requirements:

- ✓ Be a registered organization operating within Bosnia and Herzegovina, or Kosovo, or Montenegro
- ✓ Demonstrate a strong commitment to disability inclusion and youth empowerment.
- ✓ Have experience in advocacy, education, employment, accessibility, or related fields.
- ✓ Show readiness to actively engage, collaborate, and contribute to the platform's initiatives.
- ✓ Be ready to participate in the platform advocacy activities
- ✓ Be able to designate representatives, including youth with disabilities, to regularly participate in meetings and activities.
- ✓ Good knowledge of English, as the meetings will be held in English.

Application Process:

Interested organizations should fill out the application form (attached).

 **Deadline for applying:** Friday, June 13th, 2025.

 **First online meeting is going to be held on:** Friday, June 20th, 2025.

 **Submit your application to:** youthcord.network@gmail.com

Together, we can amplify the voices of youth with disabilities and build a more inclusive future! Join us in shaping a future that is more inclusive, accessible, and full of possibilities!