

DCAF Young Faces 2023

Learning together about Cybersecurity Governance in the Western Balkans: March-July 2023

Are you passionate about cybersecurity and policymaking? Do you want to expand your knowledge with real-world examples, best practices and applied theory? Are you looking to exchange ideas with experts and researchers in the field?

Join us for the Young Faces 2023 educational program!

We want to share our experience, present regional examples, and discuss what good governance in cybersecurity means for European countries today. In order to create space for strong cyber security policy, we will organize a series of webinars, mentored policy paper writing and have a live event during spring. You will be able to apply for webinars only or the full program. Applications are open until 28 February 2023.

This exciting and insightful program is organized in the context of the DCAF project, 'Good Governance in Cybersecurity in the Western Balkans', sponsored by the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.

Program and timeline

Webinars:

14 – 16 March	Cybersecurity governance in the Western Balkans: actors, challenges, and solutions.
21 – 23 March	Legal governance of cybersecurity: international norms vs. national regulation.
28 – 30 March	National cyber crises: how to prepare and respond to a cyber crisis.

Policy papers:

April – June Each participant will write a policy paper with the on-going mentorship of experts. Three spotlighted policy papers will be published and promoted through DCAF's website. An online session on policy-paper writing will be organized at the beginning of the program.

In-person event:

May Live training seminars with renowned experts on cybersecurity governance.

Further details

March – Online Webinars

A webinar will consist of three interactive sessions of 90 minutes each. Each session will be held by a different expert and facilitator. This will also include a cyber incident response simulation exercise.

Participants are encouraged to actively take part in the discussions.

Participants who choose to write policy papers will have an additional session on research methodologies and policy paper writing.

April – Choosing topic and starting to write policy papers (limited to 15 participants)

Each participant will have one mentorship session in the early April during which they will decide the topic they will be writing on, and methods used for writing.

May – First draft and a Capstone in-person event with renowned experts

Participants will be expected to submit a first draft of their policy paper in April, which will be followed by individual and group mentorship sessions.

The Capstone in--person event will also aim to increase networking and advocacy activities of the participants. It will take place in an attractive location with renowned experts from the field providing trainings and mentorship.

June/July – Final policy papers and publication

Sending final drafts and finalizing policy papers. Spotlighted papers will be published by the end of the process.

FAQ:

Who should apply?

Young leaders and interested scholars from Southeast and Eastern Europe, preferably with some experience working in or researching security, cybersecurity, rights and governance.

How do I apply?

Please apply via email: cybersecurityeca@dcaf.ch by 5 March 2023.

You can apply for webinars only or for the full program. To apply for webinars, you need to send only your CV and email with subject "Application to the Young Faces online webinars".

Should you wish to participate in the entire program, we look forward to receiving your CV and a short motivation letter (350-450 words) in an email with a subject "Application to the Young Faces program".

Which parts of the program and how many webinars may I attend?

You are welcome to participate just in webinars or in the entire program. If you wish to participate and are selected for the entire program, please note that we will expect you to attend all webinars.

How much time will I need to invest?

Webinars - Participants are expected to read the webinar reading materials prior to each webinar (reading time: approx. 6h in total across all nine webinars) and take part in all three sessions of each webinar (3 x 90 minutes), for all three series of webinars

Policy paper and live event – policy paper writing will take part in the course of four months, with two consultation processes. Each policy paper should consist of 3-7 pages. The Capstone live event will last for 1,5 days, travel excluded.

How will the Webinars be held?

The webinars will take place online via Zoom. All sessions will be held in English.

What are the fees?

Both the Webinar series and entire program are free of charge to participants. It is sponsored by the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF) and the United Kingdom's Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office.

Can I receive a certificate of participation?

A certificate will be sent to you upon request, after successful completion of the full program (three webinar sessions, policy paper and live event).