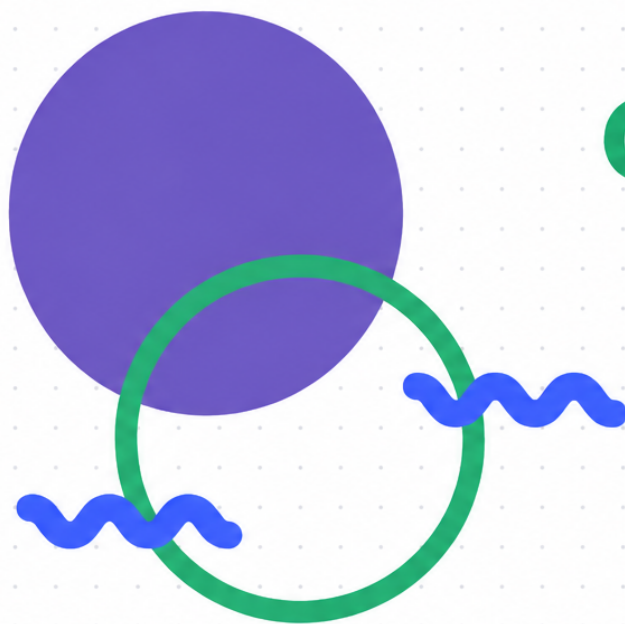




Erasmus+



GreenCheck

Youth Exchange
02.09.-11.09.2026
Banská Štiavnica

**Greenwashing
&
Disinformation**



www.bpi.sk



Funded by
the European Union

‘GreenCheck’

Developing Youth Competences to Combat Greenwashing and Disinformation

02.09. - 11.09.2026, Banská Štiavnica, Slovakia

Themes of the Youth Exchange

The **GreenCheck** youth exchange is designed to empower young people with the knowledge, critical thinking skills, and practical tools needed to recognize and challenge **greenwashing, misinformation, and disinformation** related to environmental issues.

The project explores how misleading environmental claims, fake news, and manipulation of online content influence public opinion and consumer behavior. Participants will examine topics such as media literacy, digital citizenship, sustainability communication, climate misinformation, and responsible consumption.

Aligned with the priorities **of the Erasmus+ Programme, the European Green Deal, and the Digital Education Action Plan**, **GreenCheck** encourages young people to become informed citizens capable of making evidence-based decisions and promoting truthful environmental communication.

Through intercultural learning, teamwork, and practical workshops, participants will develop the competences to identify misleading information, verify sources, create awareness campaigns, and inspire others to think critically about sustainability and environmental responsibility.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the youth exchange, participants will:

- Develop a deeper understanding of greenwashing, misinformation, and disinformation related to environmental and climate issues.
- Learn how to identify misleading advertising, false environmental claims, and manipulated online content.
- Strengthen media and information literacy skills, including fact-checking and source verification.
- Explore the relationship between sustainability, consumer behavior, social media, and digital communication.
- Improve critical thinking, communication, teamwork, and intercultural cooperation skills.
- Design awareness-raising activities and campaigns promoting truthful environmental communication.
- Exchange experiences and good practices with participants from different countries.
- Increase their confidence in becoming ambassadors for responsible information sharing and sustainable lifestyles within their local communities.
- Build international partnerships and networks for future Erasmus+ cooperation in the field of greenwashing and fight against disinformation.

Learning Approach

The youth exchange is based on the principles of non-formal education, experiential learning, and intercultural dialogue. The program will include:

- Interactive workshops on greenwashing, fake news, media literacy, and environmental communication.
- Team-building activities and intercultural learning sessions.
- Simulations, debates, role-playing, and critical thinking exercises.
- Fact-checking challenges and practical activities using digital verification tools.
- Group work focused on analyzing environmental campaigns and identifying misleading claims.
- Creative workshops where participants develop social media content and awareness campaigns.
- Reflection sessions and Youthpass activities supporting personal learning and competence development.
- Outdoor and community-based activities promoting sustainable lifestyles and responsible citizenship.

The youth exchange will be facilitated by an experienced international team, creating a supportive, inclusive, and engaging environment where participants can learn from one another while developing practical skills for active citizenship.

Who can participate in the training course:

- Young people aged **18+ years old**
- Interested in **greenwashing, fake news and fight against disinformation.**
- Ready to participate **throughout the entire mobility.**
- Able to communicate **in English.**

Eligible countries: Slovakia, Czechia, Hungary, Romania, Spain, and Turkey

Applicant organization: Bratislava Policy Institute (BPI) is an independent not-for-profit think tank dedicated to fostering liberal democracy, human rights, Central European region, and European integration through analysis and debate, supporting and challenging relevant stakeholders at national and international levels to make informed decisions based on evidence and analysis.

The food and accommodation will be provided and paid by the organizers. Travel costs will be counted based on the distance calculator of the European Commission and reimbursed by bank transfer after the course (in EUR) through the sending organizations.

Maximum travel costs according to Erasmus+ distance calculator:

Slovakia - depending on travel (5 participants)

Czechia - 211 EUR (5 participants) - green travel 285 EUR

Hungary - 211 EUR (5 participants) - green travel 285 EUR

Romania - 309 EUR (5 participants) - green travel 417 EUR

Spain - 309 EUR (6 participants) - green travel 417 EUR

Turkey - 309 EUR (6 participants) - green travel 417 EUR

What to bring with you?

- **Valid passport or ID card**
- **Travel insurance (mandatory)**
- **All travel tickets and boarding passes** (for reimbursement - it is very important to keep all your original tickets, receipts, and boarding passes, because we can give you back the travel costs only if you have them)
- **National snacks, drinks, music, and small specialties for Intercultural Networking Evening**

- **Personal medication** if needed
- **Laptop or camera** (optional, but useful)
- **Bottle for water, sunscreen, and cap**
- **Comfortable clothes, and shoes**

Weather

September in Banská Štiavnica can be still hot. Temperatures typically range from 20 °C to 30 °C. Mornings are usually colder. Swimsuit is recommended.

Check the weather forecast before traveling: <https://www.meteo.sk/>

Accommodation

The accommodation will be provided in **Hostel Cosmopolitan**, in Banská Štiavnica. The daily activities will take place at the same place. Food will be arranged by the organizers. There will be three meals every day: breakfast, lunch and dinner; and coffee breaks.

Banská Štiavnica is a true gem of Slovakia, located in the heart of the Štiavnica Hills. This UNESCO World Heritage town is steeped in history, charm, and natural beauty. Once a thriving mining center, it now enchants visitors with its picturesque streets, beautifully preserved medieval and Baroque architecture, and a unique fusion of culture and nature.

You can find the hostel website here: <https://www.penzioncosmopolitan.sk/hostel-cosmopolitan/>





How do you reach Banská Štiavnica from the capital city Bratislava?

By train:

From The Main Train Station in Bratislava, you can take a train to Banská Štiavnica (via Nová Baňa and Hronská Dúbrava). You can buy the tickets for the train through this website: <https://www.zssk.sk/en/online-sales/> or at the train station (however, it is more expensive). If you choose this option, get off the train in Banská Štiavnica and walk approximately 20 mins to the hostel.

By bus:

From the Main Bus Station in Bratislava, you can take a bus to Zvolen Bus Station/ Žarnovica Motel Sitno/ Žiar nad Hronom Bus Station (please choose 1 from these 3 options). From there, you can take a direct bus to Banská Štiavnica križovatka. Get off the bus in Banská Štiavnica križovatka and walk approximately 10 mins to the hostel.

If you do not travel through Bratislava, you can check the routes here (*please contact us for more information): <https://m.cp.sk/en/vlakbusmhd/spojenie/>

How do you reach The Main Train Station in Bratislava?

BRATISLAVA AIRPORT (BTS)

There are direct flights from several destinations in Europe and many airlines that operate their direct routes to Bratislava – RYANAIR, Pobeda, Flydubai, Smart Wings, Air Cairo, Wizz Air. To get to Banská Štiavnica from Bratislava Airport you can take a bus no. 61 to Hlavná stanica (The Main Train Station) or a bus no. 61 – get off at Bajkalská and change to a bus no. 60 – to Autobusová stanica (The Main Bus Station). Bus tickets are available in ticket machines at bus stops or in kiosks (or in the mobile app: <https://apps.apple.com/sk/app/ids-bk-cestujeme-jednoduch%C5%A1ie/id1360894243?l=sk>). The tickets which cost around 1,20 EUR must be validated in the bus (online tickets are validated directly in the app).

VIENNA-SCHWECHAT (VIE) AIRPORT

The airport at Vienna-Schwechat is only 40 kilometers west of Bratislava and Slovaks mainly use it for long-haul flights. It is one of the main gateways to Slovakia. Buses to Bratislava depart at 30 to 60-minute intervals. Tickets can be bought in the bus or on the designated websites of specific bus companies; check the following companies eurolines.sk, regiojet.com, flixbus.com to Bratislava, Hlavná stanica (The Main Train Station) or Bratislava, Autobusová stanica (The Main Bus Station).

BY BOAT

Due to its position on the river Danube, Bratislava has regular connections by boat with Vienna. The center of Vienna (Schwedenplatz) is connected to Bratislava by a fast catamaran Twin City Liner and another fast hydrofoil, which is berthed at Vienna Handelskai.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us on wagingerova@bpi.sk

Preliminary Program GreenCheck	Day 1 Arrival Day: Wednesday	Day 2 Introductory Day: Thursday	Day 3 Discover Day: Friday	Day 4 Question Day: Saturday	Day 5 Story Day: Sunday	Day 6 Trip Day: Monday	Day 7 Challenge Day: Tuesday	Day 8 Explore Day: Wednesday	Day 9 Reflect Day: Thursday	Day 10 Departure Day: Friday
9:00 - 10:00	Arrival of Participants - Registration (from 15:00)	Breakfast - Hostel Cosmopolitan	Breakfast - Hostel Cosmopolitan	Breakfast - Hostel Cosmopolitan	Breakfast - Hostel Cosmopolitan	Breakfast + Lunch to Go - Hostel Cosmopolitan	Breakfast - Hostel Cosmopolitan	Breakfast - Hostel Cosmopolitan	Breakfast - Hostel Cosmopolitan	Breakfast - Hostel Cosmopolitan
10:00 - 11:30		Breaking the Ice & Connecting the Dots	Youthpass: My Learning Journey	Stand Up If: Share Your Opinion	Two Truths & a Lie: Green Edition	Trip Day to Reneso in Žiar nad Hronom: Innovative Solutions for Cigarette Waste Recycling	Climate Narratives: Agree/ Disagree (Outdoor Discussion Activity)	GreenCheck Hike: World Café in the Park (Outdoor Activity)	Campaign Lab: Final Reveal	Departure of Participants (until 10:00)
11:30 - 12:00		Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break		Coffee Break		Coffee Break	
12:00 - 13:00		What Brought Me Here: Expectations & Goals	Game: Green, Greener, Greenwashed? (Outdoor Activity)	Green Fake News & Social Media (Interactive Presentation)	Build the Story: How Stories Can Inform, Persuade & Manipulate (Workshop)		Step-by-Step Campaign Planning: Group Work		Campaign Lab: Final Reveal	
13:00 - 15:00		Lunch - 6/4 Restaurant	Lunch - 6/4 Restaurant	Lunch - 6/4 Restaurant	Lunch - 6/4 Restaurant		Lunch - 6/4 Restaurant	Lunch - 6/4 Restaurant	Lunch - 6/4 Restaurant	
15:00 - 16:00		Welcome to Banská Štiavnica: Practical Information & City Orientation	Spot the Green Claim: Analyzing Eco Promises (Interactive Presentation)	From Click to Share: Group Workshop	Emotion Is the Hook: Creative Activity		Step-by-Step Campaign Planning: Group Work	Free Afternoon	Evaluation & Reflection of the Erasmus+ Experience: Dialogue Space	

16:00 - 16:30			Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break		Coffee Break		Coffee Break	
16:30 - 17:30			Greenwashing Detective Lab: Eco Investigation	Fake News Bingo & Social Media Challenge (Competition)	Beyond the Bin: Indonesia, Waste & the Stories We Tell (Guest Speaker - Aulia Rahman)		Improve & Refine: Mentoring Time		GreenCheck Awards & Secret Friend Reveal	
17:30 - 18:00		Reflection of the Day	Reflection of the Day	Reflection of the Day	Reflection of the Day		Reflection of the Day			
18:00 - 19:00	Welcome Dinner - 6/4 Restaurant	Dinner - 6/4 Restaurant	Dinner - 6/4 Restaurant	Dinner - 6/4 Restaurant	Dinner - 6/4 Restaurant	Dinner (Pizza)	Dinner - 6/4 Restaurant	Dinner - 6/4 Restaurant	Farewell Dinner - 6/4 Restaurant	
19:00 - 21:00	Informal Welcome Evening	Intercultural Networking Evening - Part 1	Under the Town Lights	Party Evening	Intercultural Networking Evening - Part 2	Movie Night	Intercultural Networking Evening - Part 3	Chill Evening	Goodbye Evening (Optional: Sunset Calvary Walk)	