



Internship opportunity: BiH dialogue program

About MIRCURY:

MIRCURY is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the reduction of (violent) conflict. We introduce a new model: a multidisciplinary way to conflict resolution. We aspire to facilitate dialogues and initiatives where socio-psychological, economic, and political drivers of conflict are addressed comprehensively. We are convinced that conflicts end not with the signing of a peace treaty but when the people involved in the conflict have made a conscious and deliberate shift in their mindset and agreed on a shared vision and narrative for the future. We look holistically at the absence of trust, distorted power relations and unequal socio-economic opportunities in conflict settings: people, power, and prosperity.

Our vision is to work in multidisciplinary teams of experts and in long-term engagements. These teams – composed of socio-psychologists, entrepreneurs, diplomats, engineers, artists, urban planners, anthropologists, security experts and others – bring together new methods of trust-building, scenario planning, and entrepreneurship. It is our firm conviction that a mixture of expertise and methods will improve understanding and ultimately result in a more optimal social environment for human potential to flourish. And it is with this conviction that we have engaged in a Bosnia-Herzegovina project the past two years.

About the internship:

MIRCURY is offering an exciting internship opportunity for the BiH Dialogue Program, for three to six months, starting October 2024. As we set up operations, organize regular visits to the country and advance our first initiative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, this role specifically involves contributing to the development of a dialogue process with influential BiH interlocutors, aiming to bridge ethnic divides and drive peace investment initiatives to foster social cohesion and incentivize a new narrative for BiH.

We are well advanced in convening quite a unique group of influential leaders from key professional public and private sectors, including finance (CEO of a bank), justice (President of the court), businesses (CEO's of large private sector companies), academia (Dean of the university), health (director of public hospital), and culture (leading urban planners). These are leaders strongly embedded in society, cognisant of societal tensions and at the same time capable of exerting societal and political influence at national level. Our primary focus is implementing tangible socio-economic projects (peace investments). These can include projects in infrastructure, digitalization in the healthcare sector or student exchange programs – demonstrating tangible societal benefits. We are not a “talkshop”. Practical problem solving and storytelling is at the core of our concept.

The intern will assist our on-the-ground project team in practical preparations and contribute to the overall design of the dialogue process. We are a flexible and mostly virtual start-up and, as such, the number of hours the intern wishes to dedicate for the internship can be



discussed. However, we hope you will be able to commit at least 1-3 days per week for approximately 3-6 months. In addition, you are expected to attend two weekly team meetings: one with the whole Mircury team, taking place on Tuesdays from 11:30-12:30 CET and another with the BiH project team, taking place on Fridays from 14:00 CET .

Key responsibilities:

- *Contributing to mission briefs and back-to-office reports:* collaborate on the preparation of comprehensive reports, outlining contextual background, objectives, key takeaways and follow ups.
- *Network management and engagement:* actively engage with important interlocutors, initiating meeting requests and following up on communications. Ensure the key network is up-to-date.
- *Logistics and scheduling:* work on logistical aspects of trips to ensure smooth operations, contribute to preparations of meetings, optimizing program efficiency.
- *Process design:* contribute to shaping the overall dialogue process design. Think creatively about innovative approaches to enhance the impact of the program, including composition of dialogue group(s), peace initiatives, and media involvement.
- *Political dynamics analysis:* stay informed and analyze the political dynamics in the region. Maintain an up-to-date understanding of the political landscape to contribute insights to the organization's strategies.
- *Ad hoc operational tasks:* handle ad hoc activities related to the operational functioning of the organization, including but not limited to research activities.

What you receive in return:

- Collaborating in a small professional team, allowing you to actively contribute to shaping the organization's direction.
- Gain experience in the dynamics of running a conflict resolution start-up in both strategic and operational terms.
- Valuable hands-on experience in conflict resolution initiatives and actively contributing to peacebuilding projects
- Participation in meetings with important figures in Bosnian society, expanding your own network.
- Opportunities to enhance your analytical and practical skills in a dynamic setting. Exposure to a diverse range of tasks.
- Mentorship and guidance from professionals in the field.
- Opportunity to think creatively and work on innovative approaches to conflict resolution and peacebuilding.

Please note that as a non-profit organization with no stable funding, we regret to inform you that we cannot provide financial compensation for this internship.

We are looking for:

- A Master's degree student;



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- Background in social studies (sociology, political science, economics, psychology) is a pre;
- Driven do-er with an innovative and entrepreneurial spirit;
- Fluent in English (fluency in local languages is appreciated, but not required);
- Good writing skills and command of the MS Office suite;
- Interested in and affinity with conflict resolution work as well as the Balkan region;
- Capable of working independently and within timeframes;
- Available to start in October (part-time).

Contact:

Are you interested in the internship position or do you think you fit in with the organization in general? Please send your CV and cover letter by **Wednesday, 2 October** to **Lejla Hamzakadić**, at lejla.hamzakadic@gmail.com.

For more information about the organization, visit: www.mircury.org