

VISEGRAD YOUTH FORUM 2022



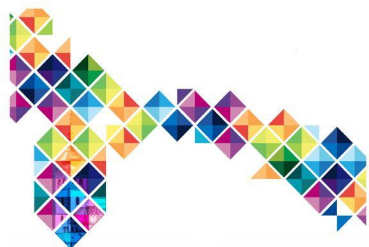
Young Leaders Perspectives on the future of Visegrad

The second Panel Discussion of the Visegrad Youth Forum 2022 was based on the topic of Young leaders perspective on the future of Visegrad. The panel was moderated by Zuzana Kepplová, moderator, editor, columnist. Among speaker were young participants, namely Khaleb Elbaz vice-chairman of mladi progresivci, Viktoria Styková, and Rebekah Olah.

The panel discussion was opened by the president of the Euro-Atlantic Center, Patrícia Chnuriková, who introduced the members of the debate. The discussion itself started by asking the participants how they would describe the V4, its identity and what they would say about replacing the European Union with regional cooperation. Khaleb brought some interesting points about how the V4 share a common history that was under the pressure of totalitarian regimes, but after the revolution that took place in the states, we stick together. He added that we should not try to create a new alliance or separate the European Union but simply hold on control in our hands, identity of V4 should be identified by our shared history. Moderator followed it up with another question for discussion and it was history divide us or hold us together ? Khaleb again give his interest view here about when we look backwards to history, we should preferably look to modern history. For example, Hungary and Slovakia in their common history they had many contradictions, but what unites them that is important.

Viktória modified the direction of the topic and talked about social media bringing more evil than good and its important for us to create awareness on how to use social media. She talked about how important meetings of V4 representatives are. Khaleb clearly agreed and gave one clear example of how tiktok really had influence on restoring Trump in politics and added that we no longer need magazines that are clearly old ways for getting informations and the use of social networks is important.





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Rebekah added her point of view which was that social media can really be dangerous, but we really need to teach people how to use them properly, integration and cooperation are important, we have common identity. She takes V4 for very powerful integration thing, even though we have different perspective about the world, we are always there for each other and that is important. Viktoria emphasized the big problem and that is the fact that she first heard about European Union and NATO first at high school. To which Rebekah added her attitude about it that we should educate young students more about this important structures. Khaleb commented on the topic that we maybe sometimes find stuck in some parts of our history, He think that we are until now we have great potential we reach progress in western side of EU and we have a voice to prove ourself we have democracy now and well educated people and the cooperation are the key.

The moderator added another question to the discussion which was what the mission of V4 actually is. Khaleb spoke up about that we have common shared problem, and that is that – young people are leaving V4 countries, 70% students thinking of go to another state and thats the problem, we should put it as a top priorities to agenda, its our responsibility to try educate people our family members, friends to achieve better life here, to stay and work on the problem. We need to communicate, we forget what we have in common, 1st step is for V4 is to begin working on improving our communicating together, meeting on regular basis and simply to have „wake up call“ so yeah we have differences but look at common things we have together. Rebekah perspective is about we have to use diplomacy and main highlights is there are lot of working minds. Viktoria added Communication is really important, we should create V4 council, we have to learn from western states, this can be way to increase our communication – V4 should more communicate with each other. The moderator ended the panel discussion and thanked the participants for participation and good preparation for topic.

