



TOKA
10 VJETRI
ANNIVERSARY

TEN YEARS, A THOUSAND STORIES!

ANNUAL REPORT

2025

10
VJET
YEARS

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TOKA – A HOME BUILT OVER TEN YEARS



Dear TOKA Friends,

In 2025, TOKA proudly celebrated 10 years of growing, learning, and building together. What began as a small initiative driven by belief in young people has, over a decade, grown into a nationwide movement for volunteering, education, and civic engagement. Today, TOKA stands as Kosovo's leading organization for volunteering and experiential learning – rooted in communities, schools, and institutions across the country.

One of the most meaningful milestones of our 10th anniversary was the launch of the “LULËZOJNË” Scholarship. Introduced during TOKA's Gala Night, this program represents our commitment to paying forward the trust and support TOKA has received over the years. Through the generosity of businesses, diaspora, and individual donors, we awarded 22 scholarships to young women, rural youth, and first-generation university students – each one a reminder that access to education can change the course of a life.

This anniversary year was both a moment of reflection and a leap forward. In 2025 alone, 3,500 youth, volunteers, teachers, and partners engaged through TOKA's programs – strengthening schools, supporting communities, and shaping a more inclusive and resilient society. From Service-Learning and Solidarity Action Day to Formal Education, research, camps, and advocacy, this year reaffirmed that young people are not only beneficiaries of change, but its strongest drivers.

In parallel, 2025 marked strong progress inside the classroom. Together with municipalities and the Faculty of Education, we expanded Experiential Learning Methodology across preschool, primary, secondary, and vocational education – training teachers, mentoring classrooms, and reaching thousands of pupils nationwide. These efforts continue to embed learning that is practical, engaging, and connected to real life.

This year also reinforced TOKA's role as a space for innovation and collaboration. From advancing research on mental health and climate education, to expanding international partnerships and diaspora engagement, we saw how shared values and collective effort can turn ideas into lasting impact.

None of this would be possible without you – our volunteers, youth leaders, teachers, parents, schools, municipalities, businesses, donors, diaspora partners, institutions, and friends. Your trust, energy, and belief in young people have carried TOKA through ten years of growth and transformation.

As we look ahead to the next year and next decade, we do so with gratitude, humility, and ambition – committed to deepening impact, strengthening systems, and continuing to invest in the potential of young people across Kosovo and beyond.

Thank you for being part of TOKA's journey.

In the meantime, we invite you to explore the highlights of 2025 – one year, among many, in a story we continue to write together.

With respect and gratitude,
Hatixhe Zeka
Executive Director



TOKA 2025 IN NUMBERS

1836 Brighter Students!

The number of students and pupils who engaged with experiential learning, implemented through 142 teachers trained in Experiential Learning Methodology and mentored by 15 peers. This approach has proven to enhance academic performance, learning and teaching more effectively than conventional methods.

259 Youth Enablers!

The number of volunteers, leaders, teachers, and mentors who, through TOKA's training and mentorship, have gone on to support and lead their peers and students in both formal and non-formal education. This number continues to grow every year, creating a multiplier effect to their peers and communities.

1268 Active volunteers!

The number of volunteers who contributed their time and efforts to improve their communities through planning, project implementation and fundraising. These amazing youth, with the support of their teachers and schools, have improved the lives of 15,000 community members just in the last year!

22 LULËZOJNË Scholars!

In 2025, TOKA launched the "Lulëzojnë" Scholarship Program during its first-ever fundraising event in Kosovo, attended by over 200 participants including the Prime Minister of Kosovo, securing €23,500 and awarding 22 scholarships out of 1,023 applications (46.5 applicants per scholarship) including young women, rural youth, and first-generation students across thematic and donor-supported categories.



MORE NUMBERS!

126 Changemakers discovered!

The number of nominations received for the Volunteerism of the Year Awards Campaign. Changemakers from youth, businesses, diaspora, municipality officials, public figures, individuals with lifetime contribution and schools that improve their communities daily due to their volunteer work and other forms of contributions.

11 Municipalities for Youth!

The number of municipalities joining our Municipalities for Youth program continues to grow! This initiative ensures that non-formal education activities are happening in these municipalities and that youth have the possibility to engage in Service-learning Clubs, Summer Camps, Solidarity Action Day or have a youth exchange abroad.

189 Partner Businesses!

189 businesses selflessly joined our mission in 2025, providing better educational opportunities for Kosova youth. They have offered their services and funds for our programs, as well as first job opportunities for youth, helping our impact reach to the furthest corners of Kosova.

!!! TOKA in the Council of EUROPE, and not only!

In 2025, TOKA expanded its collaboration with the Albanian diaspora, implementing Solidarity Action Day for the first time in London and Brussels together with the Albanian Student Association VLERA and ALSA UK. TOKA strengthened its international presence by expanding the CSEE Service-Learning Network to North Macedonia and Croatia, launching an international digital platform, enabling youth exchanges in Germany and Italy, and representing Kosova at high-level forums including Abu Dhabi Roundtable, the Autumn Congress of Volunteering, and platforms linked to the Council of Europe.



EVEN MORE NUMBERS!

4 TOKA Camps!

TOKA's camps created lasting memories for 122 young people, bringing together a diverse group including Albanians, Serbs, Roma, Ashkali, Egyptians, participants from the U.S., Arab countries, and Israel. The topics of the Camps for this year were peace, dialogue, leadership, employment and of course, fun!

!!! VIPs x TOKA

Regarding institutional and high-level support, TOKA strengthened cooperation with the Embassies of Great Britain and Sweden, met with the Prime Minister of Kosovo in February 2025, and was deeply honored by his presence at TOKA's Gala Night. Furthermore, the President of Kosovo invited TOKA and its volunteers to mark International Youth Day, where we proudly represented 15 young participants from the International Peacebuilding Camp.

3 Faculties of University of Prishtina x TOKA!

TOKA deepened its cooperation with the Faculty of Education, University of Prishtina through the accreditation of 2 programs by MESTI, enabling teachers to earn credits toward their teaching licenses; strengthened its partnership with the Institute of Psychology by conducting studies on youth mental-health needs in Kosovo and Romania; and expanded collaboration with the Faculty of Economics at the University of Prishtina, which honored TOKA by inviting us to join its Advisory Board and contribute to recommendations on higher education and accreditation processes.

44 TOKA Ambassadors!

The number of leaders, volunteers, teachers, and municipality officials that have represented TOKA internationally, while broadening their culture and perspectives, building new partnerships, and bringing back valuable knowledge and best practices to enhance youth programs back home.

TOKA

10 VJET

ANNIVER



A NIGHT TO GIVE BACK & LULËZOJNË

In celebration of TOKA's 10th anniversary, we launched the "LULËZOJNË" Scholarship, through which we are paying forward the support we've received by investing in those who need it most.

On June 12, 2025, over 200 guests joined TOKA's Gala Night – an inspiring evening to celebrate youth potential and our shared commitment to education. With your support, this vision became a reality. This is when "LULËZOJNË" started its journey!

The "LULËZOJNË" Scholarship empowers Kosovo's youth who are ready to thrive, but face financial barriers. These students are community changemakers, academically driven, and eager to give back.

Each scholarship provides up to €1,000 to cover tuition, housing, study materials, and essential expenses – allowing recipients to focus fully on their education and future impact.

€23,500 were raised from businesses, diaspora and individual donors, securing 22 scholarships including young women, rural youth, and first-generation students.

In total, we received 1023 applications! For every scholarship awarded, 46.5 candidates applied. 2025/26 "LULËZOJNË" scholarships were awarded as follows:

- ❁ "LULËZOJNË with ISA Consulting Group" Scholarship – 11 third-year IT students, supported by ISA Consulting Group.
- ❁ "LULËZOJNË with Mehmet Gjevori" Scholarship – 2 female students from rural areas, passionate about education, law, the Albanian language, and volunteerism, supported by Xharra Family.
- ❁ "LULËZOJNË with Fatlinda Drejta-Karahoda" Scholarship – 3 female students in pharmacy, medicine, chemistry, or natural sciences, supported by Jehona & Era Gjurgjeala
- ❁ "LULËZOJNË with Innovative Solutions" Scholarship – 1 third-year student at FIEK, who will also benefit from a professional internship at the company, supported by Innovative Solutions
- ❁ Unbranded Scholarships – 5 students without a specific profile, as requested by the donors, supported by ALSA UK, VLERA, Betim Deva and Flutra Osmani and other individual donors.



FORMAL EDUCATION ACROSS KOSOVA



In 2025, teacher trainings in Experiential Learning Methodology were supported and co-financed through six strategic Memorandums of Understanding with the municipalities of **Skënderaj, Hani i Elezit, Obiliq, Ferizaj, Istog, and Prishtina**, and implemented in partnership with the **Faculty of Education at the University of Prishtina** - a proven approach that **improves learning outcomes for students from preschool to high school levels**.

In the same year, TOKA strengthened its formal education portfolio through **two programs accredited by MESTI** for a three-year period, following applications submitted in partnership with the Institute for Research and Development in Education (IHZHA) of the Faculty of Education.

The Experiential Learning Methodology was successfully integrated across **preschool education and vocational education and training (VET)**, under the academic leadership of **10 university professors and 5 certified teacher trainers**. A total of **142 teachers** were trained, followed by **240 mentoring visits**, through which trained teachers developed and implemented **492 experiential lesson plans across 55 schools nationwide**.

This work directly reached **1,836 pupils from preschool to grade XII**, while **10 ELM-based syllabi engaged 335 students** in structured experiential learning pathways. To ensure sustainability and knowledge sharing, **34 high-quality lesson plans** were added to the **TOKA Digital Activities Database**, reinforcing long-term impact and system-level change.





SOLIDARITY ACTION DAY IN 2025 WAS **10/10!**

In spring, Solidarity Clubs implemented 10 youth-led projects that improved school infrastructure, learning environments, digitalisation, student wellbeing, and cultural inclusion across the municipalities of Podujeva, Skënderaj, Peja, Hani i Elezit, Ferizaj, Istog, Gjakova, and Kamenica. In 2025, Solidarity Action Day expanded further with the inclusion of Shtime and Prishtina, bringing the total number of participating municipalities to ten and marking an important milestone in the continued growth and institutionalisation of the model across Kosova.

THIS YEAR'S RESULTS INCLUDE:

10

MUNICIPALITIES

419

VOLUNTEERS

161

BUSINESSES

19

TEACHERS

26

YOUTH LEADERS

20

WORKSHOPS

+6000€

RAISED





SERVICE-LEARNING BRAINS, HEARTS, AND PLANET!



In 2025, Service-Learning became a space where **research**, **mental health**, **climate change**, **water footprint** and **energy efficiency** came together in practice.

A total of **17 Volunteering Clubs** were active, with **10 community projects** implemented, focusing on **water footprint** and **myopia**. Overall, the program engaged **583 youth** from **15 municipalities**.

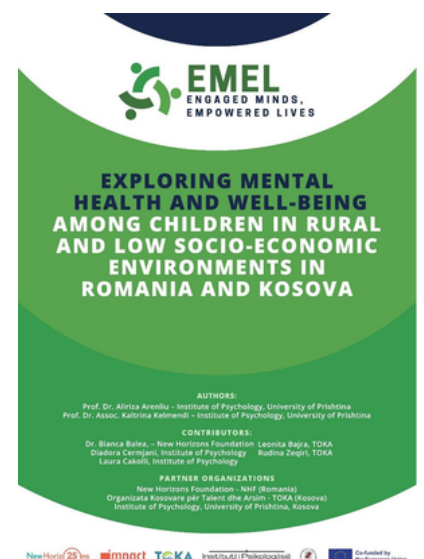
For the first time, **mental health** took center stage in **Service Learning**. We developed in collaboration with **New Horizons Foundation** and **Institute of Psychology** and published **4 new mental health modules**, alongside **new modules** on **water footprint**, **climate change**, and **energy efficiency**.

Recognizing the role of families, the program also facilitated **12 parent meetings** within **Mental Health-themed Clubs**.

Learning also extended beyond classrooms through a **climate change educational excursion**, benefiting **119 Super-Volunteers**.

Strengthening its innovation and evidence base, the Service Learning methodology advanced **2 international research studies** on children's mental health and climate education in **Kosova, Romania, and Germany**:

- “Exploring Mental Health and Well-being Among Children in Rural and Low Socio-Economic Environments in Romania and Kosova”.
- “Best Pedagogical Practices in Climate Education in Germany and Kosova”.





2ND EDITION OF THE VOLUNTEERISM OF THE YEAR AWARDS



Kosova is full of **changemakers** who see community improvement as a personal responsibility, and we believe that everyone's contribution should be honored and rewarded – especially when their dedication comes in the form of volunteer work.

This campaign has included all **youth, municipalities, schools, businesses, diaspora representatives, public figures and individuals with lifetime contribution** who give to their community in various ways, with a special focus on contributions through volunteer work.

The **Awards Ceremony 2025** was held within the national conference “**Building a Culture of Volunteering: From Individuals to Institutions**” hosted at the University Library’s Amphitheater Hall, at the University of Prishtina. As part of the Conference, we had:

- Two panel discussions on local partnerships and mental health.
- The Volunteerism of the Year Awards ceremony.

THIS YEAR'S RESULTS INCLUDE:

460K

REACH ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Number of reaches the Volunteerism of the Year Campaign received across Social Media platforms.

50+

SUPPORTERS

Number of embassies, institutions and NGOs that have supported VIV Campaign.

126

NOMINATIONS

Nominations received for the Volunteerism of the Year Awards, of which 70 were youth, 44 were Volunteerism Enablers and 12 clubs/schools.

10

PRIZES

In total 10 prizes, including **2 new prizes** and 8 Honorable Mentions.

CAMPS 2025

The camp cycle began with the International Peacebuilding Camp, from 21–29 July, bringing together 41 youth aged 15–18 from Kosovo, Israel, and Iowa, USA. The camp united 14 Albanians, 5 Serbs from North Mitrovica and Zubin Potok, 8 Jewish, 9 Arab, and 5 American participants (from Fort Dodge and Johnston, Iowa).

The camp focused on key themes of peace, dialogue, negotiation, cultural exchange, and recreational activities. Its program was co-designed with Debate for Peace, an Israeli organization active in uniting Jewish and Arab youth through educational initiatives.

As part of the learning outcomes, participants collectively produced a poetry booklet reflecting on identity, war, love, and hope, as well as an impact report documenting the camp's results.



International PeaceBuilding Camp



Leadership Camp

From 4–7 August, the Leadership Camp brought together 36 former Solidarity Action Day volunteers from 7 municipalities across Kosovo, creating a dynamic space for learning, collaboration, and personal growth. The camp aimed to empower young people with leadership skills, strengthen solidarity, and prepare them to take active roles in organizing the SAD 2025.

During the camp, participants engaged in a variety of interactive games, workshops, and shared experiences focused on leadership development, teamwork, communication, and other essential soft skills.

The camp served as a key preparatory step for Solidarity Action Day, helping participants better understand the role of leadership in civic engagement and community action.

Two Employability Camps were organized and implemented to enhance the employability and career readiness of youth participants. A total of 45 young people participated in the camps, gaining essential labor market skills. The camps focused on CV and motivation letter development, job interview simulations, exploring employment portals, and learning about Digital and Green Transformation, as well as participating in a session on conflict resolution, enhancing their readiness to enter the workforce.

Participants also received post-camp mentoring, including online follow-up sessions to finalize CVs and motivation letters, improve interview skills, and identify and apply for relevant opportunities. As a result, 13 participants applied for internships or employment, and 5 were successfully placed, demonstrating the camps' positive impact on youth employability and labor market readiness.



2 Employment Training Camps



2025 IMPACT

SAD & SL IMPACT



of participants are more interested in engaging in voluntary work after SAD.



feel better prepared for the labor market after SAD.



of parents reported that their child is more responsible after participating in SAD.



of parents agree that their child's participation in Super Volunteer Club activities is important.



of parents agree that the information given in meeting with Super-Volunteers club has helped them better understand their children's emotions and challenges.

ELM IMPACT

98.5%

of students stated that the teacher made learning more interesting and enjoyable when games and activities were used.

97.1%

of students stated that their experience was positive in the lessons where games and activities were used.

92.5%

of students stated that they learned more when games and activities were used in the lessons.

98%

of the teachers and educators stated that they felt they were always well-prepared for teaching.

EMPLOYABILITY CAMPS IMPACT

Following the completion of both Employability Camps, participants demonstrated notable improvements in employability skills, self-confidence, and motivation. The intervention directly contributed to increasing young people's readiness to enter the labor market by strengthening their professional competencies and active job-search skills.

Post-camp analysis showed consistent improvements across both camps in employability skills, self-confidence, and motivation.

IMPRESSIONS



“I am very grateful for this opportunity, because scholarships like this motivate students to continue their journey with greater confidence. I believe this scholarship is a great support for us students who work hard for our future.”

Lorika Hajdari, Isa Consulting Group Scholarship

“This year, we successfully concluded the 4th Edition of the Solidarity Action Day in the Municipality of Skënderaj. Solidarity Action Day is very important because it reminds us of the value of helping and supporting one another. It also promotes humanity, equality, and solidarity within society. Therefore, we feel grateful and would like to thank the businesses for the opportunity provided, as well as the organization TOKA.”

Altin Gashi, Solidarity Action Day Volunteer in Skënderaj, 2025



“The ‘Lifetime Contribution Volunteer’ Award is a wonderful surprise and an honor for me. This award symbolizes a great and meaningful journey of work: a collective commitment and a shared energy.

This award reminds me that even through personal initiatives we can achieve great things, and that activism is, above all, a human adventure built on solidarity and courage.”

Leman Kamberi Muriqi, Winner of the Kosova’s Lifetime Contribution Volunteer of the Year Award





WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2026?



Launch 2nd edition of “Lulëzoinë” Scholarships for university students. In partnership with businesses and individuals, we aim to support students in their academic journeys.



Launch 3rd edition of Volunteerism of the Year Awards to recognize institutions and individual for their contributions in voluntary work and improvement of Kosova.



We will bring 11 university professors from 6 universities and 8 CSO representatives to Prishtina from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Romania, Slovakia, and Kosova to integrate Service-Learning into higher education.



In 2026, digitalization and AI-related training will be provided to teachers, municipal officials, university staff, and CSO representatives to strengthen AI capacity among these target groups.



Youth Albanian diaspora from Geneva, Oslo, London and Brussels will work on Solidarity Action Day and donate the earnings to their peers in Kosova.



In 2026, we will be hosting an International Peace Building Camp with youth from the USA, Abu Dhabi, Israel, and Kosova.



WE WANT TO GET YOU INVOLVED!



Volunteer!

Click on the heart so we can set you up with some volunteering opportunities.



Donate!

Click on the hand to find how you can help our mission by donating. Every little bit counts!



Follow us!

Click on the plus to follow our channels and to stay updated on our open calls and latest news.



Spread the word!

Share our mission and story with your friends, family, and community. Be our bridge of connecting with like-minded people.