



Center for Civic Education CIVITAS INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Civitas International Programs are directed by the Center for Civic Education and funded by the U.S. Department of Education under the Education for Democracy Act approved by the United States Congress; additional support is provided by the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and other sources.

Civitas Success Story: Bosnia and Herzegovina

At the Final (Project Citizen) Competition in Sarajevo, held on May 17th and 18th, 2002, a high-school team from Travnik (Middle-Bosnia Canton) presented its portfolio that addressed the issue of underage betting. Students have selected a very current problem. In their community, as well as throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina, there is a great number of underage children who are regularly placing bets on different sporting activities.

At the time, there was no law at the cantonal or federal level that would forbid them from doing so. So, in dealing with this issue students have suggested, as their public policy measure, to change the existing law and make it illegal for underage children to have an access to betting shops. They forwarded their suggestions to the Federal Parliament. This government body received and passed these changes.

Changes to this law now apply to all cantons in BH Federation. This was just one of many examples how young people of B&H, who are developing their skills and acquiring new knowledge by participating in the "Project Citizen," will have, as future citizens, enough courage, skills and knowledge to give their contribution to creation of public life in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

*Tanja Jerlagic, Program Coordinator
Civitas BiH*