

# NEWSLETTER

*May 2024*



**FONDACIJA**  
HASTOR



# THEMATIC LECTURE FOR STUDENT SCHOLARS – ESG and its importance for the future of business

On Saturday, May 25th, 2024, a thematic lecture was held for scholarship recipients of the Hastor Foundation, students of law, economics, engineering and related faculties. The lecture, which was about ESG, was led by guest lecturer from Deloitte, Merima Hrapović. During the lecture, the guest highlighted the key aspects of ESG and its importance for the future of business.

ESG firstly includes thematic frameworks crucial for environmental protection, such as climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, resource use, waste management and conservation of natural habitats, then, secondly, social factors that include the company's relations with its employees, suppliers, customers and communities in which it operates and, ultimately, management factors that contribute to the creation of good management practices, thus contributing to the prevention of corruption and ensuring responsible decision-making. A lecture on this topic provided students with valuable insights into non-financial reporting and sustainable development. Students had the opportunity to learn how ESG reporting can influence business strategies and how they can apply these concepts in their future careers.

Our scholarship recipient Kanita Obhodaš, a second-year student at the Faculty of Law of the University of Sarajevo, shared with us her experiences from this lecture:

*The monthly meetings, now traditional, are certainly what all scholarship students look forward to the most. This time we listened to a topic we had all heard about, but knew very little about, and the lecture was extremely useful. ESG is a topic that has been spreading through various segments of the education system for the past year, but the information we received at the workshop was more practical. I especially liked the interactivity and exchange of opinions during the lecture itself. I think that the whole lecture was very well structured. The beginning was based on providing basic information, then we analyzed practical examples and ended with a Q&A session. The experience that guest Merima Hrapović shared with us will certainly bring us great benefits in future employment.*

This lecture was particularly useful because most companies will turn to this way of working in the future, which will increase the demand for experts who understand ESG principles. Therefore, the knowledge gained in this lecture can provide students with a competitive advantage in the labor market and prepare them for a successful career in the modern business environment.

**Translated by Fadil Merdić**  
**Prepared by: Hana Hajrić**



# Mahira Amidžić

***Good deeds enrich us, and we become the fruits of our actions***, as Miguel de Cervantes once wrote. Within the Hastor Foundation, the philanthropic spirit is a dimension that permeates through volunteer engagement. This way, the foundations of enthusiasm and solidarity among scholarship recipients are laid, guided by the vision of social responsibility and positive change. Their active contribution, in line with the goals of the Hastor Foundation, plays a significant role in improving the community. In the Scholarship recipient of the Month section, we highlight individuals who contribute to positive changes in our community through their activism, reflecting the values of the Foundation. Through her dedicated work, **Mahira Amidžić** has deservedly earned the title of Scholarship recipient of the Month.

Mahira Amidžić is originally from Kakanj and has been a scholarship recipient of the Hastor Foundation for eight years. Her interests include natural sciences, foreign languages, and literature. After finishing high school, Mahira continued her academic journey by enrolling in the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Sarajevo. She is currently in her third year of study, with goals focused on research projects and the pursuit of knowledge.



Within the Hastor Foundation, Mahira first volunteered as a mentor and then continued her volunteer engagement in the administrative team, where she stands out daily with her diligence and dedication, earning her the valuable title of Scholarship recipient of the Month:

*When it comes to my volunteer work, I truly enjoy actively contributing to the community. Besides volunteering with the Hastor Foundation, I also volunteer at the orphanage in Bjelave, and I am an active member of the Red Cross. Thanks to the Hastor Foundation, I have gone through all stages of volunteering – from a student to a mentor. Volunteering with students allowed me to develop communication skills, understand the feelings of others, and share knowledge mutually. Preparing for volunteer meetings, besides helping children learn, I was also teaching myself. Additionally, by volunteering with students in the local community, I had the opportunity to meet many new people, but most importantly, I gained the feeling that my engagement is valuable and significantly contributes to the society in which I live. Currently, I am an active member of the administrative team, where teamwork stands out as a key segment of our productivity.*





Mahira emphasizes that through the concept of volunteering in the Hastor Foundation, she developed a desire to help the community and the environment in which she lives and works, also developing empathy as one of the most important human traits:

*The most important thing the Hastor Foundation has taught me through volunteering are responsibility, precision, and humanity, which represent the essence of human existence – spreading good and being ready to selflessly help – because only a truly humane person is ready to lend a hand when another human being needs it.*

In conclusion, Mahira has a very important message for our scholarship recipients and young people in general:

*My message to young people, above all, is to follow their dreams and never give up on them because only in this way are we open to new opportunities, challenges, and continuous development. Youth is the time to explore various possibilities and find our path. Let us find what drives us and passionately dedicate ourselves to it.*



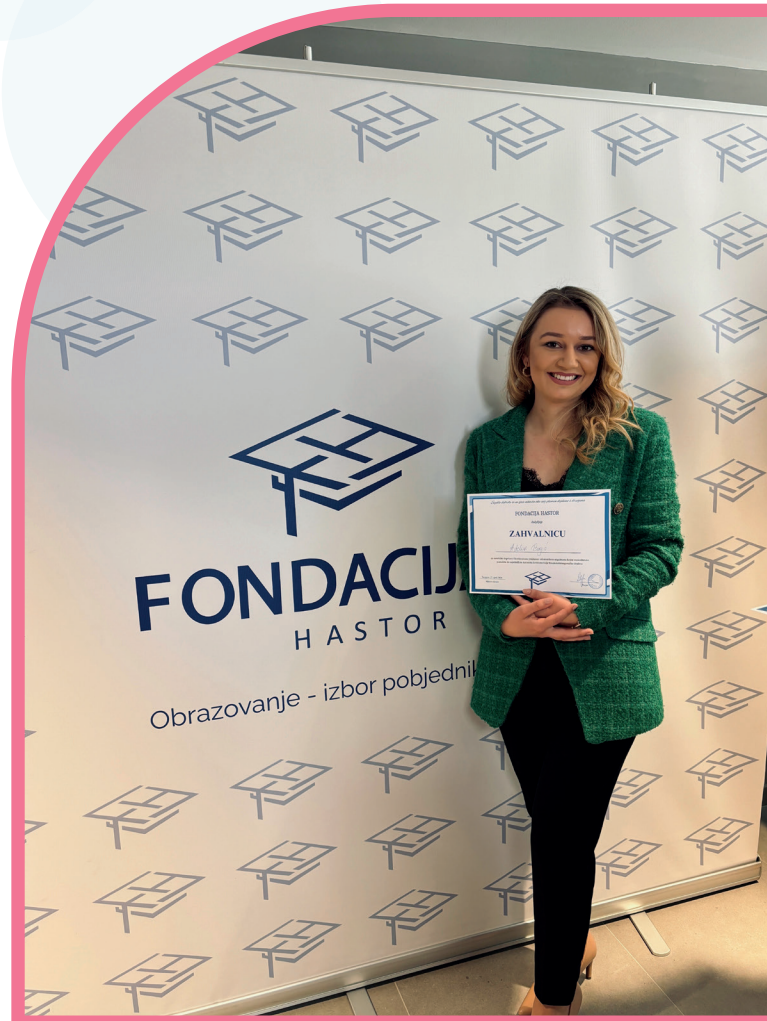
**Article prepared by: Semina Sadiković  
Translated by: Zerina Kosovac**



# Adelisa Begić

The active youth section is a space that we fill with stories about the most successful scholarship recipients of the Hastor Foundation, about those who selflessly give themselves for others and contribute to their community with the hope that this world will become a better place to live. With their involvement, they constantly remind us and themselves how much the support of the Hastor Foundation means to them and how proud they are of having the opportunity for their altruism to reach the wider public. One of them is our **Adelisa Begić**, a scholarship recipient who carries that title with dignity and proudly mentions how much the Hastor Foundation brightens every moment of her life.

Adelisa comes from Jajce, where she spent her childhood and completed her primary and secondary education. She is currently in her final year at the Faculty of Health Studies in Sarajevo – majoring in Radiological Technology. Her engagement at the Hastor Foundation lasted for eight years. Although age is often just a number, being a member of the Hastor Foundation for eight years means having the full right to truly feel like a member of this family. Those eight years, as she says, brought many good things to Adelisa, and made her an empathetic, responsible, limited and completely dedicated person. Within the framework of the Hastor Foundation, Adelisa volunteered in various ways and thus gained experience and acquaintances. For two years, she was a mentor to high school students from Jajce, and she occasionally wrote articles for the newsletter. Although she chose to study in the field of medicine, she has felt her love for the written word since her high school days, so she published her first romance novel in the second year of high school, entitled "Your beauty changes the world", and in her second year of college she published her second book, "When youth creates", which is a hybrid of poetry, prose and drama.



As the Hastor Foundation appreciates the talents of its scholarship holders and gives them the opportunity to develop them as much as possible, Adelisa got the chance to continue developing her experience and love for the literary and artistic style by writing a newsletter. She was an active member of the editorial team for a year, and since November 2023, thanks to her skills, she volunteers as the editor of our newsletter. In addition to the opportunity to improve what she loves most, volunteering on the editorial team helped her meet new people who are ready to help at any time. That is how she made lifelong friends at the Foundation – some of her mentors became her best friends.



*I can freely say that the picture of the Hastor Foundation from the perspective of the newsletter editor and editorial team leader is completely different compared to the one I had as a mentor. I feel that in this way I am even closer to the Hastor Foundation because every day I have the opportunity to write and edit the positive stories that are born in it. The concept of volunteering at the Hastor Foundation largely represents my personality, and humanity, responsibility and organization are qualities that I have further developed through volunteering over the years.*



The Hastor Foundation awarded her work, effort, activity, diligence and promptness in volunteer engagement with a special certificate of appreciation for one of the 20 most active scholarship holders of the Foundation. In addition to the Hastor Foundation, Adelisa is also successful in other organizations, so while she was still attending the High School of Medicine, she occasionally wrote articles for COD Jajce, more precisely, their portal "Jajce Press". Volunteering taught her to constantly spread empathy and altruism, so in 2023 she volunteered with children without parental care in the Bjelava Children's Home, which reflects all those positive qualities that the Hastor Foundation insists on – being a good person outside the Foundation.

In addition to the Hastor Foundation, Adelisa's support in everything is her parents and sister, without whose support she would not have achieved all these successes today.

In the end, he points out that the most important thing is to spend life, especially youth, in what fulfills us:

*The point of life is to live, not to suffocate! Time passes quickly and that is why it is important that in these most beautiful years of life we do things that we love, that fulfill us, create peace in our lives and souls, and help us to build the best version of ourselves with each new experience. Mistakes are there to learn from, not to hold us back from new successes.*

**Article prepared by: Aldina Šaljić  
Translated by: Fadil Merdić**



The alumni of the Hastor Foundation are the finest representation of its noble work over the years. Generations of young and educated individuals, who were recipients of the Hastor Foundation scholarships, continue to show loyalty even years later, exemplifying the genuine friendships we aim to make with our scholarship recipient. This month's featured alumna, **Alma Drina**, is a testament to the noble and enduring relationships the Hastor Foundation maintains with its scholarship recipient even after they complete their formal education.

Alma is from Bugojno, where she finished both elementary and high school, before continuing her academic journey in Sarajevo. She chose to deepen her expertise in applied mathematics at the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at the University of Sarajevo, where she obtained a Bachelor's degree in applied mathematics.

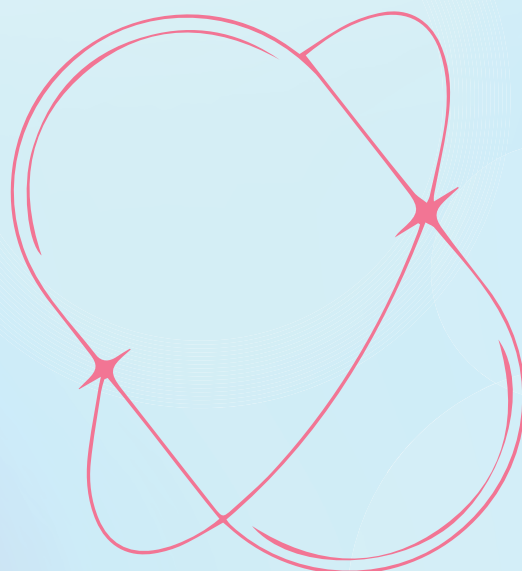
Alma discovered the announcement for the Hastor Foundation's scholarship competition on her faculty's notice board. Since social media was not as widespread at that time, this was the primary way such information was shared. Alma did not have high hopes but met all the criteria to apply for the scholarship. She mentions that the Foundation's invitation was a significant turning point in her life.

The volunteering aspect greatly motivated Alma to seek her own success and begin a new chapter in her life. She sees volunteering as an act of humanity and a direct way to develop the habit of helping others. Alma volunteered as a mentor to students and also within the Hastor Foundation's offices.

She had the special honor of responding to students' letters, and she embraced this task with great empathy and understanding:



*My task was to respond to the scholars' letters, and these wonderful correspondences gave us additional motivation to write even better replies. The children who sent us letters sought advice from adults (in their eyes, that was us), and it was very important to me to dedicate myself to each letter. Additionally, through the Foundation, I met many wonderful people who are achieving remarkable success today. We all had a strong motivation to progress, and I believe we succeeded in that.*





Given her initial involvement with the Foundation during her student years, she assumed a mentorship role. This commitment not only elevated her sense of responsibility but also affirmed the timeless saying: to be prepared is half the victory.

Alma's dream job, as she puts it, is a position as a FileMaker Developer. Although she spent eight years in administrative work, she was afraid of change, but, as she herself says, you need to firmly believe in your dreams because we are the most important factor shaping our future. In five years, our alumna sees a more successful version of herself in both private and professional aspects, with a desire to gather as much knowledge and experience as possible because, as she emphasizes, life itself is one big opportunity for learning.

The Hastor Foundation holds great significance for her, and with its support, she has achieved notable success. The scholarship she received, along with her volunteer experience, eased her educational journey and also led to her first job. The connection to the Hastor Foundation represents friendship, support, and a reliable anchor, and she will always cherish it as her second family.

In conclusion, here is Alma's message to young scholarship recipient:



***Your selection to be part of this community is purposeful. Please, make the most of this opportunity, invest in yourselves and your knowledge, and always strive to give your utmost. Ultimately, everything will fall into place as it should. Explore and uncover your strengths and passions, as they pave half the path to success. Understand that life encompasses both highs and lows, yet steadfast perseverance is key. Never lose sight of your dreams and bravely pursue them.***





# The light of kindness never goes out if we share its flame with others

Volunteer work makes a lasting impression on an individual, providing an opportunity for self-growth, networking and contribution to society. Volunteers work together on improving their community and making a positive change in the world around them. This month's Small Stories of Great Volunteers is a bit different and more special from its usual format – we bring to you experiences of our younger scholarship recipients that volunteered with their mentors in this month's project "18 Years of Hastor Foundation through Goodness." Read in the following passages about their opinions, feelings and memories that they have from volunteer work in their local communities.

In Tuzla Ajla Hasanović and Alma Osmanović volunteer with a group of primary and high school students respectively. This month our hard-working mentors decided to prepare meals with their students for people in need. By the shared willpower and by bringing a special connection of love and empathy to the volunteer work, the mentors prepared chocolate dates and sandwiches with their high school students while they packed and distributed the food with their primary school students, who were all especially thrilled about this form of volunteer work.

Amina Džananović, a Tuzla Medical High School student, has learned about herself and others and developed empathy towards other people through this new volunteer experience:

*This month volunteering with our mentors was considerably different from the usual. I've been in the Hastor Foundation for a little more than six months, as opposed to other students-mentees who have been part of the Foundation since primary school. Nonetheless, so far all of the volunteer experiences have been unique and interesting. The volunteer experience from this month helped me get to know myself and others better, to improve empathy and care more for other people. It wasn't only the buying, packing and giving out the meals that were special to me, but also contributing to my community, to others around me and the sense of doing something good.*





*Ever since I joined this group, the volunteering has become far more interesting and fun. This month we packed and gave out food to people who couldn't get it for themselves. That day I felt good and fulfilled and I was glad that we could help others, at least a little,* Alice Dizdarević, a primary school student, pointed out.

*When we all met, we talked about school and extracurricular activities. After that, we had a quiz and a short snack break. And then we packed six meals and gave them out to the people at the square. I was very happy that we could help those in need and that we did a good deed,* Melina Joldić told us proudly.

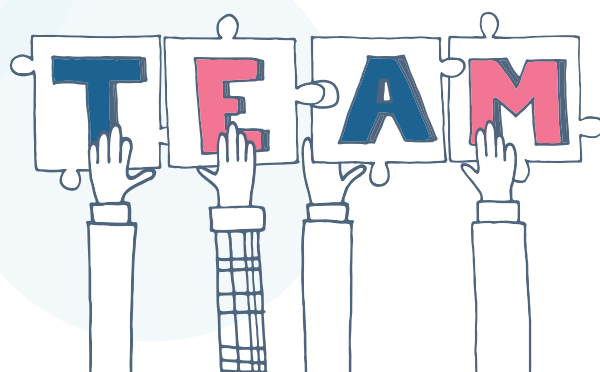
Apart from Ajla and Alma, this month our industrious mentors Alma Ahmetović and Džejlana Smajić brought their volunteer work to the next level. They volunteer with 18 primary and three high school students in Zvornik. Their volunteer work in April included collecting trash, separating plastic, paper and glass, making animal feeders out of plastic bottles and feeding animals. The students had fun and they gained new skills and experiences, which can be noticed based on their impressions they had shared with us:

*I volunteered locally with my mentors Džejlana and Alma. We collected trash, fed animals and built houses for them. It was such a beautiful experience for me. I felt very happy and content because we got together and did such good deeds, both for animals and people. I hope we will do even more to make others around us happy on our next meetings,* Ajla Sahanić told us.





**SMALL STORIES  
OF GREAT  
VOLUNTEERS**



*I felt content and fulfilled while volunteering in the local community. Seeing animals healthy and happy because of our efforts made me very proud,* said Jasmin Lolić.

*I felt content and fulfilled while volunteering in my local community. It made me proud to see animals healthy and happy because of our work,* said Jasmin Lolić. *First of all, the Hastor Foundation is not only a special community, but also a family that unites and networks many students throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. I am grateful to her for that. As for volunteering with other students, for my three years of scholarship I can say that it is a wonderful experience and that, above all, it is very commendable and humane that we help animals and clean the nature around us with our mentors and other scholarship students. Also, it is very nice to socialize with others and contribute to improving the quality of life,* Melisa Sarajlić pointed out.

Student Adna Tulić is delighted with the idea and honoured to be a part of this project:

*Volunteering is a wonderful way to help the environment. I am honoured to have been a part of this project because I enjoyed cleaning our beautiful Drina and making houses for the animals. Of course, I could not have done any of this without the help of my friends and our valuable mentors. The feeling of satisfaction is priceless.*

Our third volunteer group consists of three mentors: Dženita Ibrahimović, Saida Ibrahimović and Ibrahim Hidić. They organised an action to clean the banks of the Drina River in Zvornik. Although a small number of students attended, only three, the mentor points out that they spent quality and purposeful time, which is confirmed by the students:

*This month's volunteering was more interesting than all previous ones. I always look forward to going to meetings because I know they will bring me something useful. We socialised but also contributed to the environment. Volunteering means a lot to me,* student Lejla Džilić told us.

*I had a great time at this workshop. We had fun and collected waste next to the Drina and made it cleaner and more beautiful,* added Enis Dedić.

*It was great for me! I used the opportunity to clean our environment, but also to learn something new, as in every workshop. I am looking forward to new volunteering in the community and I secretly wish that it would be on the Drina River again,* said Alma Avdić.





High school student Kanita Avdović said the following about the benefits of volunteering:

*Volunteering in the local community is a special type of volunteering for me. I like how these activities affect me. I feel that I am benefiting society, and this very feeling lifts my mood, so I have the desire to do good for others as often as possible. During volunteering, we always have fun and socialize and do something useful.*

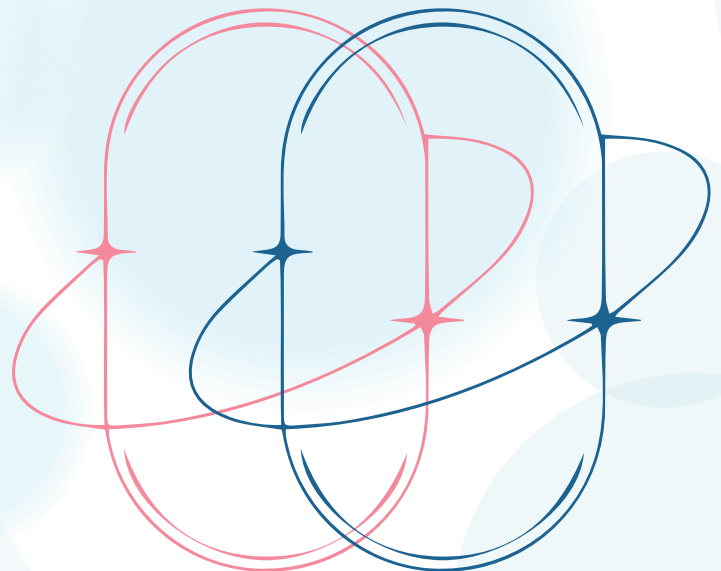
Emira Imamović and Fatima Musa decided to volunteer with their students at the Home for Children Without Parental Care in Bjelava. They brought them sweets, hung out with them and in that way brought a certain amount of joy into their lives. Mentor Emira pointed out that they visit the Home very often, even in addition to volunteering, because it is impossible not to feel the connection and energy with the pure hearts of these children. Find out how the students experienced this volunteering in the rest of this text.

For Adna Hajdarević, this volunteering was a special complacence:

*Volunteering at the Home for Children Without Parental Care has a special significance for me, it evokes special emotions for me, and I am always happy to hang out with children. The attention we give them during play and socialising means a lot to them and, as they like to spend time with us, it is also a special contentment for me, at least in some way, to make the children feel good during our socialising. I like volunteering in the local community, I feel useful and good after each of our volunteering, and our mentor always tries to make us feel that we are an important link, both in the Foundation and in society.*

*I am happy that we also have this way of volunteering - in the local community. I am always happy to come to these meetings. I love that I can make my contribution to the community, beautify the environment or brighten up someone's day, depending on the way of volunteering, student Tajra Bejdić told us at the end.*

Article prepared by : Aida Suljić  
Translated by: Sara Kuduzović





## *Journey*

*Oh, how beautiful it is to tread  
Through some new street or alley  
And with each new step  
To arrive at new and unexplored.  
To see people of new character  
And to store multitude of pictures in one's mind  
Of a flower, river, promenade of that city  
Of a magical sky while night is slowly falling over*

*Oh, how simply beautiful it is  
Little padlock, rusty from the rain  
That hides the story of even now lasting love  
Story of might which keeps the world from ceasing  
Or, one modest firework  
Brightly colored on a pitch black sky  
Which arouses happiness, bring hope  
That we, too will love, at least in some distant city*

*Nikolina Stanar*



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