

NEWSLETTER

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New Cycle of the Mentorship Program “First Step into the Business World”

■ After the pilot phase of the Hastor Foundation mentorship program, “First Step into the Business World” was completed, a new generation of scholarship recipients received an excellent opportunity.

In recent days, the new mentorship cycle officially began for 15 scholarship recipients of the Hastor Foundation. These are successful students in the final years of their first and second cycle studies, who have distinguished themselves with their knowledge, proactivity and values they uphold.

Over the next few months, until the end of the current year, they will have the opportunity to work with top professionals from the most successful companies in their sectors: ASA Hospitals, ASA Group, ASA Bank, ASA Energy, Eurofarm Polyclinic, Forspace Solutions and Prevent Group.

Alumnae of the Hastor Foundation from the fields of pedagogy and education have also joined the mentorship program, providing an additional and very significant contribution to the development of young scholarship recipients and the Foundation’s mission.

The goal of the program is to prepare students for the highly competitive job market and to provide them with additional professional development in their chosen fields of study. Our scholarship recipients have the opportunity to spend time in a professional environment that values knowledge, effort and dedication, where experience and skills are generously shared and exchanged.



The IV regular session of the Alumni Club Assembly of the Hastor Foundation was held

■ In the inspiring atmosphere of the ASA Institute, the 4th Regular Session of the Alumni Club Assembly of the Hastor Foundation was held.

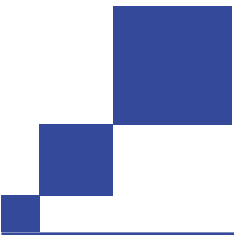
The session was opened by the leadership with introductory remarks, presenting the items on the agenda. The focus of the session was on the activities of the Alumni Club, both current and future. Special emphasis was placed on the development of the alumni application and the participation of alumni in the Hastor Foundation's mentoring program "First Step into the Business World", through the role of mentors to student scholarship recipients. On this occasion, alumni were also introduced to their colleagues, alumnae who serve as mentors in the current phase of the program.

In addition to the project activities that the alumni of the Hastor Foundation continuously work on, they are also actively involved in providing scholarships for pupils and students. During the session, the results of the Alumni Fund were presented, as well as further plans for the continuation of this noble activity.

Alongside the working atmosphere, this event also offered invaluable moments of friendship filled with sincerity, gratitude, and love — qualities inherent to the alumni of the Hastor Foundation.

We extend our gratitude to our alumni, the greatest driving force, for their dedicated commitment to following the mission of the Hastor Foundation.





New project: continued partnership between the Municipality of Novi Grad Sarajevo and the Hastor Foundation

Volunteer Work as a Mechanism for Empowering Youth

■ This year once again, the Hastor Foundation and the Municipality of Novi Grad Sarajevo are continuing their collaboration through the project “Volunteer Work as a Mechanism for Empowering Youth.”

The project involves Hastor Foundation scholarship recipients—high school and university students residing in the municipality of Novi Grad Sarajevo.

The goal of the project is to empower young people through volunteer work and active engagement in the local community, while also providing them with financial and mentor support.

Through the Hastor Foundation’s mentorship program and volunteer activities, the project fosters the development of young people’s personal and professional skills, with a special focus on youth entrepreneurship. In this way, young people become aware of the importance of volunteer work and pass on their experiences and knowledge to their peers and younger generations, creating a long-term and positive impact within the community.

With this project, the Municipality of Novi Grad actively participates in a transparent and humane process, directing support to those who need it most, and thereby contributing to the development of a sustainable and engaged young population.



Općina Novi Grad Sarajevo



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"Proud Steps through Bosnia and Herzegovina": Along Drina and Down Drina-Goražde



■ The latest edition of our YouTube series "Proud Steps through Bosnia and Herzegovina" introduces another special story. We visited the gem of eastern Bosnia-Goražde.

Located on the banks of the Drina River, Goražde is a city rich in history, natural beauty and friendly people. Our team was hosted by Hastor Foundation alumna Elvedina Kadrić, a successful young woman from Goražde and a proud ambassador of her hometown.

The story begins at the place where many important stories of Goražde originated-Omladinska Street, the heart of social life. The street that holds the memories of thousands of Goražde residents, as well as those who have only passed through. It is almost impossible to visit Goražde without walking down this street.



Goražde is a city that maintains its rich history and continues to tell its story uniquely, while developing tourist attractions. We visited the Monument to the Drina Martyrs, a symbol of spiritual strength and selfless sacrifice, which, as Elvedina explains, is believed to become a pilgrimage site. The story of the Drina Martyrs is deeply embedded in Goražde's identity and remains a lasting memory of human courage during dark times.

We also ascended to Rorovi, a lovely viewpoint offering an impressive panorama of Goražde. We explored the "Gun-Gor" park, a modern and recreational area of the city where nature, people and the new energy of Goražde come together.

Watch the full Goražde edition and discover the other locations we had the opportunity to visit on the YouTube channel "Fondacija Hastor."

Hamza Turulja-World Champion at the Prestigious Karate 1 Series A in Salzburg



■ **Hamza Turulja**, a Bosnian karate athlete and a Hastor Foundation scholarship recipient, has brought yet another gold medal to his homeland—this time, no less than the title of world champion.

We spoke with Hamza about his impressions of this major competition and what the daily life of a national karate team member looks like.

■ *Hamza, you competed at a very large and important event. What was the competition like, and how tough was the field?*

That is right. The Series A, where I won the gold medal, is the second-highest level of competition, coming right after the Premier League. I earned the victory in my very first appearance, competing in the under-84 kg category. As for the competition, there were 96 athletes, making this one of the strongest Series A tournaments to date. I managed to defeat opponents from France, Kazakhstan, the USA, Austria, Serbia and Japan.

■ *This is your second gold medal at such a high level. What does it mean to you?*

Yes, I previously won a gold medal in another category at the same level. I can proudly say that I am the only karate athlete in Bosnia and Herzegovina with two gold medals from this level of competition, which makes this achievement even more special.

■ *How do you prepare for major competitions like this?*

Preparation for major tournaments like this takes years—it is a matter of continuity and maintaining form. Daily, consistent work is necessary to keep your form at the highest level. Outside of training, my typical day is filled with sports whenever my obligations allow. I like to spend time in nature, ride a bike, play football, tennis, and so on. Of course, karate is always my focus, and everything revolves around sporting success.

■ *How do you manage to balance your academic responsibilities with intense training and competitions?*

I try to make sure my sporting journey is not confined only to the gym, but that I also gain theoretical knowledge and broaden my horizons. Naturally, it is very difficult to pursue a dual career, especially in Bosnia and Herzegovina. But if you work on yourself and overcome obstacles one step at a time, I believe everything is possible—and sport itself is the best proof of that.



If you work on yourself and overcome obstacles one by one, I believe that anything is possible.

| *Interviewed by: Lorens Stranjak*

Scholarship holder Kemal Durić – first student from Bosnia and Herzegovina at a prestigious medical internship in Marburg

■ **Kemal Durić**, a student at the University of Sarajevo's Faculty of Medicine and a Hastor Foundation scholarship recipient, has become the first student from Bosnia and Herzegovina to participate in the summer internship program at the Department of Neurosurgery of the University Hospital in Marburg. The program was launched thanks to the cooperation between BHAAAS and BHÄG. For Kemal, his stay in Marburg has been one of the most significant experiences of his education so far:

I found myself in an extremely dynamic and demanding environment, where I learn daily from top specialists and become acquainted with the most advanced diagnostic and treatment methods. Under the mentorship of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mirza Pojskić, one of Germany's leading neurosurgeons, I am engaged in various aspects of clinical work—from monitoring patients in intensive care and on the ward, to assisting in and observing complex surgeries. Particularly valuable experiences also include clinical rounds and multidisciplinary conferences where decisions about patient treatment are made.

This program has allowed Kemal to see first-hand how a top university hospital operates and to experience the importance of teamwork, discipline and patient-centered care. At the same time, he had the opportunity to take part in scientific research activities, further expanding his horizons. During his stay in Germany, he also had the exceptional opportunity to visit a modern dialysis center in Aschaffenburg together with Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anisa Gradašević. In addition, he attended professional training in emergency and intensive care medicine, which broadened his knowledge and skills in this field.

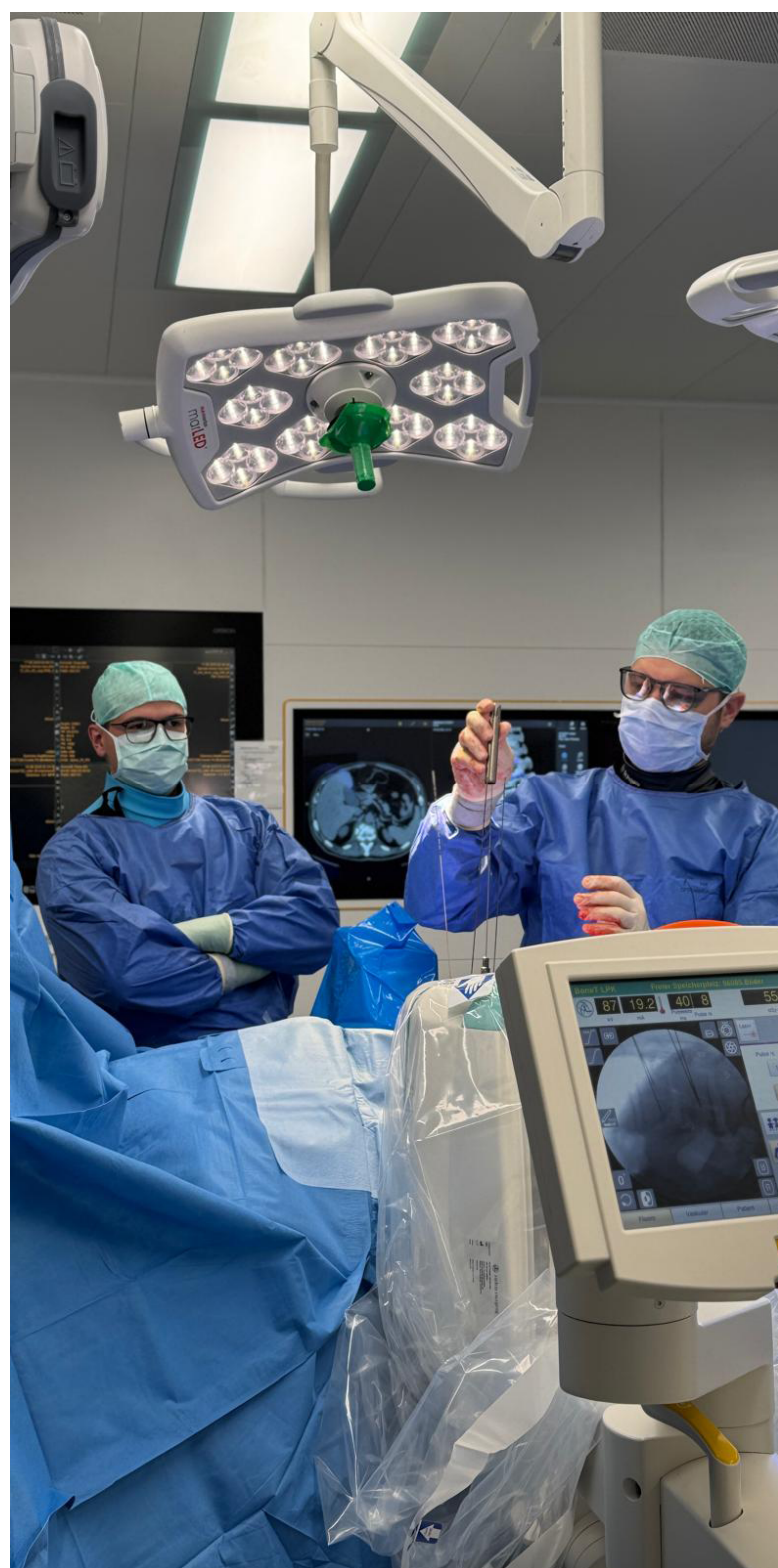


Kemal expressed his sincere gratitude to BHAAAS-the Association of Bosnian-Herzegovinian Doctors in Germany-as well as to Prof. Dr. Christopher Nimsky, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mirza Pojskić, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anisa Gradašćević, the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine in Sarajevo Prof. Dr. Amina Valjevac, and Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Omerhodžić, noting that without their support, this experience would not have been possible.

He also highlighted the invaluable support of the Hastor Foundation, of which he has been a longterm scholarship recipient:

Without the Foundation's support, such a step forward in my education would not have been possible. The Foundation is not only financial support—it is a true ally in my development; a community that teaches us, young people, the values of knowledge, humanity and solidarity. Accompanying me throughout my educational journey, the Foundation has given me security and motivation to strive for excellence, and my stay in Marburg is the best proof of how worthwhile and meaningful the Foundation's investment and trust in its scholarship recipients truly is.

Neurosurgery is undoubtedly the path to which our scholarship holder wishes to devote his professional development entirely. His work in Marburg has shown him what can be achieved when top expertise, modern technology and teamwork come together in the service of the patient. These lessons are what he wishes to bring back and apply in Bosnia and Herzegovina, believing that there is enormous potential for the advancement of neurosurgery here. His goal is to remain in Bosnia and Herzegovina, contributing to the healthcare system and applying his acquired experience for the benefit of patients and the community as a whole.



| Prepared by: Amina Bašić

Digital Footprint and the Future of Privacy: How Much Data Do We Leave Behind Online?

■ *"The Internet is the first thing that humanity has built that it does not understand, the largest experiment in anarchy we have ever had," said Eric Schmidt, former CEO of Google.*

Today, we live in a world where we use the internet, smartphones and social media every single day—yet we rarely stop to think about how much data we leave behind. Every like or comment, every search and post forms part of a much bigger picture: our digital footprint. And while we have everything at our fingertips, how much do we really know about what happens to our information, and what does the future of privacy look like in this digital age?

At the heart of this lies the very meaning of "digital footprint." It consists of all the data we consciously or unconsciously leave on the internet. This includes our posts, photos and comments on social media, our search histories and visited sites, the location we share through apps—and even the things we do not do online can form part of our digital trace. There are two types of digital footprint:

- Active footprint-data we share intentionally (e.g. uploading a photo to Instagram).
- Passive footprint-data we leave behind unconsciously (e.g. cookies, app trackers and browsing traces).

According to numerous studies, the average internet user leaves behind over 2.5 GB of data every day. Even when we delete content, it often does not disappear immediately but lingers in databases. We need to be aware that, with increasing digitalization, privacy is becoming a luxury.

Still, there are steps we can take to reduce our digital footprint:

- Check privacy settings on apps and social networks.
- Use more secure browsers that block tracking.
- Regularly delete cookies and unnecessary apps.
- Think twice before sharing personal information online.

As we navigate this era, we see how our digital footprint has become part of our identity. It is crucial to remain conscious of the traces we leave and to learn self-control, because the future of privacy depends on how careful we choose to be today.





We invite you
*to join our mission and contribute
to fulfilling the dreams of prom-
ising students and young people
who need our help.*



If you would like to support the work of the Hastor Foundation, you can
make a donation to one of the following bank accounts:

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