

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025



FONDACIJA
HASTOR

SIGNED SCHOLARSHIP CONTRACTS FOR THE 2025/2026. ACADEMIC YEAR

This October, just like in previous years, marks the signing of new scholarship contracts. In the premises of the Hastor Foundation, university students signed their scholarship contracts for the 2025/2026 academic year. With this act, we continue our mission of investing in education and supporting young people on their path toward personal and professional growth.

Our scholarship recipients have once again proven, through their commitment, achievements and social engagement, that they truly deserve the strong support they receive from the Hastor Foundation.

We wish them great success and many wonderful moments in the year ahead!



PROUD STEPS THROUGH BIH: MOSTAR – A WARM STORY OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

The new episode of our YouTube series “With Proud Steps through Bosnia and Herzegovina” presents the city of Mostar, one of the most important cultural and historical centers in the country. Accompanied by Hastor Foundation alumnus [Adis Zilić](#), a professor at the University “Džemal Bijedić” of Mostar, we visited several of the city’s most significant landmarks and talked about their importance.

The Old Bridge, the most recognizable symbol of Mostar, is a masterpiece of Ottoman architecture. It connects the two banks of the Neretva River and is part of the UNESCO World Heritage List.

The Bišćević House is a well-preserved

traditional home that showcases the lifestyle and architectural features of an urban Bosnian household from the 17th century. Visitors can see authentic interiors and objects that reflect the daily life of that period.

Fortica, the hill overlooking Mostar, is a popular tourist destination offering an impressive panoramic view of the city, along with numerous attractions for visitors.

These sites are just part of the story; we invite you to watch the full episode on our Hastor Foundation YouTube channel and learn more about the rich cultural heritage and beauty of Mostar.



OCTOBER 1 – EUROPEAN DAY OF FOUNDATIONS AND DONORS

The European Day of Foundations and Donors is celebrated on October 1, and it was first established in 2013 on the initiative of the organisation Philanthropy Europe Association (Philea), to highlight the role of philanthropy and the contribution that foundations and donors make to the development of society. Through numerous activities held across Europe, including workshops, public discussions, humanitarian actions and social media campaigns, transparency, cooperation and awareness about the importance of helping others are promoted.

The Day of Foundations and Donors reminds us that behind every positive change stands a collective will and readiness to contribute to the common good, whether through time, knowledge or material support.

It is, therefore, a day when we celebrate those who, through their dedication, donations and ideas, create change, those who believe that every helping hand can make the world a better place. We find a perfect example of this in the Hastor Foundation which, for years through its support and scholarship programs, has shown that investing in education is not an expense, but the most valuable investment in the future. Its work changes the lives of young people across Bosnia and Herzegovina, providing them not only with financial assistance, but also with a sense of belonging and faith that effort and knowledge will always lead to success.



As a finance student and scholarship recipient, I can see how important scholarships are as a tailwind for students because they provide the necessary financial stability and reduce the pressure associated with funding studies. They enable students to have all the necessary literature and accommodation without worry and to avoid the need for side jobs, allowing them to study carefree, emphasised Selma Krivokapa, a Hastor Foundation scholarship recipient.



Selma Krivokapa

The European Day of Foundations and Donors reminds all of us that every act of support, no matter how small it may seem, has the power to change someone's life. The observance of this date is an opportunity to highlight once again the importance of investing in people, for they are the bearers of every change.

Prepared by: Aida Suljić

ILHANA TINJAK

“THE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM OF THE HASTOR FOUNDATION GAVE ME A GLIMPSE OF THE LIFE I WANT TO LIVE TOMORROW!”

Ilhana Tinjak is a scholarship recipient of the Hastor Foundation and a participant in the current phase of the mentorship program “The First Step into the Business World.”

Ilhana is a doctor of medicine. She graduated from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Sarajevo, three months ago, and is already taking part in the mentorship program under the guidance of the esteemed prim. mr. sci. Adi Mulabdić, M.D., specialist in general surgery and subspecialist in abdominal surgery at ASA Hospital. Driven by a desire to advance her knowledge and contribute to the development of medical practice, Ilhana plans to continue her career with a specialization in surgery.

How has the mentorship program “The First Step into the Business World” contributed to your professional confidence and transition from student to doctor?

I’m currently in the middle of that “transition”: I graduated on July 15th, and I don’t yet have my first job. The mentorship program came at the perfect moment, right at the threshold of the professional world. Of course, we had practice and clinical exercises during our studies, but that’s experienced differently and serves another purpose. The Hastor Foundation’s mentorship program gave me the opportunity to catch a glimpse of the life I want to live in the future. Surgery is my field of interest, and as a doctor of medicine who follows a surgical subspecialist through an entire workday, I now get to partially live the life I aspire to. That’s priceless. This project confirmed what I already suspected—which branch of medicine I want to pursue—and, having before me such an exceptional expert in his field, what kind of doctor and surgeon I want to become.



What do you see as the greatest value of working with a mentor like prim. Dr. Adi Mulabdić, and how does his experience guide your professional growth?

For projects like this to succeed, it's essential to choose the right mentors, not only professionals in their fields, but people capable of passing on their knowledge and experience. Dr. Adi is an extraordinary surgeon; even with my limited experience, I can recognize that. But what truly makes him one of the best in this profession is his way of connecting with people. You can see it at every step: in his interactions with colleagues, staff, and above all, patients. Of course, I've learned (and continue to learn) many practical surgical skills from him—there's a long list of techniques one must master, and I'm immensely grateful for that—but above all, Dr. Adi teaches me, by his own example, how to be a good, empathetic and dedicated person and doctor. We must never forget that medicine is a calling that serves people when they are at their most vulnerable. Having someone who inspires you to become better—as both a doctor and a human being—is what I value most in this experience.

Surgery requires precision, composure and vast knowledge. Which qualities and skills should young doctors develop most to succeed in this field?

Practical skills are, of course, the foundation of surgical work and practice. That includes everything you might think of: surgical suturing, handling tissues and organs, steps of operative procedures, and much more. These are things

that, as I understand, are gained and perfected through experience, just like any motor skill. Young people can develop them through hospital volunteer work, independent practice and study, but primarily through formal training and specialization. On the other hand, the essential personal qualities for this field are perseverance, endurance, readiness for sacrifice, dedication and, above all, love for the profession and for surgery itself. You really have to love what you do. That, I believe, is the foundation of success.

Which moment from the mentorship program so far has been the most meaningful or instructive for your future path?

It's only October, so I'm sure there will be more moments like that. So far, one that stands out was with one of Dr. Adi's patients—an elderly woman, nearly 80, who was scheduled for two major surgeries. The day before, I visited her in the ward with Dr. Adi. She was very scared. Dr. Adi tried to comfort her, to ease her fear and her smile showed that, at least partly, he succeeded. That was a very significant moment because it reminded me of the essence, the real purpose of this work and profession. The next day, the operation went well, and I had the chance to assist for the first time in a laparoscopic procedure. I'll probably remember that moment for a long time, though there have already been many others like it.

Razgovarala: Lamija Sejdić

RESULT OF THE PILOT PHASE OF HASTOR FOUNDATION MENTORSHIP PROGRAM: SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT ANESA RESIĆ JOINS THE ASA HOSPITAL TEAM

Through its “First Step into the Business World” mentorship program, the Hastor Foundation opened doors to the business world for its university students.

The greatest outcome of the pilot phase was the employment of scholarship recipient **Anesa Resić**, who secured her first job in her field. During the program, Anesa had the opportunity to learn and work in the Radiology Department of ASA Hospital, under the guidance of her mentor, Dr. Emir Gušo, a specialist in radiology. Together, they navigated the demanding day-to-day responsibilities of this dynamic department. Recognizing her dedication and potential, ASA Hospital and her mentor offered Anesa a position upon completing the program, making her the youngest radiology engineer at the hospital. After completing her scholarship journey, Anesa sent a heartfelt letter of gratitude to the Hastor Foundation, a message we proudly share with you in this issue.

We wish our dedicated Anesa great success and many wonderful moments in this new chapter. We will continue to be a loyal and steadfast source of support for Anesa, as well as for all our scholarship recipients and alumni.





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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