

## &gt;&gt;&gt; NEWSLETTER &lt;&lt;&lt;

## WE ARE HER



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## PROJECT



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## GENERAL GOAL

WE ARE HER – ‘Ensuring Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment through International Projects’, aims to contribute to the empowerment of women, girls, and young people to ‘fully utilize their rights and increase their participation in political, economic, and cultural life’ by addressing the structural causes of gender inequality as well as gender-based discrimination in different and diverse regions of the world.

The project aims to strengthen capacities and promote collaboration among six organisations in the Mediterranean region (Lebanon, Greece, Belgium, Turkey, and Albania), working directly with youth workers and young people from various backgrounds. This is achieved through various activities, giving young people the opportunity to participate in Youth Exchanges, co-creating their own global social media campaign, and constantly receiving mentorship from local WE ARE HER Ambassadors.





# YOUTH EXCHANGE

## GENDER EQUALITY IN THE WORKPLACE

CAIRO, EGYPT  
24-30 MAY 2025



From 24th to 30th May 2025, the WE ARE HER project organized a dynamic Youth Exchange in Cairo, hosted by our partner organization Aspire.

The exchange brought together young people from Türkiye, Lebanon, Albania, Egypt, and Greece, creating a vibrant space for intercultural learning, dialogue, and collaboration. Over the course of the week, participants engaged in a series of interactive workshops, team-building activities, and reflection sessions focused on the gender gap in employment.

Through creative methods and peer-to-peer learning, participants explored the current challenges and opportunities in their countries, shared experiences, and discussed innovative solutions to promote gender equality in the workplace.

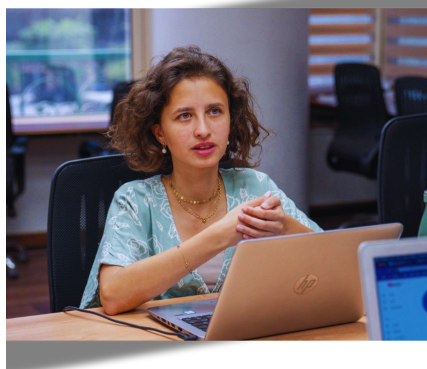
The exchange not only raised awareness about gender disparities but also empowered young people to become advocates for inclusive and equal employment practices in their communities.





## TRANSNATIONAL PARTNERS MEETING (TPM)

CAIRO, EGYPT  
24-25 MAY 2025



The WE ARE HER project team gathered in Cairo, Egypt, from the 24th to the 25th of May 2025, for a vibrant and productive Transnational Partners Meeting (TPM) hosted by our local partner, Aspire.

Representatives from partner organizations in Türkiye, Lebanon, Albania, Greece, and Egypt came together to reflect on the progress of the project and plan the upcoming stages of implementation. The meeting provided an essential opportunity for in-person collaboration, strategic alignment, and the exchange of best practices.

Key topics on the agenda included:

- Review of completed project activities and lessons learned
- Final planning for the Youth Exchanges, with particular attention to logistics, content design, and inclusion of participants from all partner countries
- Discussion on the dissemination strategy and visibility of project outcomes
- Next steps for capacity-building sessions and future advocacy initiatives

A special highlight of the TPM was the coincidence with the launch of the third Youth Exchange—taking place in Cairo during the same week. This parallel event added an extra layer of motivation and relevance to the discussions, as partners could observe the project in action and interact directly with young participants.

The meeting concluded with a renewed sense of purpose, shared ownership of responsibilities, and strengthened bonds between partner organizations—laying a solid foundation for the successful continuation of the WE ARE HER project.



# "SNAPSHOTS OF INSPIRATION: PARTICIPANT INSIGHTS"



## DIMITRA SEIRA

Being part of the Youth Exchange WE ARE HER in Cairo, Egypt was a truly meaningful and life-changing experience.

Throughout the program, we shared our stories, challenges, and hopes, discovering how much we have in common despite coming from different parts of the world.

One of the most beautiful parts of this journey was connecting with so many kind and inspiring people. I'm deeply grateful for everything, it felt like one big, beautiful adventure.

This experience helped me grow, reflect, and feel part of something bigger. I will always carry it with me.



## ARMAND LASKA

"Being part of the WE ARE HER Youth Exchange in Cairo was one of the most meaningful and transformative experiences of my life. Over the course of the program, I had the chance to connect with amazing young people from different countries, each bringing their own stories, cultures, and perspectives. What amazed me most was how quickly we found common ground — realizing that, despite our differences, we share the same hopes, challenges, and dreams.

Every moment, from the deep discussions to the joyful cultural nights, felt like a celebration of unity and growth. I learned so much — not only about gender equality and social issues, but also about myself. I return home with new friendships, powerful memories, and a renewed sense of purpose. This exchange reminded me that we're all part of something bigger, and that together, we can create meaningful change. I will carry this experience with me always."



**"YOUR VOICE MATTERS — EVERY THOUGHT, EVERY STEP, AND EVERY PASSION CAN  
IGNITE A MOVEMENT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES."**



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# "SNAPSHOTS OF INSPIRATION: PARTICIPANT INSIGHTS"



## MRINILA GJOKA

Spending a week in Egypt as part of this youth exchange has been one of the most unforgettable and meaningful experiences of my life. From the very first day, I felt surrounded by warmth, kindness, and an incredible spirit of togetherness that made me feel at home — even though I was far from it.

Everything about this exchange was truly special: the thoughtfully crafted presentations from our facilitators, the engaging discussions, the team-building activities, and the games that not only brought joy and laughter but also created meaningful connections among us — young people from different cultures, stories, and backgrounds. Each day taught me something new, not just about the world, but about myself.

One of the most powerful aspects of the exchange was the focus on gender-related topics. We explored issues like gender equality, the gender gap, and gender stereotypes — through lectures, and mostly through creative group work, impactful video projects, and interactive games. These sessions sparked deep conversations and honest reflection. The way our facilitators guided us through these discussions — with so much care, insight, and respect — was truly commendable. They didn't just teach; they empowered us to think critically and express ourselves freely. It was inspiring to be part of a space where everyone's voice mattered.

But above all, what touched me the most were the people. Every participant radiated a unique energy, kindness, and positivity. There was an unspoken understanding among us, a shared willingness to support, to listen, and to grow together. In this group, I found not just friends, but a community — one that felt like family.

One of the most magical moments was our Cultural Night. I still remember how alive we all felt — dancing under the stars to Turkish, Greek, Lebanese, Egyptian, and Albanian music. We weren't just showcasing traditions; we were celebrating unity. And the fact that it all happened aboard a boat drifting along the Nile River made it even more surreal — like something out of a dream.

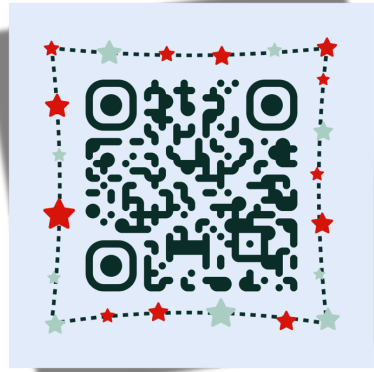
Throughout that week, I grew in ways I never anticipated. I developed essential skills like teamwork, communication, and cross-cultural understanding — but more importantly, I gained perspective. I learned that even in a world full of differences, there is always something that brings us together: the human desire to connect, to learn, and to be seen.

This was more than just a project — it was a life-changing experience that I will carry in my heart forever.

To each of you who shared that week with me — thank you. You've left a mark on my soul. I already miss every single one of you, and I sincerely hope our paths will cross again one day.

**“SPENDING A WEEK IN EGYPT AS PART OF THIS YOUTH EXCHANGE WAS A TRULY LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE — FILLED WITH CONNECTION, GROWTH, AND UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES THAT I WILL CARRY WITH ME FOREVER.**

# "BLOG FROM OUR WE ARE HER PLATFORM"



**WEB PLATFORM**

## I'Youth Voices Breaking Stereotypes

The We Are Her Project blog features powerful personal stories from young people who took part in the Youth Exchange in Lezhë, Albania (April 2025). Participants from Albania, Lebanon, Turkey, and other countries share their reflections on gender equality, self-discovery, and breaking down stereotypes through real-life experiences.

### From Lebanon to Lezhë – Journeys of Growth

Each blog entry offers a unique perspective on inner growth and intercultural learning. Through letters to themselves, stories of connection, and reflections on justice and identity, these young voices highlight how international exchanges can transform not just understanding—but lives.

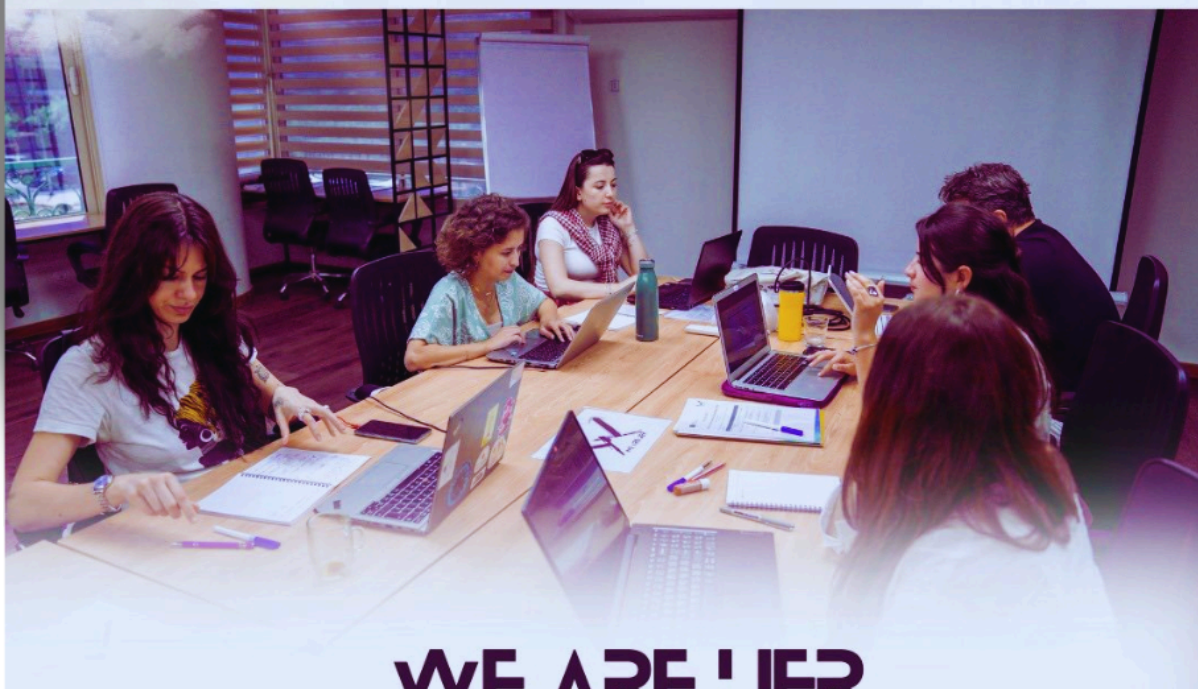
Read and Be Inspired

The blog is more than just a record of events—it's a platform for youth empowerment and advocacy. Honest, heartfelt, and deeply human, these stories invite you to listen, reflect, and take part in the movement for gender justice.





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# WE ARE HER

**TRANSNATIONAL PARTNERS MEETING IN CAIRO (EGYPT),**



# THANK YOU

**"Stay tuned for more updates about the 'WE ARE HER' project in our next newsletter edition!"**



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