



## SUCCESS STORY

### Shaping new generations of activists against violence



*Photo: TruAktiv program gathers young activists to debate through critical thinking on violent extremism and radicalization.*

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During last decades the people of Kosovo have undergone a difficult period of armed conflict, circumstances which have influenced radicalism, hatred and non-tolerance among different groups, which consequently can affect the appearance of elements of terrorism. The geo-strategic position of Kosovo presents a risk for spreading the syndrome of terrorism, particularly the one with religious fundamentalism basis.

The presence of a significant number of Kosovar youth fighting in Syria and Iraq, or the overall growth of political violence and hate speech on social media, indicate that lack of hope among many young people is

not producing only criticism and useful activism to improve such circumstances any more.

S'bunker through its critical thinking program truAktiv has achieved major youth engagement on countering violent extremism through. truAktiv Program was carried out through seven largest Kosovar municipalities, with three hundred (300) people reached only during six (6) first months of this activity. Many youngsters and activists have stated that before their participation in truAktiv, many of them indicated they had little to no education on important socio-political themes. Upon enrollment in truAktiv, the young participants experienced intensive training by renowned experts on issues and questions of Kosovar trends on radicalism and violence, gender and ethnic discrimination, community activism and rule of law.

To have a more strengthened impact, S'bunker organizes movie screenings and book contests on related themes, held each month, this way enriching the background and ethnic diversity of participants.

The project “Countering Violent Extremism through “Critical Thinking Program” is implemented by S'bunker, with the support of Engagement for Equity Program - E4E, financed by United States Agency for International Development – USAID, and realized by Advocacy Training and Resource Center -ATRC.