Interview – Viktoria Kukusev – social worker

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1) What do you see as the biggest challenges young people face when entering the job market in North Macedonia, and how can these be addressed?

I think the biggest challenge when entering the job market in North Macedonia is the salary. Many young get dis-encouraged when they find out how low their starting salary is when they start to work a job that they have spent four years for studying at uni.They usually find jobs in other countries that are remote.This could be easily addressed by raising the salaries for certain ages.

2) How effective are current government policies and initiatives in supporting youth entrepreneurship, and what improvements would you suggest?

I think our government is active in supporting new businesses because they have European grants which can be accessed by applying for them Enlarging the grant depending on the idea

3) What role do businesses and private sector organizations play in enhancing youth employable, and how can collaboration with educational institutions be strengthened?

So as a high school-er in a certain field , a lot of businesses have contracts with schools for practical hours/days which i think is amazing .To master a certain skill you have to be an apprentice first.So in general private firms play a big part in youth employment from a young age.Creating more of these contracts for certain fields will better youth employment.

4) What key skills do you believe young entrepreneurs need to succeed in North Macedonia, and how can they develop these skills effectively?

Definitely communication, confidence and delusion.All of these skills can be developed with trying to start your own firm/business/side hustle .

5) Can you share a successful example of a youth entrepreneurship initiative or employ ability program that has had a significant impact?

I have been to 2 or 3 projects for young entrepreneurship , all of them have given me a slight glimpse of how easy it could be if you just start somewhere.And i think we should have more of those

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