

# NOMAD

## Contemporary Dance in the Balkans



Country / region or city:

**Balkans**

Name of Cooperation Project:

**NOMAD - Contemporary  
Dance in the Balkans**

Partner organizations:

**Lokomotiva (Skopje)**

**Station (Belgrade)**

**Tanzelarija (Sarajevo)**

Duration of project:

**October 2007 – September  
2010**

**NOMAD is aiming to contribute to improvement and professionalisation of contemporary dance in the Balkans, as well as at establishing a regional educational system for contemporary dance in the Balkans, with special support to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Serbia.**

**It is part of a larger project, the Nomadic Dance Academy. Three organizations from Western Balkans are the main partners of the project: Lokomotiva in Macedonia, STATION in Serbia and Tanzelarija in Bosnia-Herzegovina.**

Contemporary dance and performance artists, theoreticians and producers in the Balkans face great challenges for establishing themselves at the international art market. No matter in which city/country of the region, in which kind of structure they operate, they all lack systematic education and presentation, and moreover, they lack professional working conditions, in order to be prepared for the standards framing their work. These conditions are very similar in all Balkan countries and thus the dance communities have identified similar strategies of action for improvement in the field.

Recognizing the challenges of this context, the cultural operators from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Macedonia, Croatia, Slovenia, and Bulgaria, in the field of the contemporary dance, have organized themselves into an open network under the name of Balkan Dance Network.

In order to address one of the key issues - the education, the project Nomad Dance Academy, which NOMAD is an integral part of, was developed.

[www.lokomotiva.org.mk](http://www.lokomotiva.org.mk)  
[www.dancestation.org](http://www.dancestation.org)  
[www.tanzelarija.org](http://www.tanzelarija.org)

[www.balkandancenetwork.org](http://www.balkandancenetwork.org)

Swiss Cultural Programme  
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Link:  
[www.deza.admin.ch](http://www.deza.admin.ch)  
(Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC)

### **The main goals of NOMAD are to:**

- establish a new model of regional cooperation in the dance sector in the Balkan region
- improve the education opportunities for young dancers and choreographers
- improve the research opportunities for experienced dancers and choreographers
- improve the production opportunities for young dancers and choreographers
- promote dance as a socially relevant and inclusive art field and to develop audience

The NOMAD Dance Academy program consists of three programme lines with a different focus on education, research programmes and regional creative cooperation and regional productions and co-productions.

### **The activities of the project include:**

- workshops and lectures with regional and international experts and residency programmes
- realisation of creative research projects
- support to productions in contemporary dance from the Nomad Dance Academy students and regional co-productions
- activities for promotion of the contemporary dance regionally and locally, through conferences, database and publishing

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**The Swiss Cultural Programme in the Western Balkans (SCP) is run by Pro Helvetia, the Swiss Arts Council, upon mandate of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. The SCP encompasses Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Macedonia, Serbia and Kosovo. It supports local partners, which emphasize the variety, independence and performance of cultural life. The SCP regional cooperation projects focus on the capacity building and institutional development processes of cultural organizations with a regional orientation. ■**