

Regional CSO Activism for Regional Reconciliation in the Former Yugoslavia

In Support of RECOM

Guidelines for grant applicants

Call of proposals for sub-granting within
*Regional CSO Activism for Regional Reconciliation in the Former
Yugoslavia - In Support of RECOM*
EuropeAid/154870/DH/ACT/Multi

Deadline for submission of applications: 1 March 2019

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1. Background

This project is continuing long-lasting work of the Initiative for RECOM, a civil society network advocating for establishing a Regional Commission for the Facts about War Crimes and Other Serious Violations of Human Rights committed on the territory of the former Yugoslavia, in the period 1991-2001.

Between 2007 and 2011, the partner organisations conducted consultation process which engaged over 8,000 individuals from different sections of society from all over the former Yugoslavia around the idea of facing the past regionally. These debates gave birth to a Draft RECOM Statute, outlining the goals, tasks and basic activities of a future inter-state commission for establishing the facts about war crimes and human rights violations that took place during the Yugoslav wars. The Statute is supported by a broad coalition of around 2,050 members – human rights organizations, youths, victims and victims' organizations, veterans' organizations, religious communities, journalists, intellectuals and victims' family members – from across the region.

In the ten years since its inception, the Initiative for RECOM has achieved tremendous results in public and political advocacy for the establishment of this regional commission. It has conducted public debates and outreach campaigns, set up a website which gathers information on relevant developments in transitional justice in the region, expert opinions and victims' stories, and collected signatures in support of RECOM from over half a million people from all post-Yugoslav states. This was followed by secured significant political support from the region, as well as political, technical and financial support from EU and EU member states. Finally, in order to help the future commission to carry out its mandate - to document all wartime detention sites and create a registry and combatants who lost their lives or disappeared in connection with war (as foreseen by the Statute) - the Coalition for RECOM conducts comprehensive research to identify human losses.

Activities of the project *Regional CSO Activism for Regional Reconciliation in the Former Yugoslavia - In Support of RECOM* are building on the achievements of this decade of civil society activism for the establishment of a regional truth-telling commission for the Yugoslav wars by further enlarging the understanding for the importance of transitional justice, reconciliation and remembrance in post Yugoslav countries.

Centre for Civic Education (CCE/CGO), on behalf of lead applicant and partners in the project will overtake the conduct of this Call, from its publication, through evaluation of

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the project proposals and monitoring, and perform as the Contracting Authority for the award projects.

2. Objectives of the Call

The *overall objective* of this Call is to strengthen prospects for regional reconciliation in the Western Balkans by establishing the facts on war crimes and human losses and detention sites related to the Yugoslav wars of the 1990s.

The *specific objectives* of this project are (1) to facilitate the establishment of a Regional Commission for establishing the facts and identifying the victims of the Yugoslav wars of the 1990; (2) to engage civil society from all post-Yugoslav states in an inclusive and bottom-up reconciliation initiative; (3) to strengthen the impact of CSOs in the decision-making process in the domain of regional cooperation.

By providing needed financial support to the organizations, strengthening their capacities, supporting advocacy and networking, this Call will contribute to the sustainability and improvement of the position of the primarily, but not exclusively, small or newly founded civil society organizations dealing with the past issues in Montenegro, Serbia, Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Slovenia and Croatia.

3. Priority issues

We are looking for the small-scale project proposals addressing the topics related to the fight against impunity for war crimes, establishing the truth about war crimes, contributing to culture of remembrance, engaging civil society at large and the broader public in a regional reconciliation and commemoration initiatives, etc. The project proposals have to be rooted in the context and relevant to society.

4. Financial allocation

The overall indicative amount available under this Call is EUR 100 000.

Any grant requested under this call for proposals must fall between the following minimum and maximum amounts:

- minimum amount: EUR 3,000

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- maximum amount: EUR 4,000

Grant requests can not be more than 95% of the total eligible costs of the action.

The balance (i.e. the difference between the total cost of the action and the amount requested from the Contracting Authority) must be financed from sources other than the European Union.

5. Eligibility criteria for applicants

In order to be eligible for sub-granting, applicants must be:

- legal persons;
- nonprofit making;
- civil society organizations;
- nationals of Montenegro, Serbia, Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Slovenia or Croatia;
- registered in these countries as non-governmental organisation at least twelve months prior to the deadline for submission of project;
- directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with their co-applicant.

The applicant may act individually or with co-applicant(s). Partnerships are not mandatory, but these are allowed and welcomed. Co-applicant(s) must satisfy the eligibility criteria as applicable to the applicant.

Individuals, political parties, international organisations, governmental institutions, religious communities and non-formal organisations are not eligible for this Call.


6. Eligible actions

The action should be oriented around the following fields or themes (non-exhaustive list):

- Support to establishing of RECOM, truth-seeking and reconciliation;

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- Establishing the facts on war crimes and human losses and detention sites related to the Yugoslav wars of the 1990s;
 - Initiating public debate about the process of reconciliation with the past in these seven countries, in context of dealing with the past in other post-Yugoslav countries;
 - Assessment of the Strategy for Investigation of War Crimes and proposals for strengthening the efficiency of the justice system in this regard, enabling better understanding and cooperation between CSOs, judiciary and other relevant public authorities;
 - Improving perception and general understanding of importance transitional justice and culture of memory in one or more of the eligible countries;
 - Strengthening the education system for innovative teaching on disputed or controversial topics related to transitional justice and intensify public debate;
 - Raising awareness in relation to the transitional justice and importance of reconciliation;
 - Researches on perceptions and presentation of 90s in post-Yugoslav countries;
 - Policy research, gaps and needs analysis on the quality of legal documents and practices;
 - Use of lessons learnt and positive examples in truth seeking for advocacy for reconciliation.

The following types of activity may qualify for support under this Call:

- Topic oriented advocacy actions;
- Public awareness raising campaigns;
- Drafting policy or legislation recommendations, research and analyzes;
- Launching, disseminating and replicating effective civil society models from EU Member States;
- Exchange of know-how and networking;
- Organization of innovative cultural events, performances, exhibitions and competitions;
- Organizing conferences, roundtables, workshops, trainings, seminars, etc.;
- Production and/or publishing of reports, manuals, leaflets, books, web-based material, etc;

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- Production of video materials.

The following types of action are ineligible:

- actions concerned only or mainly with individual sponsorships for participation in workshops, seminars, conferences, congresses;
- actions solely or mainly with individual scholarships for studies, training courses, study visits or participation in international events;
- actions including market promotion activities;
- Infrastructure projects or projects essentially focused on the purchase of equipment;
- Purchase and / or renovation of buildings or offices;
- Activities undertaken before the signature of the contract;
- Actions aimed at profit making activities;
- Actions related to charitable donations;
- Actions already funded by other EU programmes.

Preference will be given to activities that can achieve concrete and durable results with a real impact, as well as those offering innovative and appealing approaches.

Duration

The initial planned duration of the project implementation may not be lower than 1 month nor exceed 5 months, and the activities can be conducted between 1 April 2019 to 1 October 2019.

Location

The project must take place in one of seven countries (Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Slovenia, Macedonia and Croatia).

The applicants can conduct their projects in one or more than one of the above listed seven countries.

Number of applications and grants per applicant

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The applicant may not submit more than 1 application under this Call for Proposals.
The applicant may not be a co-applicant in another application at the same time.
A co-applicant may not submit more than 1 application under this Call for Proposals.

7. How to apply and the procedures to follow

Applicants must submit their applications in English or in official language of the countries covered by this Call.

The application consists of:

- Application form
- Budget template

Beside this the applicant should send the scanned version of:

- Registration issued by relevant state body.

Any error or major discrepancy relating to the points listed in the instructions in the application form may lead to the rejection of the application.

8. Where and how to send the applications

The applications must be sent in electronic version, by e-mail to recom.call@cgo-cce.org. In the subject it has to be stated the following: *Project proposal under the call Regional CSO Activism for Regional Reconciliation in the Former Yugoslavia - In Support of RECOM/ EuropeAid/154870/DH/ACT/Multi*.

Applicants must verify that their application is complete using the checklist.

Please note that incomplete applications may be rejected.

9. Deadline for submission of applications

The deadline for the submission of applications is **1 March 2019** as evidenced by the date of email receipt.

Any application submitted after the deadline will automatically be rejected.

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10. Further information for the applicants

Questions regarding the application process and procedures may be sent by e-mail to recom.call@cgo-cce.org no later than 20 February 2019.

The Contracting Authority has no obligation to provide clarifications to questions received after this date.

Replies will be given no later than 7 days before the deadline for submission of applications.

Apart from individual replays all questions and answers as well as other important notices to applicants during the course of the evaluation procedure, will be published on the CCE/CGO website (www.cgo-cce.org). It is therefore advisable to consult this website regularly in order to be informed of the questions and answers published.

11. Evaluation and selection criteria

Applications will be examined and evaluated by the Contracting Authority. All applications will be assessed according to the following steps and criteria, in two phases.

In first phase, the administrative check of all documentation requested by the Call will be conducted. Only applications containing all necessary documentation, as described in this Guidelines, will pass to the second phase of the evaluation. In the second phase the evaluation will be done based on the evaluation grid.

Evaluation Grid

Section	Maximum score
1. Relevance of the action	30
1.1. How relevant is the proposal to the objectives and priorities of this Call?	10

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1.2. How relevant to the particular needs and constraints of the target country(ies) or region(s) is the proposal (including synergy with other EU initiatives and avoidance of duplication)?	10
1.3. How clearly defined and strategically chosen are those involved (final beneficiaries, target groups)? Have their needs been clearly defined and does the proposal address them appropriately?	5
1.4. Does the proposal contain specific added-value elements, such as environmental issues, promotion of gender equality and equal opportunities, needs of disabled people, rights of minorities and rights of indigenous peoples, or innovation and best practices, etc?	5
2. Effectiveness and feasibility of the action	30
2.1. Are the activities proposed appropriate, practical, and consistent with the objectives and expected results?	10
2.2. Is the action feasible and consistent in relation to the objectives and expected results?	10
2.3. Does the proposal contain objectively verifiable indicators for the outcome of the action?	10
2.4. Is the co-applicant(s)'s and affiliated entity(ies)'s level of involvement and participation in the action satisfactory?	5
3. Sustainability of the action	20
3.1. Is the action likely to have a tangible impact on its target groups?	5
3.2. Is the proposal likely to have multiplier effects (including scope for replication, extension and information sharing)?	10
3.3. Are the expected results of the proposed action sustainable in financial, institutional, policy level and environmental aspect?	5
4. Budget and cost-effectiveness of the action	20
4.1. Are the activities appropriately reflected in the budget?	10
4.2. Is the ratio between the estimated costs and the expected results satisfactory?	10
Maximum total score	100

11. Decisions on the applications

According to the indicative plan, final decisions will be made by 15 March 2019. The applicants will be informed in writing of the Contracting Authority's decision concerning their applications and, if rejected, the reasons for the negative decision.

Following the decision to award a sub-grant, the Beneficiary will be offered a contract.