

### **TRAVEL FUND**

# COOPERATION, LEARNING AND FOCUSING ACTIVITIES 2022 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Travel Fund aims to strengthen mutual learning and networking and to enhance knowledge in a specific field within CSF. In 2021-2023, three competitions will be organised for the Working and Expert Groups and also for emerging Groups and initiatives of the Forum.

This is the first open call for Cooperation & Learning Activities and Focusing Activities in 2021-2023. The total budget for the Activities in this round is 20,000€. Each Working / Expert Group or other initiative within the Forum can send more than one application and the maximum request per activity should be no more than 6,000 € for a Cooperation & Learning Activity and not more than 1,500 € for a Focusing Activity.

## In 2022, the Cooperation & Learning Activities can look as follows:

This kind of Activity is an opportunity mainly for the Working and Expert Groups or the Strategy Priority Groups of the Forum which organize a **working or skill-building meeting**. This meeting should either include:

- 1) an online/hybrid/offline public event or
- 2) the outcome of the Activity should be presented to the Forum members and supporters.

The Grants should help members to cooperate in a particular field or within a particular initiative, especially related to the Strategy priorities. At least three member organisations (which includes one from the EU and one from Russia) should organize such an activity. Each activity can have a budget of up to 6,000 €.

A Cooperation & Learning Activity can take place online, hybrid or offline in the EU or Russia. If an offline meeting is necessary to reach the project's objectives<sup>1</sup>, but it can't take place in an EU country or in Russia due to COVID-related restrictions, the initiators might suggest an alternative location in the region which has to be approved by the CSF Secretariat.

The **Focusing Activities** can look as follows:

**Two or more member organisations**<sup>2</sup> plan and organise **one event focusing on one specific topic** relevant for civil society in both regions. There are two types of activities:

1) A **public event** which includes the **preparation and the organisation of it** (discussion, conference, workshop etc.) focusing on one specific topic.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> If an offline meeting is planned the meeting should take at least three days. Flight travels for less than three days are not supported.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> At least one of them should be from Russia, one from the EU.

- 2) An **activity reserved for members**<sup>3</sup> (seminar, skill-building training etc.) which aims to strengthen the cooperation between the members of the Forum.
- 3) The preparation of a **publication**, such as a printed publication (brochure, journal, book etc.) or an audio or audiovisual publication (podcast, video etc.) on a topic which is relevant for all partner organisations involved.

A Focusing Activity should help the member organisations to focus on one pressing issue and to cooperate in a particular field or within a particular initiative. Proposals for activities that deal with the Strategy Priorities<sup>4</sup> indicated in the Forum's Strategy 2020-2025 are very much welcome within this call.

A Focusing Activity can take place online or in a hybrid mode. If it takes place offline, it should be organised by organisations in the same region, as a Focusing Activity shouldn't involve flight traveling due to its short duration.

The Cooperation & Learning Activities and Focusing Activities should take place between **15 February 2022 and 15 June 2022**. The reports have to be submitted within one month after the activity took place and no later than 15 July 2022. All CSF member organisations are encouraged to apply.

#### **Application Procedure**

For these activities a **concept note** (max. 2 pages) presenting the project idea, its objectives and target audience(s), and indicating partner organisation(s) and the **budget** has to be submitted. Please find the link to the application form in the Guidelines for Applicants attached and on the Forum internal platform.

## **Deadline for Concept Notes**

The deadline for concept notes is 23:59 CET on Thursday, 3 February 2022.

To learn more about the objectives of the Activities, the decision making and other details on the application process, please refer to the guidelines of Cooperation & Learning Activities and Focusing Activities at the documents section of the <u>internal platform for Forum members and supporters</u>. The guidelines have been sent to all member organisations of the Forum via email.

We look forward to your applications!

Sincerely,

**EU-Russia Civil Society Forum Secretariat** 

#### For more information:

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The Travel Fund is supported by:



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Civil society actors working in a similar field which are not (yet) a member of the Forum might be invited as well.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Strategy Priorities are acting on sustainable development and climate change, inequality in society, digital inequality and rapid technological development, safeguarding democracy and human rights, and free media.