

Support for the Czech - Ukrainian Civil Society Forum

1. About the project

The purpose of this project is to create a grant mechanism for small joint projects of Czech and Ukrainian NGOs. The cooperation of non-governmental organizations offers great potential for fulfilling the declared political goals and priorities of bilateral relations between Ukraine and the Czech Republic through specific projects and at the direct interpersonal level.

This grant mechanism was created to supplement and support the Czech-Ukrainian Forum. The Forum itself was established by the signing of [the relevant memorandum by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs in Prague on May 3, 2019.](#)

The first meeting of the Forum also took place in Prague on February 5, 2020. On behalf of the Czech side, it was attended by representatives of civil society and non-governmental organizations, who actively contribute to Czech-Ukrainian cooperation and dialogue.

The second meeting of the Forum took place on May 26, 2021 in Kiev, during which this initiative/project was established.

1.1. The subject of the project

The main subject of the project is a grant mechanism, within which funds (of a maximum value of CZK 50,000) will be distributed for joint projects of Czech and Ukrainian non-governmental organizations.

1.2. Project goals

The aim of the project is to practically contribute to the development of bilateral relations between the Czech Republic and Ukraine. Within the project, joint Czech-Ukrainian projects will be selected and financially supported. These selected and supported projects will be linked, within their objectives and contents, to Czech foreign policy and to the objectives of Czech transformation policy and assistance in Ukraine. At the same time, they will provide ideas and inspiration for new possibilities of mutual Czech-Ukrainian cooperation. Last but not least, people-to-people contacts and cooperation will be strengthened, which would otherwise be more difficult to establish without this financial mechanism.

Another goal of this program will be to search for new possible areas and forms of Czech assistance to Ukraine.

2. The focus of the program

The subject of this project is the support of at least 12 joint projects to strengthen Czech-Ukrainian relations and contacts between representatives of civil society, submitted by Czech and Ukrainian non-profit, non-governmental organizations and other eligible entities. Specifically, it will support projects in the following areas:

- (a) Support for civil society;
- (b) Support for local civic initiatives, regional development;
- (c) Public participation of citizens at the local level;
- (d) Environmental protection;
- (e) Freedom of expression and access to information, including freedom of the media;
- (f) Building the institutions of the rule of law, promoting necessary reforms;
- (g) Equality and non-discrimination; protection of human rights.

3. Length of projects

Within this subsidy title, the European Values Centre for Security Policy accepts applications for subsidies for short-term projects in the range of 1 - 4 months, with the start and end of implementation in 2021.

4. The maximum amount of aid

The project will provide grants for the implementation of Czech-Ukrainian projects, with each eligible to receive a maximum amount of CZK 50,000.

5. Deadline for sending the grant application

The call for applications is publicly announced on May 26, 2021.

The deadline for submitting an application for a subsidy on the basis of this call is 25.06.2021 at 23:59 (CET). Until this time, it is necessary to send the completed [project form](#) to the e-mail address cz.ua.forum@europeanvalues.cz and to include it in the subject "ZADOST-CZ-UA-FORUM".

6. Possible supported activities

The following is an overview of suggested potential activities and is not an exhaustive list:

- Cooperation (including online activities) of representatives of civil society and non-governmental organizations and support of their activities aimed at systemic solutions to civil, economic, social, environmental or historical issues.
- Transfer of experience with the management of non-governmental organizations, strengthening their organizational capacity, project management and planning. These are, for example, areas of financing, advocacy, project preparation, involvement in European networks, etc.
- Support for cooperation between state administration, local and regional self-government, civil society entities and other relevant bodies with a focus on the transfer of experience with social and economic transformation.
- Strengthening the rule of law, involving civil society and the public in decision-making processes and increasing the transparency of these processes.
- Support for independent media and training of their staff; transfer of Czech experience; support for investigative journalism and media literacy; increasing resilience to disinformation campaigns; informing on topics related to the social and economic transformation of the EU; the use of new media and social networks as platforms for free discussion and dissemination and sharing of information.
- Support for the mobilization of young people and their involvement in community and social activities; education (including informal) and education for active citizenship, critical access to information and the ability to formulate and present opinions; introduction of new educational methods (interactive teaching, use of films, discussions) and topics in teaching (multicultural education); information about the European Union; raising awareness of human rights, environmental protection, etc.) and the possibility of cooperation with Czech universities.
- Activities aimed at promoting equal opportunities for women and men and eliminating discrimination against minorities.
- Support for human rights defenders and cooperation in the field of human rights protection.
- Support for ecological cooperation and exchange of experience between Czech and Ukrainian entities, inter alia with a focus on environmental pollution, the use of renewable energy sources, energy reduction and climate change projects.
- Fight against corruption.

7. Conditions for applicants

1. The applicant must be a Czech or Ukrainian non-profit organization.
2. The applicant must cooperate in the project and directly participate with his/her partner from the Czech Republic or Ukraine.
3. The applicant must fill in a project form containing basic information about the organization, the project and its financial implementation.
4. The applicant must submit a duly completed and signed project form electronically.
5. The project form, according to the binding syllabus and all its parts, including the budget, form one unit.
6. The project form must be sent to the e-mail address: cz.ua.forum@europeanvalues.cz with the subject "ZADOST-CZ-UA-FORUM" no later than 25.06.2021 at 23:59 (CET).
7. The assessment and selection of the submitted applications will take place under the supervision of the evaluation committee. Incoming grant applications will be registered and processed by the authorized administrator.
8. The written evaluation will be submitted by the administrator to the evaluation committee. The members of the evaluation committee are obliged to sign a declaration of impartiality and confidentiality before the meeting. The names of the members of the commission will be published on the day the results of the selection of the commission are announced.
9. The evaluation committee will select the winning projects and will also propose a list of replacement projects in case the winning applicants withdraw from the project before the decision is signed.
10. For this call, the EVC sets the following binding criteria for the assessment of projects:
 - a. Quality of project elaboration - in terms of form and content, and its professional level (max. 5 points);
 - b. Effectiveness of the expenditure in relation to the stated objective, i.e. strengthening of Czech-Ukrainian cooperation (max. 5 points);
 - c. Sustainability of project outputs and objectives (max 3 points);
 - d. Feasibility in terms of time, organization, finance and technology (max 3 points).
11. The result of the selection of the evaluation committee will be published on the website of the European Values Security Center for Security Policy and the successful grant applicants will be notified via e-mail communication.

8. Conditions for the use of subsidies

1. The grant must be used for the project costs indicated in the application
2. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the grant provider at the e-mail address: cz.ua.forum@europeanvalues.cz
3. In the event of major changes to the budget lines, the grant provider must be informed at the e-mail address: cz.ua.forum@europeanvalues.cz

8.1. Eligible costs

- Travel expenses, in so far as they are directly related to the effective implementation of the project and at the same time necessary for its implementation, are secured in the most direct and cost-effective way
- Accommodation, daily subsistence allowances and local transport (diets)
- Provision of refreshments for the event
- Printing
- Equipment rental
- Rent space
- Fees, fees for trainers
- Publication costs (up to a maximum of CZK 750 per page)
- Overhead costs (up to a maximum of 20% of the total project costs - no need to prove them with financial documents)

8.2. Ineligible costs

- Purchase of intangible fixed assets (software, patents, licenses) and tangible fixed assets (including purchase of equipment, etc.)
- Any other staff costs, including fees, trainers' fees, etc.
- First or business class tickets
- Fuel
- Individual daily allowances (for meals, transport, etc.)
- Communication charges (including telephones, internet, etc.)
- Stationery and office supplies
- Administrative fees or overheads (other than under point 10.1.)

9. Financial costs and billing

1. The grant recipient is obliged to submit to the EH, by 10.12.2021, a written statement of the allocated grant for the year 2021, and the final report on the project in electronic form. All necessary documents will be sent to successful applicants well in advance. At the same time, he will transfer the unused funds from the subsidy to his account according to the provider's instructions.
2. For costs below CZK 5,000, the applicant is not obliged to provide financial documents, it is sufficient to submit a list of names. The European Value Security Center for Security Policy reserves the right to subsequently verify the existence of random financial documents.
3. For costs over CZK 5,000, the applicant is obliged to submit all financial documents to the grant provider.

9.1. Overheads

20% of the total grant budget can be used for project overheads, which do not need to be documented by the applicant.