

# Call for Proposals: Visegrad+ Western Balkans

The International Visegrad Fund is hereby announcing a call for proposals for projects Visegrad+ grant projects that will facilitate transfer of know-how between non-governmental and civil society organizations (NGOs/CSOs) in the Visegrad Group and the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo,<sup>i</sup> Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia). The projects must adhere to one or more of the following priorities: **Rule of Law and Fundamental Right, Good Governance, Regional Cooperation, EU Approximation, or Environment and Sustainable Development:**

## 1. Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights

- Strengthening the capacity of civil society and local media to advocate against challenges in the region (organized crime, corruption, illegal migration)
- Improving citizens' access to legal aid
- Strengthening civil society by fostering information on civil, political and minority/community rights
- Support to human rights advocates and freedom of speech

## 2. Good Governance

- Increasing citizen participation in governance through advocacy and capacity building
- Support to independent media and investigative journalism
- Increase the "watchdog" capacities of civil society and media/support watchdog initiatives

## 3. Regional Cooperation

- Improving regional networking and cross-border cooperation
- Developing regional educational projects and student-exchange programs
- Development/improvement of local tourism
- Capacity building for local bodies on EU administration

## 4. EU Approximation

- Capacity building for local bodies on EU administration
- Sharing V4 experiences on the benefits of EU integration and transition processes
- Raising EU awareness

## 5. Environment and sustainable development

- Raising awareness about environmental protection, renewable sources and energy efficiency
- Grass-root initiatives improving the quality of life

Proposals shall be submitted in the [on-line application form](#) by 12 p.m. (noon) on **May 15, 2014**.

**Further conditions:**

- Projects involve active participation of entities from at least 3 different V4 countries and at least 2 different Western Balkan countries regardless of the coordinator
- Expected timeframe of proposed projects cannot exceed 18 months
- Requested support cannot exceed €80,000
- Overhead costs do not exceed 5% of the requested support
- Tangible/intangible assets do not exceed 7% of the requested support

**Deadline:**

12:00 p.m. (noon), May 15, 2014

**On-line application form:**

<http://applications.visegradfund.org/Login.aspx?t=32768>

**More information and rules:**

[www.visegradfund.org/plus](http://www.visegradfund.org/plus)

**Contact persons:**

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<sup>i</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.