

# INNOVATION. MEDIA. MINDS.

EU SUPPORT TO PUBLIC  
SERVICE JOURNALISM  
IN WESTERN BALKANS

#EU4MediaMindsWB

Version: 16. 07. 2024.

## Questions and Answers \_ International mobility grants for freelance and contracted media professionals affiliated with Western Balkan Public Service Media

### 1. What is the objective of Innovation. Media. Minds. Programme?

Innovation. Media. Minds: EU Support to Public Service Journalism in Western Balkans seeks to promote an environment that is supportive of media freedom and improve participatory democracies and the EU approximation process in the region through a strengthened contribution by civil society and media. Its objective is to assist Public Service Media (PSM) in enhancing organizational performance and internal governance while also enhancing the individual capacities of journalists, technical personnel, top and middle management, and staff members. For more information, please refer to Guidelines (Please refer to Guidelines, section 1.1).

### 2. What is the objective of International mobility grants?

Through the International Mobility Grants media professionals (at least 1 year of relevant work experience) involved in the process of content/program production/creation/improvement/development from Western Balkan PSMs that signed a memorandum of understanding with Goethe-Institut and DW Akademie will have the chance to participate in a job-shadowing programme with either the EU or Western Balkan PSMs. The primary aim of these grants is to enhance the professional abilities and understanding of PSM media professionals in the Western Balkans regarding contemporary EU journalistic standards and practices.

The following Western Balkan PSMs signed the memorandum of understanding: Radio and Television of Kosovo\*[1], Radio Televizija Crne Gore, Radio Televizija Srbije, Radio Televizija Vojvodine, Radio Televizioni Shqiptar, Radiotelevizija Bosne i Hercegovine, Radio-televizija Federacije Bosne i Hercegovine.

# INNOVATION. MEDIA. MINDS.

---

[1] \*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999.

### 3. Who can apply?

Only editors and journalists currently employed by the Western Balkan PSMs (whether on a freelance or regular working contract) are eligible to apply for International Mobility Grants.

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Mid-career and young editors or journalists (at least more than 1 year of relevant work experience);
- Have a formal professional relationship with a Western Balkan PSM (regular work contract or freelance).

Applications from independent investigative media outlets, as well as from editors and journalists without a formal professional relationship with a Western Balkan PSM, will not be reviewed or evaluated. However, independent investigative Western Balkan media outlets will have the opportunity to apply for different grant schemes available within the Programme.

### 4. How to apply?

To apply for the call for proposals, applicants should:

1. Register in the Goethe Application Portal (GAP) <https://gap-online.goethe.de/en/>
2. Access the application form for Mobility project grants using the following [link](#),
3. Provide information and required documentation according to the instructions or guiding questions provided in the GAP.

For more details, please refer to Guidelines, section 3.

# INNOVATION. MEDIA. MINDS.

## 5. Where can the mobility take place?

Applicants who are applying for International mobility grants can visit various institutions, such as public service media from the EU, reputable media institutes, media training centres, the OSCE media department, the European Federation of Journalists, etc.

Please refer to Guidelines, section 2.2. Eligible area - where can applicants travel.

## 6. What expenses are covered within this grant scheme?

Applicants can apply for expenses related to the mobility such as travel costs, cost of stay, visa, special needs, registrations fees and travel insurance. Please refer to Guidelines section 2.3. *Eligible and ineligible expenditures and principles of funding.*

## 7. How will the project ideas that will be funded within this grant scheme be chosen?

All submitted applications will undergo a standard assessment procedure, which is composed of:

1. Formal and eligibility assessment – checking whether the application fulfils the formal eligibility criteria;
2. Quality assessment – evaluation of received applications' content;
3. Final selection – based on the quality assessment, but taking into consideration geographical balance, gender balance and inclusion.

*Please refer to Guidelines section 3.1.5.*

## 8. What is the maximum amount for a mobility grant?

The International Mobility Grants have a **total budget of EUR 120,000**, which will be distributed across two calls for proposals. The maximum grant amount per recipient is **EUR 5,000**. In the first call, twelve (12) grants will be awarded. Subsequently, an additional twelve (12) grants will be awarded in the second call. Twenty-four (24) grants will be awarded in total.

# INNOVATION. MEDIA. MINDS.

## 9. Are VAT expenses acceptable within this grant scheme?

Even though VAT is not an acceptable cost in EU funded projects, be advised that the VAT is an eligible cost, if the expenses are incurred outside beneficiaries' permanent residence.

## 10. Which types of documents are necessary for reporting?

Within one month of the project's conclusion, beneficiaries are required to submit a final activity report consisting of a narrative and financial report, along with necessary supporting documents. Payments will be made in Euros to the account specified in the grant contract. Please refer to Guidelines, section 3.1. 7. *Reporting and final payment.*

| List of proofs (examples)  |   |
|--|---|
| Proof of travel from the place of origin to the destination city and return (economy class only) | Boarding passes, train tickets, passport stamps, bus tickets, ferry tickets, etc.   |
| Proof of daily expenses (cost of stay)   | Proof of the number of days spent abroad (hotel bookings, Airbnb, etc.);<br>Transport tickets can also be a proof if they clearly indicate the dates. |
| Proof of other costs (registration, visa, travel insurance)                                      | Invoices, proof of payment (bank statements; for cash payment – cash receipts)  |