

Culture of Solidarity - EUNIC Ukraine Fund Second partnership edition

*on promoting the visibility of Ukrainian Culture in Europe
powered by the European Cultural Foundation*

Background and context

Looking back at the last year, the war in Ukraine has produced a heightened solidarity towards Ukraine but also amongst the EU as a community. With Ukraine now as a confirmed EU candidate country, a perspective and invitation of getting to know each other between Ukraine and EU countries emerges, a cultural dimension accompanying the wider process of reform and civil society strengthening.

Within this evolving landscape, an opportunity arises for the Ukrainian cultural sector to continue to build and develop relationships within other EU countries. Knowledge and access to Ukrainian art and culture varies hugely across EU member states, but generally little is known about the dynamic cultural and creative history and presence of this large neighbour to the East. Opportunities therefore arise to expand the shared cultural space into the future, deepening the acts of solidarity provoked by the war into longer term international cultural relations, deepening trust and understanding.

Following on the success of last year's edition, the Culture of Solidarity Fund is now launching another special call looking to promote the visibility and embeddedness of Ukrainian culture across Europe, in partnership with **EUNIC** (the network of EU National Institutes for Culture), with funding from the Government of Flanders and the European Cultural Foundation and additional contributions from the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Czech Centres.

What are we looking for?

The call is open to EUNIC clusters in any of the 46 Council of Europe member states and their local cultural partners, that propose short- and mid-term, visibility actions and events taking place in any of the Council of Europe member states in one of the following areas:

- raising the visibility, knowledge, awareness and participation of Ukrainian Art and Culture amongst audiences, local communities and key stakeholders;
- deepening and developing ties between Ukrainian and European cultural actors and institutions, giving perspective for medium to longer term professional cooperation and networks;
- raising the knowledge and awareness of the situation in Ukraine provoked by the war, through debate and discussion emerging from artistic and cultural presentation.

What do we offer?

The Fund has grants available in two amounts:

- Small: up to € 10.000
- Medium: €10.000 – 15.000

Although co-funding is not a prerequisite, a balanced budget with diversified resources can significantly improve the feasibility of the project. For details on the eligible costs and project timeline please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions available on the designated page of the call on our website.

Funded activities can start anytime from the project start date indicated in the application by the lead application but no earlier than from 1st October. Projects must be completed latest by 30 June 2024.

Who can apply?

Application must come from either:

1. a full **EUNIC member** organisation with letters of engagement from at least three (including the lead) different full EUNIC members in the local EUNIC cluster; or
2. a local partner organisation within a Council of Europe member state with official support letters by at least three EUNIC member organisations active within the country's EUNIC cluster.

Overall eligibility criteria

- Applications must be submitted in English, must include a complete budget and at least three letters of engagements or support;
- Individuals are not able to apply. Organisations applying must have a legal status in a Council of Europe member state;
- In terms of local partners, the Fund is open to any legal form of organisations (NGOs, public institutions, private enterprises, cooperatives) who operate in the cultural, artistic and creative sectors or any other relevant professional fields and sectors of society, including education and academia, human rights, social entrepreneurship, etc.
- All proposed activities must take place between October 2023 and June 2024.

The submission deadline for the call is Tuesday, 5 September, 13.00 CEST.

TIMELINE:

- 17 May 2023 - call for proposals open
- 5 September (13:00 CEST) 2023 - call closed
- 30 September 2023 - proposals assessed and selected
- October 2023 - June 2024 - project implementation

Selection criteria & process

All incoming proposals will be assessed based on their

- relevance to the overall theme of the Fund and objectives for this special edition;
- perspectives identified for strengthening ties between Ukrainian and EU cultural actors and audiences;
- urgency, feasibility and implementation potential;
- embedded awareness on sustainable ways of working, travelling and on equitable pay and work conditions.

Applications will be selected by a team of experts from a wide spread of geographic, cultural and professional backgrounds including representatives of ECF, EUNIC as well as the main EUNIC members funding the call. During the selection, special attention will be made to the geographic and disciplinary balance of the projects.

To submit your application, please fill in the online form here:

<https://europeanculturalfoundation.wufoo.com/forms/culture-of-solidarity-eunic-ukraine-2nd-edition/>

Applicant support

To support international partners considering an application the Ukrainian Institute has a range of resources, which can be consulted. The Ukrainian Institute has curated selections of new Ukrainian feature, documentary and short films and contemporary drama translated into other languages; a catalogue of contemporary classical, indie/mainstream and jazz musicians; a database of scores of classical and contemporary classical Ukrainian music etc. Links to these can be found in the accompanying FAQs of the call.

For applicants based outside Ukraine and/or those with limited knowledge of the Ukrainian artistic scene to get connected with the right people and institutions, subject to capacity, it may be possible to arrange consultation conversations regarding artistic content with Programme Managers of the Ukrainian Institute. If you feel this would benefit the development of the cultural programming contained in your application or if you have any questions about the call, particularly on its content focus and partnership requirements, please contact EUNIC's Network Manager, Sybilla, sybilla.britani@eunicglobal.eu.

Based on interest from individual EUNIC clusters, EUNIC can also offer a webinar or schedule an online consultation.

For technical questions concerning the application or selection process and the administrative requirements of the grant, please contact the team of the Culture of Solidarity Fund at ECF at cos@culturalfoundation.eu.

About the Partners

Culture of Solidarity Fund

Introduced by the European Cultural Foundation (ECF) in 2020, the Culture of Solidarity Fund was originally set up as a corona-response mechanism for pan-European cultural initiatives. Established as a public-philanthropic partnership fund, it supported nearly 100 cultural projects that contributed to maintaining and reinforcing European solidarity and the idea of Europe as a shared public space during the pandemic lockdowns.

The war in Ukraine has put new relevance and urgency to the Fund's Culture of Solidarity mission and calls for supporting urgent European and cultural action more than ever before. With pooled resources from a group of European co-funders, the Fund was relaunched as a pan-European effort right at the beginning of the war to respond to local cultural emergency needs. In its first four months of operation, the special Ukraine edition of the Fund has already supported 85 European arts and culture solidarity actions in and with Ukraine with a total of over EUR 1.35 million.

EUNIC

EUNIC is Europe's network of national cultural institutes, with 38 members from all EU Member States (and associate countries). EUNIC brings to life European cultural collaboration in more than 100 countries worldwide through a network of 136 EUNIC clusters around the world, drawing on the broad experience of the members. EUNIC's core mission is to build trust and understanding internationally through culture and to make culture count in international relations. EUNIC is an official partner to the EU in the field of Culture in External Relations. Collectively as EUNIC through shared initiatives such as House of Europe and individually as member organisations, EUNIC has been a very active player in cultural relations in and with Ukraine for many years. Since the outbreak of the war efforts have intensified around individual and shared actions amongst EUNIC members to stand in solidarity with, and to actively support Ukrainian cultural sector actors, both in Ukraine as well as those displaced, and to strengthen the cultural dimension of wider civil society support of emergency and humanitarian aid and social integration. As a network EUNIC also stands to strengthen the medium and longer term perspectives of cultural cooperation with Ukraine and in the surrounding region.

Government of Flanders

For centuries, Flanders has been a hub for international politics, trade and culture. It remains so today. We host both the European Union and NATO. We are the 15th-largest exporter worldwide. We are home to people of 191 different nationalities. Our cultural cities are a magnet for world-class arts events. Retaining our central place throughout the centuries is thanks in no small part to our native entrepreneurship, adaptability and ambition - tempered by our objectivity and realism. We recognise that we are dependent on the world around us for our prosperity and development. Then as now, Flanders must be international, or it is not Flanders.

International solidarity is the foundation for our active foreign policy. We represent our interests in various ways across multiple domains, always with a keen sense of the global interests at play. Because ultimately, what is good for the world, is also good for Flanders. Flanders agrees fully-fledged international treaties, organises diplomatic and economic services abroad, and manages its own foreign policy budget. Flanders' foreign policy takes shape through the Flanders Chancellery and Foreign Office and is implemented in cooperation with the other departments and agencies.