



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

GRANTS TO SUPPORT ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ON ACCESS TO YOUTH WORK

No. 9317/2026/01

Project	Youth for Democracy in Ukraine: Phase IV
Awarding entity	COUNCIL OF EUROPE Council of Europe Office in Ukraine
Funding	Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine “Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction” for 2023-2026
Duration	Projects shall be implemented by 01 September 2026. Reporting requirements shall be completed by 01 October 2026.
Estimated starting date	01 June 2026
Issuance date	12 March 2026
Deadline for applications	13 April 2026

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APPENDICES:

- Appendix I - Application Form
- Appendix II - Provisional budget (Template)
- Appendix III - Template Grant Agreement (for information only)

HOW TO APPLY?

- Complete and sign the **Application Form** (See **Appendix I**). Name for the file 9317-2026-01_Name of the applicant
- Attach a provisional budget (using the template reproduced in **Appendix II**). Name for the file 9317-2026-01_Name of the applicant
- Attach a list of all owners and executive officers, for legal persons only
- Attach the other supporting documents:
 - copy of the registration documents, including the certificate as a non-profit organisation (to be submitted in Ukrainian);
 - bank certificate confirming bank details (to be submitted in English);
 - copy of the charter of the organisation, or the equivalent (to be submitted in Ukrainian);
 - CVs of permanent and temporary staff to be involved in the grant implementation (to be submitted in English);
 - organisation's portfolio including record and experience in the sphere of youth work in Ukraine (to be submitted in English).
- Send these documents in electronic form (Word and/or PDF) to the following e-mail address: youthfordemocracy_ukraine@coe.int. Emails should contain the following reference in subject: Grant proposal 9317/2026/01 Name of the applicant
- Applications must be received before 10 April 2026 (at 23:59 CET)

I. INTRODUCTION

This call for proposals is launched in the framework of the Council of Europe Project “Youth for Democracy in Ukraine: Phase IV”. It aims to co-fund national and local projects aimed to support actions of civil society organisations in Ukraine at ensuring access of young people to youth work activities.

Project proposals shall aim to produce an added value to the Council of Europe efforts in this domain.

II. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECT

The project “Youth for Democracy in Ukraine: Phase IV” was launched within the framework of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine for 2023-2026. The project is built on the results and experience of the Council of Europe project “Youth for Democracy in Ukraine” in 2020-2024. The project “Youth for Democracy in Ukraine: Phase IV” aims to ensure that young people in Ukraine benefit from participatory youth policies and quality youth work to strengthen their own resilience and well-being in order to realise their human rights in wartime and post-war times and play an important role in Ukraine’s reconstruction efforts.

Central to the project are support measures and capacity-building activities in the fields of youth policy, youth work, and democratic participation in Ukraine. These efforts are based on Council of Europe youth sector standards and tools and take into account the specific needs of young people in war and post-war context.

The project directly responds to the priorities set by the Reykjavik Summit, in particular the Reykjavik Principles for Democracy, which emphasises that ensuring a democratic future for all in Europe requires investment in the participation of young people in democratic life and decision-making processes, including through education about human rights and core democratic values such as pluralism, inclusion, non-discrimination, transparency, and accountability.

The project remains rooted in the Council of Europe Youth Strategy 2030, which places a specific emphasis on: increasing the capacity of youth civil society to advance participatory democracy and democratic citizenship within and beyond their memberships; conducting more policies and governance processes in a meaningful, participatory manner, involving diverse groups of young people and their representatives/organisations; and strengthening youth policy and youth work in removing barriers to youth participation. Furthermore, the strategy also sets out youth work as one of its priorities, with focus on: strengthening, recognising and advancing youth work policies and practices by embedding youth work within youth policy frameworks, improving the quality of youth work delivered by both volunteer and paid youth workers, and extending the access and attractiveness of youth work and non-formal education/learning for the benefit of wider populations of young people.

The project reflects the youth policy reforms in Ukraine, notably the National strategy of the State Youth Policy 2030, the State Target Social Programme “Youth of Ukraine” 2021-2025, and the State Target Social Programme 2026-2030. The project engages youth policy stakeholders and youth work providers in Ukraine in the dissemination and implementation of the Committee of Ministers recommendations on access to rights for young people (CM(2016)7), youth work (CM(2017)4), access of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods to social rights (CM (2015)3), on protecting youth civil society and young people, and supporting their participation in democratic processes (CM/Rec(2022)6), on Roma youth participation (CM/Rec(2023)4) and on the social, economic and political participation of rural youth (CM/Rec (2025)3).

The Project is implemented within three main components that are implemented in parallel and have cross-cutting measures:

- participatory youth policy
- recognition of youth work in wartime;

- support for youth CSOs, youth councils, student self-government bodies, youth centres as platforms for civic engagement and democratic participation.

Project partners include the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine, the All-Ukrainian Youth Centre, the Ukrainian Youth Foundation.

III. BUDGET AVAILABLE

The indicative available budget under this call for proposals is 18 000.00 EUR (eighteen thousand Euros). The Council of Europe intends to award 4 grants of a maximum amount of 4 500.00 EUR (four thousand five hundred euros) each.

Subject to availability of funds and extension of the Project initial duration, the Council of Europe reserves the right not to award all available funds, and/or to redistribute the available funds in a different manner depending on the project proposals received and on the outcome of the call for proposals.

IV. REQUIREMENTS

1. General objective

The grants will fund projects designed to ensure access of young people to youth work activities. They should include one or more of the following areas:

- Non-formal education activities in the field of mental health and trauma-informed youth work;
- Raising awareness and non-formal education activities in the field of barrier-free environment and accessibility;
- Human rights education activities with a focus on youth participation;
- Open youth work activities (mobile, detached, street, outreach etc).

2. Means of action

Projects may include:

- Organisation of youth work activities and events targeting different young people, including young IDPs and returnees, representatives of rural youth, national communities (e.g., workshops, trainings, forums etc.);
- Awareness-raising activities (development and distribution of communication, promotional materials, including social media content and media products).

3. Implementation period

The implementation period of the projects should start on 01.06.2026 (see indicative timetable under VIII. below) and shall not extend beyond 31.08.2026.

Reporting requirements shall be completed on 01.10.2026 **at the latest**.

Projects completed prior to the date of submission of the applications will be automatically excluded. As regard projects started prior to the date of submission of the applications, or prior to the date of signature of the grant agreement, only those costs incurred after the date of submission of the grant application could be eligible (provided the agreement concerned so provides).

4. Target stakeholders

Projects should target in particular young people 14-35 y.o. living in Ukraine.

The above list is not exhaustive and projects may propose to target other relevant stakeholders, while keeping in mind the general objective of the Project.

5. Budgetary requirements

Project proposals shall be accompanied by a draft budget (See **Template Budget, in Appendix II**) amounting to a maximum of 4 500.00 EUR (four thousand five hundred euros). The estimated budget must be consistent, accurate, clear, complete and cost-effective, in the light of the activities proposed.

Each Grantee shall also be required to contribute to the project either by way of its own resources or by contribution from third parties. Co-financing may take the form of financial or human resources, in-kind contributions or income generated by the action or project.

6. Further to the general objective, preference will be given to:

- Projects/actions proposed by civil society organisation in partnership with national or local authorities;
- Projects/actions targeting different young people, including young IDPs and returnees, representatives of rural youth, national communities;
- Projects/actions meaningfully involving young people at all stages of the project cycle.

7. The following types of action will not be considered:

- Projects/actions providing financial support to third parties (re-granting schemes);
- Projects/actions concerning only or mainly individual scholarships for studies or training courses;
- Projects/actions supporting political parties.

8. Funding conditions:

The funds for each grant should in principle be distributed as follows:

- 80 % will be paid to the Grantee or the Lead Grantee in case of a consortium when the Grant Agreement between the Parties is signed;
- the balance will be paid to the Grantee or the Lead Grantee in case of a consortium based on actual expenditures incurred, and after the presentation and acceptance by the Council of Europe of the final narrative and financial reports for the Grant implementation.

9. Reporting requirements:

- **narrative reporting** requires a full narrative report on the use made of the grant and a copy of the register of the persons present during each of the activities, including names and signatures of participants;
- **financial reporting** requires in particular a statement in the currency in which the Grant Agreement will be concluded (Euros or local currency), in English, stating the payments made for the implementation of the activities, certified by the responsible financial officer of the Grantees, accompanied by “appropriate original supporting documents” (see below). The Council of Europe reserves the right to ask for summary translations of invoices into English. If for legal reasons the original documents must be retained by the Grantees, certified copies must be submitted with the financial statement.

“Appropriate original supporting documents” refers to signed contracts, invoices and acceptances of work (for all transactions), payment authorisation for all transactions should also be provided in case the Grantees use such practice, and reliable evidence of payment (authorised payment order and bank statement).

As regards round tables / conferences / workshops / trainings / forums, presenting “appropriate original supporting documents” requires presentation of a programme indicating the title, dates, venue, and agenda of the event; the names of persons facilitating the event, a signed list of participants, the contracts with the owner of venue of the event (e.g. hotel) for the rent of premises, food and beverages of participants, invoices from the owner of the venue of the event for the above services, and a report on the results of the event (see narrative reporting above).

As regards consultancy services, presenting “appropriate original supporting documents” requires presentation of evidence of the outputs produced, contracts with experts and consultants containing a specific description of services to be carried out, invoices produced after the works have been performed and delivered (the specialities of the consultants shall correspond to the nature of activities for which they are contracted).

As regards travel fees / lodging of experts and participants, presenting “appropriate original supporting documents” requires presentation, where relevant, of contracts with a travel agency for travel fees and lodging, invoices of the travel agency indicating destinations, dates, ticket costs, and names of the travelling persons, a programme of the event indicating the names of the experts and signed lists of participants.

The above description is not comprehensive. Any doubt regarding the interpretation of the notion of “appropriate original supporting documents” should lead the Grantee or the Lead Grantee in case of a consortium to consult the Council of Europe.

V. HOW TO APPLY?

1. Documents to be submitted:

Each application shall contain:

- the completed and signed **Application Form** (See **Appendix I**). Name for the file 9317-2026-01_Name of the applicant;
- a provisional budget (using the template reproduced in **Appendix II**). Name for the file 9317-2026-01_Name of the applicant;
- a list of all owners and executive officers, for legal persons only;
- the other supporting documents:
 - copy of the registration documents, including the certificate as a non-profit organisation (to be submitted in Ukrainian);
 - bank certificate confirming bank details (to be submitted in English);
 - copy of the charter of the organisation, or the equivalent (to be submitted in Ukrainian);
 - CVs of permanent and temporary staff to be involved in the grant implementation (to be submitted in English);
 - organisation’s portfolio including record and experience in the sphere of youth work in Ukraine (to be submitted in English).

Applications that are incomplete will not be considered.

2. Questions

General information can be found on the website of the Council of Europe:
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/kyiv/youth-for-democracy-in-ukraine>

Other questions regarding this specific call for proposals must be sent at the latest one week before the deadline for the submission of proposals, in English and shall be exclusively sent to the following address: youthfordemocracy_ukraine@coe.int, with the following reference in subject: Question 9317/2026/01.

3. Deadline for submission

The application form, **completed and signed by all Grantees**, together with the supporting documents, must be submitted in electronic form (Word and/or PDF) to the following e-mail address: youthfordemocracy_ukraine@coe.int. Emails should contain the following reference in subject: Grant proposal 9317/2026/01 Name of the applicant

Applications must be received **before 13 April 2026 (at 23.59 CET)**. Applications received after the above mentioned date will not be considered.

4. Change, alteration and modification of the application file

Any change in the format, or any alteration or modification of the original application file, will cause the immediate rejection of the application concerned.

VI. EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

The projects presented will be assessed by an Evaluation Committee composed of staff members of the Council of Europe and the Ukrainian Youth Foundation.

The procedure shall be based on the underlying principles of grant award procedures, which are transparency, non-retroactivity, non-cumulative awards, not-for-profit, co-financing and non-discrimination, in accordance with [Rule 1374 of 16 December 2015 on the grant award procedures of the Council of Europe](#).

The applicants, and their projects, shall fulfil all of the following criteria:

1. Exclusion criteria:

Applicants shall be excluded from the grant award procedure where they or, in the case of legal persons, their owner(s) or executive officer(s):

- a) have been sentenced by final judgment on one or more of the following charges: participation in a criminal organisation, corruption, fraud, money laundering, terrorist financing, terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities, child labour or trafficking in human beings;
- b) are in a situation of bankruptcy, liquidation, termination of activity, insolvency or arrangement with creditors or any like situation arising from a procedure of the same kind, or are subject to a procedure of the same kind;
- c) have received a judgement with res judicata force, finding an offence that affects their professional integrity or constitutes a serious professional misconduct;
- d) do not comply with their obligations as regards payment of social security contributions, taxes and dues, according to the statutory provisions of the country where they are established;
- e) are an entity created to circumvent tax, social or other legal obligations (empty shell company), have ever created or are in the process of creation of such an entity;
- f) have been involved in mismanagement of the Council of Europe funds or public funds;
- g) are included in the lists of persons or entities subject to restrictive measures applied by the United Nations Security Council or the European Union.

By signing the Application Form, applicants shall declare on their honour that they are not in any of the above-mentioned situations (See **Appendix I**).

The Council of Europe reserves the right to ask applicants at a later stage to supply the following supporting documents:

- for the items set out in paragraphs a), b), c) and f), an extract from the record of convictions or failing that an equivalent document issued by the competent judicial or administrative authority of the country where the applicant is established, indicating that these requirements are met;
 - for the items set out in paragraph d), a certificate issued by the competent authority of the country of establishment;
1. for the items set out in paragraph e);
 1. for natural persons, a scanned copy of a valid photographic proof of identity (e.g. passport)
 2. for legal persons, an extract from the companies register or other official document proving ownership and control of the applicant.

2. Eligibility criteria:

In order to be eligible for a grant, an applicant must:

- be legally constituted as a civil society organisation in Ukraine;
- have a bank account;
- be entitled to carry out in Ukraine activities described in its project proposal;
- have been active for at least 2 years in the field of youth work in Ukraine;
- have sufficient financial capacity (stable and sufficient sources of funding) to maintain its activity throughout the period for which the grant is awarded and to participate by way of its own resources (including human resources or in-kind contributions)¹;
- have sufficient operational and professional capacity, including staff, to carry out activities described in its project proposal²;

Multiple applications are not allowed and shall lead to the exclusion of all applications concerned.

3. Award criteria

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- the relevance and added value of the project with regard to the objective of the call (50%)
- the extent to which the action meets the requirements of the call (10%);
- the quality, accuracy, clarity, completeness and cost-effectiveness of the application and the estimated budget (30%);
- the relevance of the experience of the applying organisation(s) and staff (10%).

VII. NOTIFICATION OF THE DECISION AND SIGNATURE OF GRANT AGREEMENTS

¹ The Council of Europe shall have full discretion in determining whether applicants are considered to have sufficient financial capacity in light of the complexity of the project/action proposed.

² The Council of Europe shall have full discretion in determining whether applicants are considered to have sufficient operational and professional capacity in light of the complexity of the project/action proposed.

On completion of the selection process, all applicants will be notified in writing of the final decision concerning their respective applications as well as on the next steps to be undertaken.

The selected Grantees will be invited to sign a Grant Agreement (See Appendix III, for information only), formalising their legal commitments. **Potential applicants are strongly advised to read the draft contract, in particular its requirements in terms of payment and reporting.**

VIII. INDICATIVE TIMETABLE

Phases	Indicative timing
Publication of the call	12.03.2026
Deadline for submitting applications	13.04.2026
Information to applicants on the results of the award procedure	13.05.2026
Signature of the grant agreements	20.05.2026
Implementation period	01.06.2026-31.08.2026

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