



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

GRANTS SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES FOR MHPSS AND NON-MHPSS PROFESSIONALS WORKING
WITH CHILDREN WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED TRAUMATIC EVENTS

№. VC 3753/2023/08

Project	COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSULTATION GROUP ON THE CHILDREN OF UKRAINE
Awarding entity	COUNCIL OF EUROPE DG II
Funding	Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine “Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction” for 2023-2026
Duration	Projects shall be implemented by 26 October 2026. Reporting requirements shall be completed by 13 November 2026.
Estimated starting date	03 August, 2026
Issuance date	23 June, 2026
Deadline for applications	16 July 2026

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ATTACHMENTS:

- Attachment I - Application Form (template)
- Attachment II - Provisional budget (template)
- Attachment III - Template Grant Agreement (for information purposes only)
- Attachment IV - Security and safety for grants in Ukraine (template)

HOW TO APPLY?

- Complete and sign the **Application Form** (See **Attachment I**)
- Attach a provisional budget (using the template reproduced in **Attachment II**)
- 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 organization (to be submitted in Ukrainian)
 - Bank certificate confirming bank details (to be submitted in English)
 - Copy of the Charter of organization, or equivalent (to be submitted in Ukrainian)
 - CV of permanent and temporary staff to be involved in grant implementation (to be submitted in English)
 - Organization's portfolio including record and experience in the sphere of MHPSS and children rights protection in Ukraine (to be submitted in English)
 - Report on the use of income (profit) of a Non-profit Organization, Balance Sheet for the most recent reporting period.
- Send these documents in electronic form (Word and/or PDF) to the following email address: cgu.grants.ukraine@coe.int
- Emails should contain the following reference in subject: **CGU Grant proposal_Name of the applicant**
- Applications shall be received before 16 July 2026 (at 23:59 Kyiv time).
- Questions with regard to this specific call for proposals must be sent in English to the following address:
- questions.cgu.grants.ukraine@coe.int.
- Email with the questions shall contain the following reference in subject: **Question with regard to the grant.**

I. INTRODUCTION

This call for proposals is launched in the framework of the Council of Europe Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine. It aims to support local projects aimed at upholding the rights of the children of Ukraine.

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

In May 2023, the Heads of State and Government of Council of Europe member States underlined in their Declaration on the situation of the children of Ukraine “the need to intensify efforts, at all levels of governance” to ensure “the effective protection of the rights of children of Ukraine” in accordance with “the applicable Council of Europe standards”.

To this end, they called on the Council of Europe “to facilitate co-operation between States, the European Union and relevant international organisations, through an appropriate mechanism”, a call that laid the foundation for the creation of the Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine (CGU).

The CGU is a multilateral platform that brings together representatives from member States, international organisations, civil society, and independent experts. Its mission is to support professionals working for and with the children of Ukraine affected by Russia’s war of aggression, to ensure that their rights are upheld. Throughout its first mandate, it revealed itself as an important peer-review platform and rapid response mechanism, fostering discussions on the most acute issues facing the children of Ukraine, whether they have remained in Ukraine, have fled or were evacuated to other Council of Europe member States, or have returned to Ukraine following unlawful deportation to Russia, Belarus, or from temporarily occupied territories.

The CGU remains rooted in the [Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine “Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction” 2023-2026](#), which places a specific emphasis on strengthening the system of protection of children’s rights. The work of CGU supports Ukraine’s efforts to protect Ukrainian children, both in Ukraine and abroad, and facilitates coordination between CoE member States in many areas, including:

access to quality education, pre-conditions for the safe return of the children of Ukraine from the Council of Europe member States, accountability for crimes against children, including child-friendly justice approaches, the impact of the indoctrination, militarisation, re-education (systematically carried out by Russia) on the mental health, development and children’s identity, conflict-related sexual violence, the impact of war on children with disabilities, and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for frontline professionals (social workers, caregivers, case managers).

The project’s key stakeholders include the Ministry of Social Policy, Family and Unity of Ukraine, the Coordination Centre for Family Upbringing and Childcare Development of Ukraine, State Children’s Affairs Service of Ukraine, and the National Social Service of Ukraine.

III. AVAILABLE BUDGET

The indicative budget available under this Call for Proposals is up to 25 000.00 EUR (twenty-five thousand Euros). The Council of Europe intends to award **two** separate grants (hereinafter, “grant number one” and “grant number two”) that have different purposes.

Grant number one amounts to up to 5 000 EUR and is aimed solely at developing awareness raising materials described in the Means of Action section.

Grant number two amounts to up to 20 000 EUR and is aimed at the development of a working methodology/recommendations and delivery of trainings. All three preliminary proposed means of action under grant number two should not exceed 20 000 EUR.

Subject to availability of funds and the extension of the Project planned 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 support frontline professionals with and without a background in psychology who work directly with children affected by war-related trauma, including but not limited to those children victims or witnesses to conflict-related sexual violence. The grants should include one or more of the following areas:

- developing educational materials for children about their rights;
- developing a methodology and delivering training for non-MHPSS social workers on how to work with children who have experienced traumatic events;
- developing a methodology and delivering training for MHPSS workers on self-care, preventing professional burnout and vicarious trauma;
- developing educational materials for professionals working with children who have experienced, either as victims or as witnesses Conflict-related Sexual Violence (CRSV).

2. Means of action

Projects for **grant number one** may include:

1. Producing a leaflet-style deliverable containing disability-friendly information about the rights of children with disabilities, co-created with children with disabilities during a workshop or other relevant group activity.

Projects for **grant number two** may include:

1. developing a methodology for non-MHPSS social workers based on the [Manual For Professionals: Mental health and psycho-social support for children in crisis and emergency situations](#) (Ukrainian translation of the Manual will be provided by CGU) on how to work with children who have experienced traumatic events with further organisation and delivery of a training to relevant professionals with a focus on frontline regions.
2. developing a methodology, training materials for and delivery of a training for professionals of a multiagency support team with background in psychology on professional burnout and vicarious trauma, including the development of recommendations for self-care.
3. developing a set of recommendations and short guidance notes for professionals working with children affected by conflict-related sexual violence (victims, witnesses, family members). This may complement the trainings indicated above (i.e victims, witnesses, family members).

Applicants may apply for one or both of the grants in the same application. The application form should indicate the grant/s for which the application is being submitted.

3. Implementation period

The implementation period of the projects should start on 03.08.2026 (see indicative timetable under VIII below) and shall not extend beyond 26.10.2026

Reporting requirements shall be completed on 13.11.2026 **at the latest**.

Projects completed prior to the date of submission of the applications will be automatically excluded. As regards 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 the following key stakeholders:

- MHPSS frontline professionals (psychologists, social workers having a psychology background);
- Non-MHPSS frontline professionals (social workers, caregivers, case managers).

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 Attachment II**). The maximum contribution to be financed by the Council of Europe shall not exceed **5 000 EUR** for **Grant number one** and **20 000 EUR** for **Grant number two**.

All three preliminary proposed means of action under **grant number two** should not exceed **20 000 EUR**. 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 organisations in partnership with national or local authorities;
- Projects/actions targeting broadly children, frontline professionals with and without MHPSS background;
- Projects/actions involving frontline professionals 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 the 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 the 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 /trainings, 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 the case of a Consortium to consult the Council of Europe.

V. HOW TO APPLY?

1. Documents to be submitted:

Each application shall be sent in the following format: **Name for the file__Name of the applicant**

- the completed and signed **Application Form** (See **Attachment I**); CGU Application Form_Name of the Applicant;
- a provisional budget (using the template reproduced in **Attachment II**); CGU provisional budget_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 organization (to be submitted in Ukrainian);
 - Bank certificate confirming bank details (to be submitted in English);
 - Copy of the Charter of organization, or equivalent (to be submitted in Ukrainian);
 - CV of permanent and temporary staff to be involved in grant implementation (to be submitted in English);
 - Organisation's portfolio including record and experience in the sphere of MHPSS and children rights protection in Ukraine (to be submitted in English).
 - Report on the use of income (profits) of a non-profit organization (Звіт про використання доходів (прибутків) неприбуткової організації), Balance sheet (Баланс), for the most recent reporting period.

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/children/cgu>

Other questions regarding this specific call for proposals must be sent **by 08.07.2026 (23.59 Kyiv time)** in English and shall be exclusively sent to the following address: questions.cgu.grants.ukraine@coe.int with the following reference in subject: **“Question with regard to the grant”**. A single consolidated document containing all responses to questions received via email will be published after the question submission deadline.

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 PDF) to the following e-mail address: cgu.grants.ukraine@coe.int. Emails should contain the following reference in subject: **CGU Grant proposal_Name of the applicant**.

Applications must be received **before 16.07.2026 (at 23.59 Kyiv time)** 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 three staff members of the Council of Europe.

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 **Attachment 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 organization 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 children's rights protection in Ukraine.

- in respect of **grant number one**, have confirmed expertise in developing educational materials, as evidenced by the information included in the supporting documents;
- in respect of **grant number two**, have confirmed expertise in developing training materials/methodologies, drafting recommendations/guidelines and delivering trainings for MHPSS and non-MHPSS target audiences, as evidenced by the information included in the supporting documents;
- 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

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 Attachment III, for information purposes 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	23.06.2026
Deadline for submitting applications	16.07.2026
Information to applicants on the results of the award procedure	24.07.2026
Signature of the grant agreements	31.07.2026
Implementation period	03.08.2026 – 26.10.2026

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.