

Call for Applications



One Europe, Endless Stories

We invite you to apply for a grant for journalists from three European countries to jointly produce content covering an urgent topic on the continent. The content will be made accessible through the new platform displayeurope.eu. The Display Europe micro-grants scheme will be open on a rolling basis until April 2024.

Democracies can only function properly if a public sphere underpins them. Europe needs spaces where all its inhabitants – regardless of their economic, social, cultural or national backgrounds – can connect, share ideas, debate opinions, practice culture, and find reliable information to hold the powerful to account. The public sphere is necessary as it secures proximity that enables connection, reflection and engagement. Therefore, this opportunity of coming together and engaging with the public space reinstates the self as such, but also in relation with the others, simultaneously. Media outlets and digital infrastructures based on shared public values are vital elements for such an inclusive space. In this manner, displayeurope.eu anchors itself as a space for the suggested congregationalism. It creates and maintains a space for stories that stem from a site-specific ground, such as a locality or region, and creates content that reaches over, bridges, and connects.

The architects of Display Europe believe in a European media grounded in public values and inclusivity. We need a shared European media that reflects the reality of lives shared within a European public space and articulates issues that shape and mark these lives, regardless of the countries they inhabit. Most European media look at the world through a national lens, meaning Europeans have very few opportunities to see the Europeanness of issues affecting their lives. Focused national lenses imply exclusivity and a biased approach to shared values, leaving the citizens less aware of injustices, common causes and the multitudes of cultures they share.

The stories that displayeurope.eu seeks through this micro-grant Call need to be ambitious as they push for, through their content, the potential for cultural cross-referenced articulation and understanding. As such, the Call aims to bring in journalistic storytelling that over-arches the strictly national cultural tonality and

induces a broader sense of European identity. Holding onto public values, the platform aspires to harbour growth, care, curiosity, knowledge, and connection.

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR

This micro-grant open call will be opened on a monthly rolling basis. It will support small media organisations and/or individual journalists from at least three European countries to cross-collaborate and produce journalistic content in all possible formats.

Granted projects will be encouraged and receive the technical and financial support to make their content available for the search, recommendation and translation functions of displayeurope.eu. The granted projects will be promoted on displayeurope.eu and the European Cultural Foundation's website. Grantees will receive mentoring support from consortium partner [Hostwriter](#) based on their experience with cross-border journalism. Hostwriter will provide bespoke training and mentoring to grantees according to their needs. Teams will receive training in cross-border methodology and mindset as well as optional training in solutions journalism and covering underreported stories. Other topics, such as applying for grants and pitching to international media, can also be covered upon request.

WHAT WE OFFER

To help journalists meet other fellow journalists and cross-examine their potential for collaboration, Hostwriter will secure a channel on their site that will help in the potential teaming up. Link here: bit.ly/3QKSfxa

Once teamed up, the journalists and/or small media organisations can apply for the micro-grant up to a maximum of **€2.000** per project. Please note that there is a limited availability of the awarded grants: i.e., 20 to 25 small collaborative cross-border projects in total may be funded with the maximum grant amount. With a project term lasting 1-2 months, grants can finance the proposal's production, i.e., staff fees and other operational costs such as travel, accommodation or equipment. Additionally, to the grant scheme, Display Europe has been set up by a consortium of independent media organisations that want to collaborate on a European level. Applying for this call is an opportunity to become part of that family which intends to expand each other's network with like-minded outlets from across the continent.

OVERALL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Applications must be submitted in English through the official application form. However, the work samples requested in the application can be in any other European language. Including additional video material in the

application is optional. If submitting supplementary video material, please limit to an MP4 format that may not exceed 1 minute in length and preferably (but not mandatorily) with English subtitles;

- ❑ This call is open to small media organisations and individual journalists (older than 18 years and backed by a fiscal sponsor) from at least three European countries;
- ❑ We are open to different formats of journalistic work: audio/video, text and other multi-media outlet options;
- ❑ The applicant and/or legal entity receiving the grant should be based in the European Union;
- ❑ Access and publishing on the displayeurope.eu platform will be granted to anyone complying with the editorial charter and the code of conduct of Display that will be introduced if awarded;
- ❑ We do not accept proposals submitted by political parties. Our work is strictly non-partisan.

HOW IT WORKS

You are invited to fill out a short application form, providing background about yourself, your partners, and/or organisation, explaining what content you plan to produce, and the proposals' timeline. You are also requested to submit a budget specifying how you plan to use the grant.

An independent jury of seasoned journalists and journalism experts will evaluate proposals. They will assess the proposals based on the previously noted European relevance issues and according to the following criteria:

- ❑ Themes of pan-European relevance and urgency;
- ❑ Inventiveness and boldness of the stories or ideas;
- ❑ Respect for quality and journalistic standards. [Displayeurope.eu](https://displayeurope.eu) follows the standards of the [Journalism Trust Initiative](#);
- ❑ Elaborated collaboration with other journalists (from at least three European countries);
- ❑ Priority will be given to media organisations and journalists based in countries that implore plurality due to the lack of diversity in their national media landscape;
- ❑ Realistic budget and timing.

The Display Europe micro-grants scheme will be open until March 31, 2024. The independent jury will session monthly, and their selection results will be

announced every 16th of the current month; the selected proposal will be able to commence production on the 1st day of the consecutive month. Selected proposals, as well as the rejected proposals, will receive a notification.

ABOUT DISPLAYEUROPE.EU

Displayeurope.eu will be a ground-breaking media platform anchored in public values, built by independent, not-for-profit media organisations across Europe. The platform will provide citizens across the continent with access to trustworthy information and a picture of Europe that is not usually conveyed by mainstream or national media organisations. We will gather and disseminate trustworthy community-driven media from Cape Roca to the Ural watershed through translation, syndication, and originally created content. Built from a sovereign, self-governed, open-source digital infrastructure, displayeurope.eu will break free from the Big Tech social media and streaming platforms that currently filter and frame media production across Europe. In this more democratic display of Europe, we will be a force for democracy across the continent.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For further inquiries, please contact:

Display Europe Team

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This call is managed by

The logo for the European Cultural Foundation, featuring the text "European Cultural Foundation" in a bold, red, sans-serif font. A horizontal red line is positioned above the word "European".

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