



CALL

for Expressions of Interest for Cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean Region in the Field of „Intergenerational Cooperation in Local Communities“

I. INTRODUCTION

The National Foundation for Civil Society Development, through its Euro-Mediterranean activities, promotes **cooperation among civil society organisations, research institutions and other stakeholders** from various countries of the Euro-Mediterranean region. The aim is to develop partnerships that contribute to sustainable development, social cohesion and the strengthening of democratic participation by citizens.

Particular emphasis is placed on **the exchange of knowledge, the development of innovative approaches and the networking of organisations** working on shared social challenges within the Euro-Mediterranean area.

In 2025, the National Foundation launched the implementation of the programme entitled im:PACT – Innovations for the Mediterranean, aimed at developing cross-sectoral and cross-border partnerships in the region. The programme brings together foundations, other civil society organisations and research institutions in order to develop innovative solutions to challenges such as migration and social cohesion, environmental protection and climate resilience, and inclusive socio-economic development.

This programme represents an initiative for networking and cooperation with public institutions, foundations and organisations dealing with Mediterranean issues in nine European Union Member States located on the Mediterranean: Cyprus, France, Greece, Croatia, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain.

Today, the Mediterranean is a region where global challenges intersect with particular intensity: climate change, environmental degradation, migration pressures, social and economic inequalities, demographic challenges and democratic fragility. These interconnected challenges make the Mediterranean a key area for advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in practice. However, while the SDGs provide a common global framework, their impact depends on meaningful regional and local implementation.

The iM:PACT programme aims to create new and concrete activities for sustainable development, based on the idea of a fair and inclusive society through the implementation of cross-border joint innovations in areas such as: children and youth, longevity and active ageing, the green transition, renewable energy sources, sustainable tourism, cultural diversity, climate change, food security, and others.

This approach is founded on the principles of the [Zadar Declaration](#) “Let Us Act FOR the Mediterranean”, which emphasises the importance of human rights, inclusiveness and cross-sectoral cooperation in addressing the region’s shared challenges.

In this context, at the beginning of 2026, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Anna Lindh Foundation and the National Foundation for Civil Society Development regarding the implementation of the iM:PACT – Innovations for the Mediterranean programme **in three thematic areas of intergenerational cooperation aimed at fostering inclusive societies within the Euro-Mediterranean area.**

Through its Euro-Mediterranean initiatives, the National Foundation contributes to **strengthening international cooperation, developing new partnerships and creating sustainable solutions to the region’s common challenges**, in accordance with the principles of sustainable development and cooperation among Euro-Mediterranean societies.

II. CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Purpose of the Call

The purpose of this Call for Expressions of Interest is to support and empower interested organisations which, through joint cooperation in an international partnership and as creators of positive change in their local communities, will develop initiatives and activities as models that can contribute to achieving the objectives of intergenerational cooperation and social inclusion related to the three thematic areas of cooperation.

The programme areas of cooperation are:

- 1) Arts and culture in local (rural) communities for connecting generations;
- 2) Youth: community strength through social innovation and entrepreneurship; and
- 3) Intergenerational cooperation for the development of local community potential.

Through this Call, the National Foundation seeks to establish cooperation with organisations who express interest in implementing effective, concrete and innovative activities for sustainable development in the Euro-Mediterranean region in the above-mentioned areas and who, through pilot implementation of their model, also offer the possibility of its adoption and further expansion to other interested local communities, whether in the Republic of Croatia or in other Euro-Mediterranean countries.

This Call is implemented in three levels:

Level 1: Expression of Interest

Following the publication of the Call for Expressions of Interest, interested organisations from the Republic of Croatia may express interest in cooperation with the National Foundation by submitting a cooperation proposal as applicants.

In this stage, applicants must complete the prescribed forms and submit the required documentation in accordance with the conditions of the Call, together with a clear description of their field of work, planned contribution and capacity to implement the activities.

Applicants must demonstrate, through their proposed activities, alignment with the objectives of the thematic cooperation area for which they are applying, as well as readiness for cooperation and networking with international partners involved in the proposal.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

1.1 Applicants

Who may apply

Only organisations that are **members of the Croatian Network for Cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean Region** (according to the updated official [list](#) published on the National Foundation's website as the Network Coordinator) and **that obtained membership before the date of publication of this Call** may submit proposals.

Who may not apply

The following **may not** submit proposals under this Call:

- organisations that are not members of the Croatian Network for Cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean Region;
- organisations that are not registered and active in the Republic of Croatia in accordance with applicable regulations;
- organisations undergoing bankruptcy or liquidation proceedings or whose bank accounts are blocked;
- organisations founded by political parties, trade unions or religious organisations;
- organisations receiving Systemic Support from the National Foundation (Basic, National and Thematic);
- organisations that have concluded a Development Cooperation Agreement with the National Foundation within the framework of Knowledge Centres for Social Development, Programme Cooperation through the Programme of Regional

Development of Civil Society in the Republic of Croatia, the “Active in the Community” Programme, or the i3.0 Strategic Partnership.

Proposals under this Call must be submitted in a partnership of two (2) organisations: the *Applicant* and an (international) *Partner*.

Applicants must submit a cooperation proposal in partnership with a member of one of the Anna Lindh Foundation - ALF National Networks (outside the Croatian Network) that has previous experience in promoting local community activities within the programme areas covered by this Call.

The proposal shall be submitted by the Applicant (as the lead organisation) with the consent of the international partner and an explanation of its role in the planned activities, using the prescribed forms.

1.2 Eligible activities

Proposals for establishing cooperation with the National Foundation within the framework of this Call must include concrete, effective and innovative activities to be implemented in local communities and designed to be accessible and inclusive, encouraging cooperation and the exchange of experience.

Eligible activities are those aimed at improving the quality of life in local communities and promoting social inclusion by empowering citizens of all generations to become “change-makers” through cooperation. This is achieved through the design and implementation of pilot models that address local challenges and improve shared community spaces, relationships and services in one of the three specified cooperation areas.

Priority will be given to activities that are accessible to a larger number of beneficiaries, adapted to excluded, marginalised or vulnerable groups, and designed to remain sustainable after the end of financial support.

1.3 Area of implementation

Activities shall be implemented in the Republic of Croatia and partly in the country where the partner organisation operates, primarily at the local level through the exchange of knowledge and experience.

1.4 Selection criteria

In addition to the mandatory membership in the Croatian Network, consideration will also be given to the applicant’s previous engagement in the Network’s work (attendance at

meetings, participation in joint activities, responses to the Coordinator's enquiries, completion of surveys, etc.).

The following elements will also be assessed:

- quality and clarity of the proposed activities;
- number and profile of beneficiaries involved;
- involvement of young people and older persons;
- cooperation with the local community;
- organisational capacity of the Applicant and Partner;
- innovation and applicability of the proposed model; and
- sustainability of the model.

1.5 Implementation period

Planned activities may be carried out from **1 December 2026 to 30 November 2027**. Activities may be implemented continuously or in cycles during this period.

1.6 Financial framework

The amount of financial support per proposal is **up to EUR 25,000.00**.

The funds are intended to cover costs directly related to the implementation of activities, in accordance with the cost specification forming part of the application documentation.

1.7 Number of grants

Up to 15 cooperation grants with the National Foundation will be approved under this Call. Each applicant may submit only one proposal. The number of participations of the same international partner in proposals submitted by different applicants is not limited.

Second level: Analysis of proposals and interviews

After all proposals have been received, the National Foundation's evaluation bodies will assess them in accordance with the Rules on Conditions and Procedures for the Allocation of Funds for the Achievement of the Foundation's Purpose.

The assessment will include verification of eligibility requirements and evaluation of proposal quality.

Depending on the number of proposals received and the complexity of the proposed activities, the National Foundation may organise individual meetings or interviews with applicants (either at the Foundation's premises or online) in order to gain a more detailed understanding of their operating models, planned activities and expected contribution.

All applicants will be informed in due time of any such meetings.

Third level: Decision on acceptance of proposals, contracting and commencement of implementation

Following the assessment and any interviews, the evaluation bodies will prepare a final list of selected proposals, including descriptions of planned activities and proposed amounts of financial support.

The final proposal will be submitted to the Governing Board of the National Foundation for Civil Society Development for consideration and adoption of the funding decision. All applicants will be informed of the results of the Call in due time.

Finally, the National Foundation for Civil Society Development will conclude agreements with the selected organisations, thereby formally initiating the implementation of the planned activities.

III. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Proposals under this Call for Expressions of Interest must be uploaded to www.financijskepodrske.hr no later than **10 September 2026 at 12:00 noon**.

IV. METHOD OF SUBMISSION

TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS (*not translated, for Applicants only*)

V. APPLICATION DOCUMENTATION

A. Documentation that needs to be uploaded to the www.financijskepodrske.hr system by 10 September 2026 at 12:00:

1. Completed proposal form in .DOC format (*NFCSD template*);
2. Completed budget form in .XLS format (*NFCSD template*);
3. Declaration of participation in the partnership (*NFCSD template*) – *scanned* (Note: (1) a qualified electronic signature in accordance with the Electronic Signature Act is also accepted; (2) if the organisation does not use an official stamp, a Declaration on the Non-use of an Official Stamp, signed by the authorised representative, must be attached.)
4. Tax Administration certificate confirming no outstanding public liabilities (not older than 30 days) – original document. The certificate must have been issued no more than 30 days before the date on which the Call for Proposals was published – *scanned copy*;

5. Confirmation from the ALF Secretariat that the partner organisation is a member of the relevant National Network (the document is prepared by the Partner Organisation and uploaded by the Applicant) – *scanned*.

Note: If the organisation has aligned its Articles of Association with the provisions of the Associations Act (Official Gazette No. 74/2014), but the updated Articles are not yet available in the Register of Associations, a scanned copy of the Articles of Association must also be uploaded to the system.

**Important note**

Each uploaded document must not exceed 12 MB.

Multi-page scanned documents must be uploaded as a single PDF file.

B. Application Documentation to be Submitted by Email**Scanned Verification Document:**

- certified with the organisation's official stamp and signed by the person authorised to represent the association (*Note: (1) a qualified electronic signature in accordance with the Electronic Signature Act is also accepted; (2) if the organisation does not use an official stamp, a Declaration on the Non-use of an Official Stamp, signed by the authorised representative, must be attached when submitting the verification document by email*);
- submitted exclusively by email, within the prescribed application period, no later than **10 September 2026 at 3:00 p.m.**, to: alf@zaklada.civilnodrustvo.hr, with the subject line: **"EuroMed Cooperation Call"**.

Do Not Forget!

All of the above documentation must be uploaded to the www.financijskepodrske.hr system. Upon completion of the application procedure through the system, the verification document generated for the uploaded documentation must be printed, **certified with the organisation's official stamp, signed by the person authorised to represent the association, scanned, and submitted exclusively by email within the prescribed deadline.**

If the Applicant fails to complete the required forms, to upload the required documentation through the www.financijskepodrske.hr system, and to submit the verification document in the prescribed manner and within the prescribed deadline, the application will be deemed not to have met the basic eligibility requirements.

NOTES ON PREPARING THE DOCUMENTATION**Narrative Application Form**

- All questions contained in the form must be answered.

- As an additional check of the completed documentation, use the checklist provided on the final page of the form and mark each attached document accordingly.
- The narrative application form must be submitted in an editable **.doc** format.
- The form does not need to be signed separately. The signature and official stamp of the authorised representative on the verification document (submitted by email) confirm that the authorised representative has reviewed and agrees with the contents of the proposal.

Budget Form

- The budget form contains built-in formulas that automatically total the amounts entered under individual cost categories and calculate the overall budget. For this reason, additional rows cannot be added independently. If you require additional budget lines, please contact alf@zaklada.civilnodrustvo.hr for guidance.
- The form should include costs for the one-year implementation period of the grant support (*1 December 2026 to 30 November 2027*), expressed in euros (EUR).
- The budget form must include costs for both the Applicant and the international partner, presented separately. As funds may not be transferred to another organisation's bank account, all costs relating to the international partner must be entered under a separate cost category.
- Costs must relate exclusively to activities and objectives of the Call.
- When preparing the budget, ensure that remuneration for any individual is not included under multiple budget lines. In addition, each planned payment should indicate the full name of the recipient, where known at the time of submission.
- The budget should be realistic and aligned with the activity plan described in the application form.

Additional Recommendations for Preparing the Documentation

- All files must be prepared in editable formats (.doc, .xls), while scanned documents must be submitted in .pdf format.
- File names should clearly indicate both the name of the organisation and the type of document (e.g. *Association_XY_Application_Form.doc*).
- Applications containing incomplete or illegible documentation will not be considered.

VI. AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTATION

The documentation required for submission is available on the National Foundation's official website, <https://zaklada.civilnodrustvo.hr>, and through the www.financijskepodrske.hr system. Applications may, however, be submitted exclusively through the www.financijskepodrske.hr system.

VII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL

Applicants may submit questions relating to the conditions of this Call during two consultation periods: from **13 July to 24 July 2026** (inclusive) and from **20 August to 28 August 2026**, by email to alf@zaklada.civilnodrustvo.hr.