

TRAVEL and LEARNING grant Western Balkans



Rockefeller
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Call for Proposals Western Balkans Travel and Learning Fund

Trag Foundation, with the financial support of the Rockefeller Brothers Foundation, announces a Call for Proposals for the Western Balkans Travel and Learning Fund.

Trag mission is to contribute in building active and open local communities by providing assistance to joint initiatives of citizens in these communities. Trag does this by providing financial support, promoting philanthropy, and other types of support when needed.

Trag Foundation has been investing in knowledge and learning opportunities for its extensive list of partners and grantees for many years. Trag understands and appreciates the value of providing opportunities for continued learning and exchange, which is particularly important for the Western Balkans countries, often on the margins of the mainstream trends and knowledge. For that reason, Trag is proud to be able to provide further additional support to civic activists, policymakers, and researchers from the Western Balkans who seek to strengthen connections within the region, as well as bring more recent insights from wider Europe and the world back home, for the benefit of their communities and society at large.

The aim of the Call is to **support the participation of qualified individuals in various conferences, study groups, and exchange programs**, that are aligned with the RBF's Western Balkans program strategies in:

- ✓ supporting efforts to improve transparency and accountability in governance;
- ✓ strengthening constituencies for reconciliation and enduring peace;
- ✓ advancing sustainable development, focusing on renewable energy and healthy environments; supporting the development of indigenous philanthropy to advance social transformation.

Who can apply?

Applications are open for registered civic organizations and individuals from Western Balkan countries.

Individuals applying for the support must be representatives or belong to one of the registered organizations. Individuals may be employed, volunteer, advisor or consultant in the organization. Individuals who receive support will be obliged to sign a memorandum of cooperation with the organization they cooperate with.

Applications from profit initiatives, state institutions and government bodies, local authorities, public institutions, educational and cultural institutions, international organizations, political organizations and parties will not be considered.

Within the Western Balkans Travel and Learning Fund, Trag Foundation will provide financial support **for participation in various conferences, study groups, and exchange programs**

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in Wider Europe.

Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals related to the programs that are focused on the following topics:

1. Closing political and public space for citizen participation
2. Undeveloped indigenous philanthropy
3. Lack of effective incentives for socio-economic development in remote and rural areas
4. Deteriorating levels of local social service provision
5. Prevailing gender inequality
6. Lack of rule of law and weak democratic institutions

Support from the Western Balkans Travel and Learning Fund is intended for the following expenses:

1. **Travel and Logistical Arrangements** - support for arranging all aspects of domestic and international travel, including air and ground transportation, reservation of lodging, and handling of all payments for meeting costs and other project expenses, such as participation fees, travel stipends, etc.
2. **Travel Insurance and Medical Emergency** - health and accident insurance policy should represent a constitutive element of grantees' travel budgets. Relevant support in medical emergencies will be an integral part of the insurance policy.

What is the amount of the donation?

Through this Call, Trag Foundation will provide financial support ranging from \$2,000 to \$4,000 USD to between four to six grantees.

The duration of projects:

The projects should last from one to three months (November - January).

How to apply?

Interested associations and individuals are invited to submit their proposals by [filling out the online Application Form](#).

Applications can be sent no later than **November 27 at midnight**.

For any inquiries or clarifications related to the call, we invite you to contact the Trag Foundation team via email at prijave@tragfondacija.org.

Selection Criteria

The projects will be approved by the Selection Committee following the criteria outlined in the Call and "first-come, first-served" principle. The Call for Proposals will be officially closed when all the available funds have been fully allocated.

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Fund transfer

When registered organization applies for funds, the financial support will be provided through the Grant Agreement. In cases where an individual applies for funding, the disbursement will be made through a Grant Agreement with the organization they specified in their application as their cooperating partner. The partner organization will use received funds to cover all travel-related expenses of the applicant.

All grantees are obliged to submit a narrative report, along with a financial report about to the Trag Foundation after the project's completion.