



# To Together, Moving Forward

**Students and refugees uniting for  
integration in society and education**

**Deadline for applications:  
15th APRIL 2018, 23:59 Brussels time**

*“Education is a human right. Any person with a desire to learn should be afforded the opportunity to do so. Therefore, we should open our education institutions to anyone fleeing situation of conflict, terror, hunger and violation of human rights (from the ESU 2015 European Students call for pan-European and proactive solidarity with refugees)”*

## Small-grants supporting inclusion

‘Together, Moving Forward’ is a small grants programme run by ESU aiming at building positive refugee-host interactions across Europe.

We kicked off this programme in the winter of 2016. Since then, we supported several valuable projects, shared views with resourceful activists and creative change-makers. We are also still confronted with little or uneven progress made by European governments and education systems, and perhaps an even more polarized public discourse regarding refugees and migrants.

We want to continue our efforts to encourage and promote valuable and viable options for refugees and asylum seekers to access and benefit from education, and be part in our communities.

We are inviting and supporting university students and refugees to work together and get the system “unstuck”. Combine your creativity to kickstart actions in Europe that tackle the main barriers limiting the access and inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers in education and society.

## Our objectives

With this programme, we want to **inspire change and:**

-  Reshape public discourse around forced migration and confront hate speech in our societies
-  Inspire student-led initiatives addressing refugees’ and asylum seekers’ living conditions and not least their access to education
-  Build capacity for student representatives to be more responsive to issues related to forced migration, focusing on social inclusion and access to education
-  Empower National Student Unions to promote and advocate for clear policies that ease the access of refugees and asylum seekers to Higher Education
-  Open up to new student groups and other stakeholders active on refugee issues, especially education
-  Build long-lasting links between refugees, their communities, and student communities

## What we fund

We want to fund and support **student-led** initiatives at local, national or international level. You can apply for **any sum up to 10,000 EUR**. In case you apply for a project with a clear and relevant international component, the maximum can be 12,000 EUR.

**We fund:** project costs, including staff salaries up to 20% of the total grant (if sustainable and relevant).

**We do NOT fund:** scholarships and student fees, building (rent) or equipment costs (printers or computers, for instance).

You can decide on the actions and focus of the projects, but to be chosen they **MUST**:

- have a clear link with the objectives of the call
- show good understanding of the context and needs being addressed
- take on actions that are relevant to those needs
- be student-led or have a strong student participation

In the past year, we have funded:

an anti-hate speech campaign /// awareness raising campaigns /// production of infographics and videos /// grassroots student initiatives supporting refugee kids and their families /// a website /// two mentoring programmes for refugee students /// capacity building events for students /// representatives and youth activists /// advocacy trainings and actions

Read more about our [past projects](#) to get inspired.

## Who can apply

In four simple points:

1. The programme is open to all organisations, not just ESU members.
2. Applicant organisations need to provide copies of their statutes as an organisation or a copy of their official registration in the country. Furthermore, organisations applying need to show an audit report proving the soundness of their financial system or a copy of accounts covering the last financial year should they not have an audited version
3. If you are an informal group of students, you can contact a local or national union of students, or another established organisation and ask for their support.
4. No application from a single individual will be accepted.

We encourage **student-led** groups, especially ESU members and local students' unions, as well as **refugee-led or migrant-led** organisations to apply for a grant.

We also strongly encourage **partnerships between organisations**, with the aim of enlarging the scope, expertise and influence of each project.

## How to apply

The application process is in two stages:

### STAGE 1: Tell us about your project idea

Concept Note  
Budget Proposal

Tell us about your project. Answer four simple questions to describe what you want to accomplish, why and how. Include relevant, precise information but keep it under 2,000 words (about four A4 pages). We will tell you within two weeks if your project can go on to the next stage.

### STAGE 2: Convince us to work with you

Provide further details, including info on project planning, financial status & proof of registration as an organisation, task division, communication...

Our follow up questions will partially depend on the size of the grant you request and for sure on the clarity of your first stage application. The clearer the first stage, the easier the second.

To help you get ready, we prepared a list of questions (in the application pack) we will most likely ask at STAGE 2. You will have about two weeks to come back to us. We will decide in about three weeks from then.

## How we select

A selection committee including a mix of ESU alumni and students with refugee-background, a representative of an international organisation active in the same field, one ESU staff will be in charge of selection.

We designed a list of selection criteria which will be applied in evaluating every single project. Read more about them and find some tips in our [Key principles and Selection Criteria](#) resource.

## Application tips

- Write in clear and simple English
- Support your claims with facts and data
- Tackle a concrete issue with concrete actions. Expect concrete results
- Ensure you have explained well enough why your approach is relevant, what you are going to do and how you are going to do it
- Get familiar with the [key principles and selection criteria](#)
- Ask someone who doesn't know you or the project to read the proposal before you submit it. They can spot what is missing or what is not clear.

## Apply now

You've got the rules, the tips and hopefully an idea. Download the [application package](#) on our website.

**>> Deadline for STAGE 1 applications is 15 APRIL 2018 <<**

Based on the application process, expect to know whether your project is approved in about 7 weeks from the Stage 1 application deadline. Get ready to sign the grant agreements and start your project. 70% of the grant will be in your bank account soon after that. The remaining 30% will have to wait until after the validation of the financial and narrative report.

**Other deadlines will be communicated at a later stage.**

## Need more help from ESU?

- Contact our programme coordinator at [movingforward@esu-online.org](mailto:movingforward@esu-online.org) with specific questions. If you prefer the phone, call +32 2 893 25 49 during working hours
- Discuss it with one of the former grantees ([find contacts on website](#))
- Have a look at our [FAQ page](#)