esu
european students' union

OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS

Together, moving forward

Students and refugees uniting for integration in society and education

Deadline for applications:
11th JANUARY 2017, 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)"

Get the system unstuck - for integration

About one year ago ESU members called for pan-European and proactive solidarity with refugees. Since then, we have seen hundreds of initiatives, including student-led ones, showing solidarity, creativity and resourcefulness. We also witnessed, though, a continuing and substantial lack of clear European leadership, and a worrying rise in negative discourses regarding refugees and migrants.

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

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 inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers in education and society.

With the 'Together, Moving Forward' programme **we want to be change-makers** and:

- Reshape public discourse around refugees and confront hate speech in our societies
- Encourage and provide strong basis for refugee student participation in our communities
- Inspire student-led initiatives addressing refugee living conditions and not least their access to education
- Build capacity for student representatives to be more responsive to issues related to refugee education
- Empower National Student Unions to promote and advocate for clear policies that ease the access of refugee students to Higher Education
- Open up to new student groups and create partnerships with different stakeholders active on refugee issues, especially refugee education
- Build long-lasting links between refugees, their communities, and student communities

Whatever the shape of the projects, they will be a source of experience, knowledge and mutual understanding. The programme will be a learning ground for cooperation between National Student Unions and others already working in the field, especially refugees and asylum seekers themselves. We are confident that these projects will help us build a series of dialogues and common actions towards truly inclusive Higher Education systems and communities in Europe.

Get your idea funded!

We call upon ALL National Student Unions (NUSes) - and ALL students through them - to send us their proposals for projects and actions at the local, regional, national, or international levels!

Three types of grants are available to support your initiatives:

		Activities that could be covered, for instance:
Small Grants	Any sum up to 4000€	Small-scale projects, local grassroots initiatives, public debates, research projects, parts of bigger projects, campaigns, infographics and communication materials...
Large Grants	Sums between 4000€ and 12000€	Involvement of more students, different local activities in the same country, a national training event, combination of different activities (e.g. campaign + training + public event)...
International Grants	Up to 15000€	Projects in which the partnership and activities are - regardless of the number of countries involved - international in essence and where the international aspect is a clear added value

The grants cannot cover salaries, overhead costs (e.g. purchase of printers and electronics), office rent and administrative costs not clearly connected to the project.

For any grant above 4000€, the organisation applying will need to present an audit report showing the soundness of the organisation's financial system.

What What What are looking for?

Any project can work, really: campaigns /// awareness raising events /// production of communication materials /// grassroots initiatives for integration /// welcome activities for new arrivals with refugee background /// capacity building events for students representatives and/or refugee activists ...

They are **good projects to us** if they:

- have a clear link with the objectives of the call
- show a good understanding of the context with regards to the needs being addressed
- provide relevant answers to those needs

Moreover, you should keep in mind seven **key principles** when designing your project:

1. Know your context
2. Build on good practices or try something new
3. Be sustainable
4. Go for wider audiences
5. Promote equality (gender, disability, minorities)
6. Explore partnerships
7. Fund yourself

Read more about them and find some tips in Annex I - Key principles and Selection Criteria.

Finally, projects need to last minimum three months and be over by the end of 2017 the latest.

And now that you are motivated

Can I apply? Can my friends apply? Can everybody apply?

All full members of ESU can apply to the programme, individually or in partnership. We know local unions or student groups will surely have bright ideas for this programme. In that case, we still need them to apply through their National Student Unions.

Fear of being left out? Actually, organisations that are not ESU full-members can join as members of a partnership led by one of the NUSes.

So why not reach out to:

- local student unions
- secondary school student unions (see OBESSU membership)
- other student organisations
- refugee-led formal or informal groups
- teachers' trade unions
- stakeholders active on the topic of inclusion and/or refugee rights
- universities
- youth groups

Please bear in mind that no application from a single individual will be accepted.

How things are going down, for your information

Fill the online application form (don't forget the attachments). Here's a word document to help you out during the drafting process.

Deadline for applications is on the 11th January 2017 - 23:59 Brussels time

If you are short on time, no need to worry. There will be two more deadlines (one in March and one in April/May). Projects that aren't selected in the first deadline might be taken in consideration for following deadlines.

You've got the form, the rules and hopefully an idea. Write well. Go bold and creative. We need that! Our selection committee will be reading through all your applications and assess them individually on the basis of these selection criteria and the seven key principle mentioned above. We have in mind the exact group of people that we trust with your projects.

By the first week of February they will have made their decision. ESU will contact all those that applied with the news. 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.

Need more help from ESU?

- Contact Francesca, our programme coordinator, at movingforward@esu-online.org with specific questions (less availability between Dec 17th and Jan 10th)
- Send in your application before the deadline so we can come back to you with relevant questions to help you improve your application
- Have one of your student representatives join our info session at the Board Meeting Seminar on 29-30 November in Gdansk, Poland
- Save a date for a Capacity Building Event which will be held 12-14 February in Brussels

Good luck, and looking forward to seeing your ideas shape up - for integration