



TOGETHER, MOVING FORWARD

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Students and refugee students uniting for
inclusion in society and education

**EXCEPTIONAL FUNDS RESPONDING TO COVID-19
CONSEQUENCES FOR STUDENTS WITH REFUGEE AND
MIGRANTS BACKGROUNDS**

Deadline for applications -
18 OCTOBER 2020 - 23:59 Brussels time



“ESU believes that education is integral to building refugee self-reliance, fostering inclusion in host societies, and in recovery and rebuilding processes post conflict. Yet displacement has a direct, and destructive, impact on equitable access to quality education.” ESU, [BM 77: Resolution on Improving the Accessibility of Higher Education for people with refugee background and seeking asylum](#), December 2019

Small-grants supporting inclusion

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

Since 2016, TMF has provided ESU the vehicle to support student-led actions and projects around Europe aimed at breaking educational and societal barriers, and to amplify the voice of students advocating for a better perception of EU citizens toward migration challenges. More than 40 projects run by resourceful activists and creative change-makers have been supported. However, we are still confronted with little or uneven progress made by European governments and education systems, and public discourse regarding refugees and migrants remain very polarized.

We want to continue our efforts to encourage and promote valuable and viable options for people with refugee backgrounds or seeking asylum and asylum seekers to access and benefit from education, and be part of our community.

The COVID-19 crisis has resulted in severe economic and social impact worldwide. Students and young people, and even more young people with refugee backgrounds, are particularly vulnerable to the pandemic. Many are now at risk of being left behind in education, economic opportunities and (mental) health/wellbeing at a crucial stage of their development and inclusion in the host society.

At the same time, we also see that young people and students are responding to the crisis through innovative solutions: volunteering, campaigning, advocating, etc. **As previous calls, we keep inviting and supporting university students with or without refugee backgrounds to work together to develop and experiment concrete ideas tackling the main barriers limiting the access and inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers in education and society, in this very uncertain period of time.**

Our objectives

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

-  Inspire student-led initiatives addressing refugees’ and asylum seekers’ access to education and living conditions in time of crisis.
-  Build capacity for student representatives to be more responsive to issues related to forced migration, focusing on social inclusion and access to education in time of crisis.
-  Empower National Student Unions to promote and advocate for clear policies that ease the access of refugees and asylum seekers to Higher Education following COVID-19 health crisis.
-  Build long-lasting links between refugees, their communities, and student communities.



What we fund

We do fund:

- Support to **student/youth-led** initiatives at local, national or European level proposing concrete solutions answering the impact of COVID-19 for students with refugee and migrant backgrounds
- You can apply for **any sum up to 7,000 EUR**
- **We fund:** project costs, including staff salaries up to 35% of the total grant (if sustainable and relevant).

We do NOT fund: scholarships and student fees, building (rent) or equipment costs (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

A very strong attention will be given to the effective inclusion of young people or students with refugee backgrounds in the project, and as much in the decision-making processes.

Example of activity that can be funded:

online campaign on connectivity issues (access to wifi, laptop, etc) /// anti-hate speech campaigns /// production of infographics and videos /// campaign promoting easy recognition of qualifications processes and the Europe Qualifications Passport for Refugees /// activities related to mental health /// online application cafés (supporting university applications) and Buddy programmes (university orientation support) /// online webinars /// online language classes /// translation of education related materials in several languages to update people on COVID-19 related news (University/students housing measures) etc.

Who can apply

1. The programme is open to all non-for profit (student) organisations, not just ESU members. We encourage **student-led** groups, ESU members, local students' unions, and **refugee-led or migrant-led** organisations to apply for a grant.
2. Applicant organisations need to provide:
 - Copies of their statutes as an organisation or a copy of their official registration in the country.
 - 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. Application from a single individual will not be accepted.
5. We strongly encourage **partnerships between organisations**, with the aim of enlarging the scope, expertise and influence of each project.



Timeline for your activities

Start-date: November 2020 (approx)

End-date: 30th March 2021

How to apply

It is a one stage application

<p>Exceptionally, it is a one-stage application</p> <p>Please submit the following document</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Application form● Budget Proposal● Timeline● Proof of registration as an organisation● Last audited-account
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How we select

A selection committee will be in charge of selection. It includes student representatives, students with refugee-background, representatives of an international organisation active in the same field. The TMF programme coordinator supervises the overall process.

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.

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. 60% of the grant will be in your bank account soon after that. The remaining 40% will have to wait until after the validation of the financial and narrative report.

We hope to be able to give you the possibility to start your activities **by the end of November 2020**.

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

**>> Deadline for applications is
18 OCTOBER 2020 <<**

Need more help from ESU?

- Contact Fanchon, our programme coordinator at movingforward@esu-online.org if you have specific questions
- Discuss it with one of the former grantees ([find contacts on website](#))
- Have a look at our [FAQ page](#)