

**Culture helps**  
**Collaboration Grants**  
**FAQs on Call for Application**  
Berlin, February 15, 2024



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**Q: In the criteria part of the application what does the uniqueness of the partnership means?**

A: This criterion refers to the originality and distinctiveness of the partnerships formed within the proposed project. It signifies the importance of creating innovative and unconventional collaborations that bring together different organisations, individuals, or entities to address the intersection of culture and mental health in a new and creative way. The applied project with elements of novelty and innovation will be evaluated with a higher score.

**Q: What are the criteria of the budget items and are there any limitations?**

A: We accept all the costs besides infrastructure (meaning expenses related to the development, improvement, or maintenance of physical or digital facilities, for example: construction and renovation works, buying equipment and similar) that are relevant to implementing your concept and project. **Please, check the budget template that is part of the application form.**

**Q: Does the project budget need to show costs with or without taxes?**

A: The budget needs to include the final amounts, including taxes where needed, i.e. you calculate the full costs that are paid as stated on invoices. If you are exempted from paying taxes, then they should not be included in the costs. Taxes don't need to be stated separately in the budget.

**Q: Will applications that go beyond the target audience of families and children be considered?**

A: Yes.

**Q: We represent a public initiative that is not officially registered. We have international partners - officially registered organisations. Can we submit a project proposal?**

A: Yes, but your partner should be a representative of your consortium and be a leader.

**Q: We are a higher educational institutions that specialise in arts; mass media project – are we eligible to apply?**

A: If you are able to prove that your activities are non-profit and the project won't generate income and won't be a commercial one, you can apply for our support.

**Q: Can we apply if we are a profit organisation, e.g. theatre, and partner up with a non-profit organisation?**

A: Yes, this is possible. The leading partner in your collaboration should be the non-profit organisation though, and you will need to prove that the collaboration project will not generate profit.

**Q: We, as an organisation, would like to partner up with two individuals in Ukraine, who are not connected to an organisation. Is this possible?**

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A: It is not possible to have only one organisation involved in the collaboration project. At least two organisations need to be collaborating. We suggest you find a partner in Ukraine for your project and possibly involve the individuals you would like to work with as freelancers, trainers, artists etc.

**Q: We have a project idea, but don't have a partner – can we apply?**

A: If you don't have a partner in Ukraine and other Creative Europe countries we can support you with finding one through our match-making online calls or you can also apply for other levels of Culture Helps called "project grants" where you don't need to have a partner. Please check our website and social media in order for further information.

**Q: Is it possible to have a collaboration with a similar organisation?**

A: Yes, but at least one NGO should be from the cultural field.

**Q: Which partner will receive the grant?**

A: You decide within your partnership, which partner should receive the grant transfer. If needed, it can also be split between partners, according to your project's framework.

**Q: Can one organisation apply twice, e.g. for a project grant and a collaboration grant?**

A: Yes, but not with the same project. Also, chances of being selected twice might be lower in order to give the chance to more different organisations to be supported by a grant.

**Q: When will the network meetings take place?**

A: The network meetings will take place in the spring and fall of 2024.

**Q: Is it necessary to have psychologists in the team?**

A: No, there are no such criteria.

**Q: Do we need to work together with psychologists from a specific country?**

A: For your projects you can decide which experts are best suited and select them yourself. For the programme activities of Culture Helps, we are working with experts in the field of mental health from our network.

**Q: What kind of cultural activities can be supported?**

A: It can be any form of cultural activities with the components of mental health awareness, such as workshops, interventions, camps etc, depending on what project idea you develop in your collaboration focussing on the integration through Culture for people, who were forced to leave their homes because of the russian full-scale war against Ukraine.

**Q: Can a cultural product be funded, e.g. a post-production of a film?**

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A: When planning your project, please keep the project's main focus in mind – the integration through culture and support of mental health. A sole post-production might be difficult to get selected, but you might want to combine it with other activities related to the main idea of “Culture Helps”. In the end, it's up to the jury to decide whether the application meets the criteria.

**Q: What are the requirements concerning places where events take place?**

A: It is up to the implementing party to judge the security situation and take relevant security measures.

**Q: Should projects have any additional budget from the side of applicants?**

A: No, you can apply without having additional funding.

**Q: Do we have to pre-finance the project costs?**

A: After signing the grant agreement you can request up to 90% of the project grant. You will have to advance the remaining 10%, which you will receive after handing in the final report of the full project budget.

**Q: How detailed does the budget in the application need to be?**

A: Make it as clear as possible so that the jury can evaluate if the planned costs are reasonable. It has to be reasonable, but also feasible so that it makes sense in the context of the project.

**Q: Does the budget need to be split between the partners?**

A: The budget shall be divided between partner organisations in a way that it makes sense for the project. In the budget form, please mark which parts of the budget will be given to which partner.

**Q: Is it possible to change the budget after the application is accepted?**

A: Yes, but changes need to be communicated as early as possible and be approved by the funding organisations. Also, the main outcome of the project should not be affected by the changes, as the selection of the jury was based on the initial project plans and budget.

**Q: How do we need to report?**

A: Templates for reporting will be provided - both for narrative and financial reports. You need to hand in receipts/invoices for all your expenses.

**Q: Can we apply with a project that is not related to mental health, but with cultural activities?**

A: Yes, you can apply keeping in mind that the project should focus on the integration through Culture for people, who were forced to leave their homes because of the russian full-scale war against Ukraine.

**Q: Which countries can apply to the programme?**

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A: Organisations from the following countries can apply for the Culture Helps' funding: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo\*, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, The Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine or in one of their overseas countries and territories.

You can find the list of countries that can apply here:

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/crea/guidance/list-3rd-country-participation\\_crea\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/crea/guidance/list-3rd-country-participation_crea_en.pdf)

**Q: Can we apply with more than 3 organisations?**

A: A maximum of three organisations can apply. If you would like to cooperate with more than that you can include other persons/organisations as experts, etc. But official partners can be max. 3.

**Q: I'm self-employed. Am I an organisation?**

A: You need to be legally registered as an organisation, not an individual, in order to apply for the collaboration grant. You will need to prove the charitability of your organisation and/or your project's charitability.

**Q: Do we have to meet with our partner in their or our country, or is a digital meeting ok?**

A: There is no rule on this. It depends on your project and how you plan to collaborate.

**Q: How do we use Slack to connect with others?**

A: Join our [Slack Community Channel](#) – an engaging online platform designed to foster meaningful connections and facilitate the discovery of like-minded organisations for potential collaborations on your projects. The Slack Channel warmly welcomes not only those who have already participated in the Call but also extends the invitation to those who may have missed this opportunity. There you can share brief information about your professional profile, your organisation, project idea, and engage in Q&A sessions.