

Pursuant to Article 52, paragraph 1 of the Law on the State Administration System („Official Gazette“/„Narodne Novine“ 66/19, 155/23), Articles 6, 9, 13, and 46 of the Law on Relations of the Republic of Croatia with Croats Abroad („Official Gazette“/„Narodne Novine“ 124/11, 16/12 and 98/25), the Regulations on funding specific needs and projects of interest to Croats abroad (CLASS: 011-02/26-03/01, REF. NO.: 537-05-26-1, dated September 4, 2026, hereinafter: the Rules), and article 17, paragraph 1 of the Regulation on the Internal Organization of the Central State Office for Croats Abroad („Official Gazette“/„Narodne Novine“ No. 72/24), the Central State Office for Croats Abroad

announces

THE PUBLIC CALL

for the application of specific needs and projects of interest to Croats abroad for the purpose of obtaining financial support for 2026

The Central State Office for Croats Abroad (hereinafter: the Office) invites non-profit organizations of Croats abroad and other eligible applicants to apply for funding of specific needs and projects of interest to Croats abroad, which contribute to meeting public needs and achieving the goals and priorities defined by the strategic documents of the Office.

1. AREAS OF FUNDING

According to this Public Call, non-profit organizations and other eligible applicants are granted funds for projects belonging to one of the following areas:

- connecting with Croats abroad with the aim of preserving and strengthening national identity, protecting rights and interests of Croatian communities, preserving the Croatian language, culture and heritage,
- cooperation with Croats abroad with the aim of encouraging Croatian cultural unity, development of cultural activities in Croatian, encouraging cultural, educational, scientific, sports and economic cooperation both with the Republic of Croatia and mutually,
- providing social, developmental, and humanitarian support to vulnerable individuals and Croatian communities abroad

2. TYPES OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Office will grant financial support as:

- Program support – annual support for projects that include a series of related activities which strengthen the capacities of non-profit organizations and continuously contribute to meeting the public needs of Croats abroad,
- Project support – for programs/projects aimed at solving certain problems and achieving defined goals within a defined timeframe, resources and budget;
- Support for one-day and multi-day events – which may be cultural, educational, sports, economic, social, humanitarian, tourism-related, or other types of events,
- Partnership support – support for projects carried out by non-profit organizations and other applicants with partners either outside or within the Republic of Croatia;
- Co-financing support for projects funded from other sources – support for co-financing projects carried out by non-profit organizations and other applicants using funds from other donors,
- One-time financial support for vulnerable individuals belonging to the Croatian people outside the Republic of Croatia who are in difficult social and material circumstances.

The total worth of The Public Call is **3.300.000,00 euros**.

The minimal sum acceptable in applications and eligible for granting is **800,00 euros** per project while the **maximum** grant sums up to **30.000,00 euros** per project. The minimal sum of the onetime financial support for vulnerable Croats belonging to the Croatian people outside the Republic of Croatia is **300,00 euros** while the maximum sum equals **3.500,00 euros**.

The same applicant may submit up to two applications for this Public Call.

3. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND TERMS FOR RECEIVING FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Eligible applicants and terms for receiving financial support via this Public Call:

A) non-profit organizations of Croats both outside and within the Republic of Croatia (associations, foundations, institutions, religious communities, or other legal entities) whose primary purpose is not profit-making and that are committed to carrying out activities and projects that are the subject of funding, and to promoting values and objectives that are not contrary to the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Croatia or the legal system of their home country, **provided that:**

- they are registered in the Register or another appropriate official record of organizations in their country of registration, and are in accordance with the country's legal system, have legal personality, and have been active for at least one year from the date of registration until the date of publication of this Public Call,
- their statute (or other founding act) commits them to carrying out activities and projects that are the subject of funding, and to promoting values and objectives that are not contrary

to the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Croatia or the legal system of their home country,

- no criminal proceedings are being conducted against the person authorized to represent the organization and/or that person has not been finally convicted of a criminal offense,
- they have properly fulfilled obligations under all previously concluded funding agreements financed from the Office's budget,
- they conduct transparent financial operations.

B) Individuals – individuals whose projects promote the goals and priorities defined in the Office's strategic documents and are in accordance with the funding areas outlined in point 1 of the Public Call, **provided that:**

- their submitted project contributes to meeting public needs, goals, and priorities defined in the Office's strategic documents, promoting values and objectives that are not contrary to the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Croatia or the legal system of their home country,
- no criminal proceedings are being conducted against the individual and/or that person has not been finally convicted of a criminal offense.

C) vulnerable individuals – members of the Croatian people outside the Republic of Croatia living in difficult social, economic or health circumstances **provided that:**

- they belong to the Croatian people outside the Republic of Croatia and have residence outside the Republic of Croatia,
- no criminal proceedings are being conducted against the applicant and/or that person has not been finally convicted of a criminal offense,
- they live in difficult social and/or material and/or health circumstances.

4. CONTENT OF THE APPLICATION

The application must contain the following:

A) The application of a non-profit organization must contain the following:

1. A filled out online form (A), submitted via the computer system,

2. Uploaded attachments:

- the project manager's CV,
- proof of registration of the organization– an excerpt from the Register or other relevant record of organizations from the organization's country of origin, based on the legal system of that country, that shows the organization's activities and demonstrates that the organization (or other legal entity) has been active for at least one year from the date of registration until the date of publication of this Public Call (copy).

- a copy of a valid statute, rulebook or another founding act of the organization (required only if the organization's activity is not evident in the excerpt from the Register or other relevant record of organizations),
- a bank certificate with bank details of the account used for conducting payment transactions (IBAN for applicants from the Republic of Croatia) or a foreign currency account that supports payments in euros (IBAN and SWIFT for applicants outside of the Republic of Croatia),

3. Documentation uploaded to the computer system and sent physically by mail:

- Izjava prijavitelja o točnosti podataka za neprofitnu organizaciju (A-kategorija) – the applicant's Statement on the accuracy of information for the non-profit organization – category A (sealed and hand signed by an authorized representative of the non-profit organization, original),
- a certificate of no ongoing criminal proceedings against the authorized representative of the organization, no older than six months, issued by the court, and/or a confirmation stating that the aforementioned person has not been convicted of a criminal offence (original or a certified copy).

NOTE:

If the project is being carried out in a partnership, Izjava o partnerstvu, a non-mandatory form which can be found in the attachment, must be uploaded to the computer system under Prilozi.

B) The application of an individual must contain the following:

1. A filled out online form (B) submitted via the computer system,

2. Uploaded attachments:

- the applicant's CV,
- a copy of a valid identification document,
- a bank certificate with bank details of the account used for conducting payment transactions (IBAN for applicants from the Republic of Croatia) or a foreign currency account that supports payments in euros (IBAN and SWIFT for applicants outside of the Republic of Croatia),

3. Documentation uploaded to the computer system and sent physically by mail:

- Izjava prijavitelja o točnosti podataka za fizičku osobu (B-kategorija) – the applicant's Statement on the accuracy of information for the individual – category B (hand signed by the individual, original),
- a certificate of no ongoing criminal proceedings against the applicant, no older than six months, issued by the court and/or a confirmation stating that the aforementioned person has not been convicted of a criminal offence (original or a certified copy).

NOTE:

If the project is being carried out in partnership, Izjava o partnerstvu, a non-mandatory form which can be found in the attachment, must be uploaded to the computer system under Prilozi.

C) Vulnerable individuals belonging to the Croatian people outside of the Republic of Croatia can submit the application in one of the following ways:

1. Through the computer system, in which case the application must contain the following:

a) a filled out online form (C) submitted via the computer system,

b) Uploaded attachments:

- proof of belonging to the Croatian people: a copy of one of the following documents if they provide proof of belonging to the Croatian people (birth certificate, marriage certificate, extract from a voter's list, school diploma, copy of a student register, index (college gradebook), college application, work book, military book, copy of the record of intention of marriage, child's birth report, Resolution on the acquisition of Croatian citizenship according to articles 11 and 16 of the Law on Croatian citizenship, another document proving belonging to the Croatian people). Note: *Domovnica*, travel documents and the Croatian identity card are not considered proof of belonging to the Croatian people but of Croatian citizenship,
- a copy of a valid identification document (all pages) proving the person's residence outside of the Republic of Croatia,
- proof of socio-economic status and health condition, e.g.: the applicant's statement on the number of household members certified by an institution of authority (e.g. municipality, Social welfare center etc.), proof of the applicant's and other household members' incomes (Tax administration certificate on monthly income, proof of salary, pension, permanent financial support, unemployment benefit, other income), proof of the applicant's and other household members' unemployment, proof of ongoing children's education, medical documentation, death certificate, record of the event provided by the institution of authority, a copy of the resolution on the degree of disability etc.,
- a bank certificate with bank details of a foreign currency account that supports payments in euros (IBAN and SWIFT).

c) Documentation submitted through uploading and mail:

- Izjava ugroženog pojedinca – pripadnika hrvatskog naroda izvan Republike Hrvatske o točnosti podataka – Statement of the vulnerable individual belonging to the Croatian people outside of the Republic of Croatia on the accuracy of information (hand signed by the applicant, original),
- a certificate of no ongoing criminal proceedings against the applicant, no older than six months, issued by the court, and/or a confirmation stating that the applicant has not been convicted of a criminal offence (original or a certified copy).

2. In paper, sent by mail, in which case the application must contain the following:

- a filled out printed form (C) (available for download on the website of the Central State Office for Croats Abroad <https://hrvatiizvanrh.gov.hr/>), signed by hand,
- proof of belonging to the Croatian people: a copy of one of the following documents if they provide proof of belonging to the Croatian people (birth certificate, marriage certificate, extract from a voter's list, school diploma, copy of a student register, index (college gradebook), college application, work book, military book, copy of the record of intention of marriage, child's birth report, Resolution on the acquisition of Croatian citizenship according to articles 11 and 16 of the Law on Croatian citizenship, another document proving belonging to the Croatian people). Note: *Domovnica*, travel documents and Croatian identity card are not considered proof of belonging to the Croatian people but of Croatian citizenship,
- a certificate of no ongoing criminal proceedings against the applicant, no older than six months, issued by the court and/or a confirmation stating that the applicant has not been convicted of a criminal offence (original or a certified copy),
- a copy of a valid identification document (all pages) proving the person's residence outside of the Republic of Croatia,
- proof of socio-economic status and health condition, e.g.: applicant's statement on the number of household members certified by an institution of authority (e.g. municipality, Social welfare center etc.), proof of applicant's and other household members' incomes (Tax administration certificate on monthly income, proof of salary, pension, permanent financial support, unemployment benefit, other income), proof of applicant's and other household members' unemployment, proof of ongoing children's education, medical documentation, death certificate, record of the event provided by the institution of authority, a copy of the resolution on the degree of disability etc.,
- a bank certificate with bank details of a foreign currency account that supports payments in euros (IBAN and SWIFT).

5. SUBMISSION METHOD AND DEADLINE

Project applications must be submitted both in paper and electronically. Before the online form is finally saved and sent through the computer system (the link can be found on the website of the Central State Office for Croats Abroad), the appropriate attachment must be downloaded, depending on the category of the applicant:

- **„Izjava prijavitelja o točnosti podataka – neprofitne organizacije – A kategorija“** for nonprofit organizations,
- **„Izjava prijavitelja o točnosti podataka – fizičke osobe – B kategorija“** for individuals,
- **„Izjava prijavitelja o točnosti podataka – ugroženi pojedinac pripadnik hrvatskog naroda izvan Republike Hrvatske – C kategorija“** for vulnerable individuals belonging to the Croatian people outside of the Republic of Croatia.

The document must be printed and verified by a handwritten signature of an authorized representative of the non-profit organization/individual/vulnerable individual and an official seal (only for non-profit organizations). Once signed and sealed (if applicable), the document must be uploaded into the computer system while the original of the same document must be prepared for mailing as described below.

Non-profit organizations must send the following documentation in paper form by mail: a verified statement on the accuracy of information for the non-profit organization – category A (Izjava prijavitelja o točnosti podataka za neprofitne organizacije - A-kategorija) and a certificate of no ongoing criminal proceedings against the authorized representative of the organization, no older than six months, issued by the court, and/or a confirmation stating that the aforementioned person has not been convicted of a criminal offence (original or a certified copy).

Individuals must send the following documentation in paper form by mail: a hand signed statement on the accuracy of information for the individual – category B (Izjava prijavitelja o točnosti podataka za fizičku osobu - B-kategorija) and a certificate of no ongoing criminal proceedings against the applicant, no older than six months, issued by the court, and/or a confirmation stating that the aforementioned person has not been convicted of a criminal offence (original or a certified copy).

Vulnerable individuals belonging to the Croatian people outside of the Republic of Croatia must send the following documentation in paper form by mail: a hand signed Statement of the vulnerable individual belonging to the Croatian people outside of the Republic of Croatia on the accuracy of information (Izjava prijavitelja o točnosti podataka za ugrožene pojedince pripadnike hrvatskog naroda izvan Republike Hrvatske - C-kategorija) and a certificate of no ongoing criminal proceedings against the applicant, no older than six months, issued by the court, and/or a confirmation stating that the aforementioned had not been convicted of a criminal offence (original or a certified copy).

The aforementioned documentation must be sent by **registered mail** to the following address:

**Središnji državni ured za Hrvate izvan Republike Hrvatske,
Ulica Pavla Šubića 29,
10 000 Zagreb, Republic of Croatia**

with the note:

„Za Javni poziv za prijavu posebnih potreba i projekata od interesa za Hrvate izvan Republike Hrvatske u svrhu ostvarenja financijske potpore za 2026. godinu“

Note: Vulnerable individuals belonging to the Croatian people outside of the Republic of Croatia (category C) can also submit the application solely in paper, without the need for an electronic submission.

The instructions for filling out the online form and additional application forms are available on the website of the Central State Office for Croats Abroad <https://hrvatiizvanrh.gov.hr/>.

The deadline for submitting applications, both online and on paper, is 30 days after the publication of this Public Call on the Office's website, ending on October 7, 2026.

The online application form can be submitted until the closing date of this Public Call until 23:59 local (Croatian) time.

Received documentation will not be returned to the applicant.

Applications submitted after the deadline, incomplete applications or applications containing deviations or elements that are not in accordance with the Public Call and the required documentation, applications that are not written in the form prescribed for the Public Call and those that are submitted in other ways contradictory to the Public Call, will not be considered.

6. APPLICATION SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

After the deadline for submitting applications to the Public Call has passed, the process of verifying compliance with the prescribed (formal) conditions of the Public Call will begin, in accordance with the provisions of the Rules. Applications that meet these conditions will then be forwarded for further processing, that is, for expert evaluation by the Committee of the Central State Office for Croats Abroad, for the assessment and allocation of financial support to programs and projects of Croats outside the Republic of Croatia for 2026 (hereinafter referred to as the "Committee").

The Committee reviews and evaluates applications that have met the prescribed (formal) conditions of the Public Call according to the following criteria:

- impact of the project on meeting general and public needs of the Croatian community abroad and its relevance to the domains of funding,
- impact of the project on strengthening the bonds with Croats abroad,
- impact of the project on the cooperation with Croats abroad,
- impact on beneficiaries and the communities impacted by the project,
- institutional capability, competence and capacities needed for the implementation of the project.

Applications from vulnerable individuals who are members of the Croatian people outside the Republic of Croatia, that meet the prescribed (formal) conditions of the Public Call, will be evaluated by the Committee according to the following criteria:

- socio-economic circumstances and living conditions of the applicant,
- health conditions and the applicant's life circumstances,
- especially difficult current life circumstances of the applicant.

Advantage is given to vulnerable individuals who fulfill more than one of the aforementioned criteria.

On account of the Committee's proposal, the final decision on granting financial support is made by the state secretary.

7. DEADLINE AND MEANS OF ANNOUNCING THE GRANT RECIPIENTS

After the decision on the allocation of financial resources is made, the Office will publish the results of the Public Call on its official website, including information about the projects and applicants whose funding has been approved, as well as the amounts of the approved funds.

Consent for the collection and processing, as well as agreement for the publication of personal data, is given by the person authorized to represent the organization and other applicants by submitting an application to the Public Call.

With all applicants whose financial support has been approved, the State Secretary or a person authorized by them will sign an agreement on the allocation of financial support no later than 30 days from the date of the decision on the allocation of financial resources.

Funds approved for one-time financial support to vulnerable individuals who are members of the Croatian people outside the Republic of Croatia will be paid based on the decision on the allocation of financial resources.

The procedure for contracting and the conditions related to agreements on the allocation of financial support from public funds will be regulated in accordance with the positive regulations of the Republic of Croatia and the Office.

8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Public Call for the application of specific needs and projects of interest to Croats abroad for the purpose of obtaining financial support for 2026 is conducted in accordance with

[Regulations on funding specific needs and projects of interest to Croats abroad](#) (CLASS: 011-02/26-03/01, REGISTRATION NUMBER: 537-05-26-1, September 4, 2026).

COURTESY TRANSLATION

By signing the statement on the accuracy of information, an authorized representative of the organization and other applicants vouch and agree to be held materially and criminally liable for the accuracy of information and submitted documentation.

All questions regarding this Public call can be submitted by e-mail by the end of the period designated for application submissions at: programi-projekti@hrvatiizvanrh.hr

CLASS: 015-09/26-06/04

REF. NO: 537-05-26-1

Zagreb, September 7, 2026

STATE SECRETARY

Zvonko Milas