

The Central State Office for Croats Abroad, According to Articles 9, 13, 46 and 59. of the Law of relations between the Republic of Croatia and Croats abroad („Narodne novine“, No. 124/11 and 16/12), Article 17 of the Regulation of internal organization of the Central State Office for Croats Abroad („Narodne novine“, No. 72/24) and based on the Regulations on funding specific needs and projects of interest to Croats abroad (CLASS: 015-09/24-01/19, REGISTRATION NUMBER: 537-05-02/1-24-1, October 3, 2024), 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 2024

the Central State Office for Croats Abroad (the Office below) invites non-profit organizations of Croats abroad and other eligible applicants to apply for funding specific needs and projects of interest to Croats abroad which contribute to appeasing public needs and achieving 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 strenghtening 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 vulnerable individuals and Croatian communities abroad with social, developmental and humanitarian support

2. TYPES OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Office will grant financial support as:

- Program support – annual support for projects incorporating a series of activities which strenghten the capacities of non-profit organizations and continuously contribute to meeting the public needs of Croatian expatriates;
- Project support – for programs/projects aimed at solving certain problems and realization of defined goals within a given time limit, resources and budget;

- Event organization support for events lasting one or more days, either cultural, educational, sport, commercial, social, humanitarian, tourist etc.;
- Partnership support – support for projects carried out by non-profit organizations and other applicants with partners in or outside of the Republic of Croatia;
- Cofunding projects granted support from other sources – support for cofunding projects carried out by non-profit organizations and other applicants with the funds provided by other sources
- One-time financial support for vulnerable individuals in affiliation with the Croatian nation outside the Republic of Croatia living in difficult socio-economic circumstances.

The total worth of The Public Call is **800.000,00 euros**.

The minimal sum acceptable in applications and eligible for granting is **700,00 euros** per project while the **maximum** grant sums up to **20.000,00 euros** per project. The minimal sum of the one-time financial support for vulnerable Croats in affiliation with the Croatian nation 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 in and outside of the Republic of Croatia (associations, foundations, institutions, religious communities or other legal entities) whose main purpose isn't commercial and are committed to conducting activities eligible for funding and which promote beliefs and goals not contradictory to the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Croatia or the legal order of the state of origin and if the following applies:

- is registered in the register or corresponding records of organizations in the country of origin in accordance to its legislature or other register and a minimum of a year-long activity by the date of publishing the Public Call,
- is committed to conducting activities eligible for funding and which promote beliefs and goals not contradictory to the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Croatia or the legal order of the state of origin according to its statute (or another core or founding memorandum of the organization),
- the authorized representative of the organization is not being prosecuted nor has s/he been sentenced for a criminal offence,
- obligations stated in any previous financial support agreements concluded with the Office have been fulfilled,
- the business is managed transparently.

B) individuals – individuals whose projects promote goals and priorities defined by the strategic documents of the Office, are in accordance with the areas of funding stated in the first article of the Public Call and if the following applies:

- they contribute to meeting the public needs, goals and priorities defined by the strategic documents of the Office, which promote beliefs not contradictory to the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Croatia or the legal order of the state of origin,
- an individual is not being prosecuted or having been sentenced for a criminal offence.

C) vulnerable individuals – Croats in affiliation with the Croatian nation outside the Republic of Croatia living in difficult social, economic or health circumstances **and if the following applies:**

- they are in affiliation with the Croatian nation outside of the Republic of Croatia and currently reside outside of the Republic of Croatia,
- the applicant is not being prosecuted nor had been sentenced for a criminal offence
- they are living in difficult social, economic 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 – a statement from a register or corresponding records of organizations in the country of origin or other register which provides insight into the organization activities and proof of the organization or other legal entity being active for at least a year by the date of publishing the Public Call (a copy),
- a copy of a valid statute, rulebook or another founding memorandum of the organization (required only in cases of organization activity not being evident from the proof of registration of the organization),

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 submitted through uploading and 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 a non-profit organization, an original),
- a certificate of no ongoing criminal proceedings against the authorized representative of the organization, no older than six months, issued by the court or a confirmation stating that the aforementioned person had 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 in 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:
 - 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 submitted through uploading and 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 (sealed and hand signed by the individual, an original),
 - a certificate of no ongoing criminal proceedings against the applicant, no older than six months, issued by the court or a confirmation stating that the aforementioned had 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 in the computer system under Prilozi.

C) Vulnerable individuals in affiliation with the Croatian nation outside of the Republic of Croatia can submit the application in one of the following ways:

1. The application submitted via the computer system must contain the following:

- a) a filled out online form (C) submitted via the computer system,
- b) Uploaded attachments:
 - proof of affiliation with the Croatian nation: a copy of one of the following documents if they provide proof of affiliation with the Croatian nation (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 affiliation with the Croatian nation). Note: *Domovnica*, travel documents and the Croatian identity card are not considered proof of affiliation with the Croatian nation but of Croatian citizenship,
 - a copy of a valid identification document (all pages) providing information on 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 centre 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 in affiliation with the Croatian nation outside of the Republic of Croatia on the accuracy of information (hand signed by the applicant, an original),
 - a certificate of no ongoing criminal proceedings against the applicant, no older than six months, issued by the court or a confirmation stating that the aforementioned had not been convicted of a criminal offence (original or a certified copy).

2. The application submitted in paper 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 affiliation with the Croatian nation: a copy of one of the following documents if they provide proof of affiliation with the Croatian nation (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 affiliation with the Croatian nation). Note: *Domovnica*, travel documents and Croatian identity card are not considered proof of affiliation with the Croatian nation but of Croatian citizenship,
- a certificate of no ongoing criminal proceedings against the applicant, no older than six months, issued by the court or a confirmation stating that the aforementioned had not been convicted of a criminal offence (original or a certified copy),
- a copy of a valid identification document (all pages) providing information on 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 centre 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. MEANS OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND DEADLINE
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Applications of projects 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), depending on the category of the applicant, a proper attachment must be downloaded:

- *„Izjava prijavitelja o točnosti podataka – neprofitne organizacije – A kategorija“* for non-profit 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 in affiliation with the Croatian nation 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 non-profit organizations). Once signed and verified (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 mail the following: 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 or a confirmation stating that the aforementioned person had not been convicted of a criminal offence (original or a certified copy).

Individuals must mail the following: 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 or a confirmation stating that the aforementioned had not been convicted of a criminal offence (original or a certified copy).

Vulnerable individuals in affiliation with the Croatian nation outside of the Republic of Croatia must mail the following: a hand signed statement of the vulnerable individual in affiliation with the Croatian nation 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 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, Pantovčak 258, 10000 Zagreb, Republika Hrvatska with the indication: „Za 2. Javni poziv za prijavu posebnih potreba i projekata od interesa za Hrvate izvan Republike Hrvatske u svrhu ostvarenja financijske potpore za 2024. godinu“

Note: Vulnerable individuals in affiliation with the Croatian nation 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 end date for both online and paper application submission is 30 days after publishing this Public Call on the aforementioned website of the Office and ends with November 7, 2024.

Received documentation will not be returned to the applicant.

Applications submitted past the deadline, incomplete applications or applications containing deviations or parts not in accordance with the Public Call and the necessary documentation, applications that are not written in the form prescribed for the Public Call and 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 the Public Call application submission, the assessment process of the prescribed formal requirements begins and is held in accordance with the Regulations. After that, eligible applications are forwarded into further procedure, i.e. professional evaluation of the Central State Office for Croats Abroad Committee for the evaluation and granting financial support for programs and projects of Croats outside of the Republic of Croatia for the year 2024 (the Committee below).

The Office Committee considers and evaluates applications meeting the formal requirements of the Public Call adhering to the following criteria:

- impact of the project on catering to general and public needs of the Croatian community abroad and it's relevance to the domains of funding,
- impact of the project on strenghtening the bonds with Croats abroad,
- impact of the project on the cooperation with Croats abroad,
- impact on users and the communities impacted by the project,
- institutional capability, competence and capacities needed for the implementation of the project.

Applications submitted by vulnerable individuals in affiliation with the Croatian nation outside of the Republic of Croatia which comply with the prescribed formal requirements of the Public Call the Committee will evaluate in accordance with 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 deciding the grant recipients, the results of the Public Call will be announced on the website of the Office alongside the information on projects and applicants as well as the amount of support granted to them.

An authorized representative of the organization and other applicants consent and agree to collecting, processing and making personal information public by submitting the application for the Public Call.

The state secretary or an authorized individual will sign a financial support agreement with all applicants granted financial support no later than 30 days from their announcement.

One-time financial support for vulnerable individuals in affiliation with the Croatian nation outside the Republic of Croatia will be paid-up according to the decision on granting financial support.

The process of preparing financial agreements and terms related to financial support agreements from public sources will be regulated on the basis of positive regulations of the Republic of Croatia and the Office.

8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Public Call for applying special needs and projects in the interest of Croats abroad for the purpose of gaining financial support for 2024 is conducted in accordance with [Pravilima o financiranju posebnih potreba i projekata od interesa za Hrvate izvan Republike Hrvatske](#) (CLASS: 015-09/24-01/19, REGISTRATION NUMBER: 537-05-02/1-24-1, October 3, 2024).

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: 015-09/24-06/1154

REGISTRATION NUMBER: 537-05-02/1-24-1

Zagreb, September 8, 2024

STATE SECRETARY

Zvonko Milas