Information session

EU grants for news media
Part 2: Grants beyond Creative Europe

6 April 2022 – 12h CEST

This info session will be recorded using WebEx for the purpose of publication on EACEA’s website, accessible via https://europa.eu/!fxdcpp

Only presentations will be recorded: Questions & answers will not. Please refer to the Data Protection Notice of the event for more information.

European Commission
Recap: Policy context

**Media & Audiovisual Action Plan** (in particular, the “News initiative”)

**European Democracy Action Plan** (more information [here](#))

+ other initiatives to strengthen the public sphere

- Studies / market research
- Stakeholder dialogues
- Easier access to loans & equity
- EU grants for news media, media literacy & efforts to counter disinfo
Grants from various budgets

- Pilot projects & preparatory actions (PPPA) proposed by the EP
- Creative Europe (cross-border collaboration)
- Horizon Europe (research & innovation)
- Digital Europe (deployment)
- Multimedia Actions (to strengthen the EU public sphere)

+ Communication grants with editorial independence (eg REGIO, EP)

See the overview on @mediaEU and https://europa.eu/
Grant opportunities in 2022 (chronological)

Creative Europe yearly call to support cross-border **media literacy** projects (€2.4 million, deadline 6 April 2022)
Horizon Europe call for **media and democracy research** (€9 million, open until 20 April 2022)
Creative Europe yearly call for ‘**Journalism Partnerships**’ (2nd round, €7.5 million, open until 7 September 2022)
Creative Europe support for **press councils & a rapid response mechanism** to violations of media freedom (€4.1 million, launch of call of proposals mid-March early June 2022)

**Pilot Project / Preparatory Action (PPPA): Supporting local and regional news media** (€2 million, launch Q2 2022)
**Multimedia Actions: coverage of European affairs via a radio network** (€4.4 million, launch Q2 2022)*
**Multimedia Actions: coverage of European affairs via data journalism networks** (€1.4 million, launch Q3 2022)*
**PPPA: 3rd ‘Youth media’ call** (€9 million, launch Q3 2022)
**PPPA: European media platforms call** (€6 million, launch Q2/3 2022)
**Digital Europe call for a European media data space** (€8 million, launch Q3 2022)
**PPPA: Call to improve the media representation and inclusion for refugees and migrants** (€500 000, Q3/4 2022)
**PPPA: Support for a European Festival of Journalism and Media Literacy** (€1 million, launch Q4 2022)

**Communication grants DG REGIO** *

* = complements the calls listed in the factsheet summary of March 2022
Grant opportunities in 2022 (per objective)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research</th>
<th>Horizon Europe call for media and democracy research (€9 million, open until 20 April 2022)</th>
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<tr>
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Towards a news media innovation agenda

Studies:
- DG CNECT is preparing a “media outlook” to analyse media trends (launched, to be finalised by end-2022)
- Study on Artificial Intelligence in creative sectors (incl. news): published
- Study on “Digital European Platform of Quality Content Providers” focusing on data interoperability. Phase 1 completed, phase 2 (coordinated by Intellera Consulting) will include a final workshop in autumn 2022.

Grants:
- Digital Europe call for a European media data space (€8 million, 36 months, call for proposals will be published in Q3 2022) > more info here and on next slides.
- Working with VR? Winners of the 2021 call for proposals on media innovation in Horizon Europe (€26 million) will soon be published here. Cascade funding for VR will be available.
- Working with universities? The 2022 Horizon Europe call on media and democracy (€9 million, open until 20 April 2022) will support university research.
Digital Europe call : European media data space (deployment)

**Background**

- **Media and Audiovisual Action Plan** – Action 4 - : foster innovation through the creation of a media data space
- **European Data Strategy initiative** - A single market for data > the creation of common data spaces
Common European data spaces

- Health
- Industrial & Manufacturing
- Agriculture
- Finance
- Mobility
- Green Deal
- Energy
- Public Administration
- Skills
- Tourism
- Cultural heritage
- Media

**Data Spaces Support Centre**
- Coordinating the development of data spaces
- Assuring common standards and interoperability

**Technical infrastructure for data spaces**
- Edge & cloud Services
- Smart Middleware solutions
- Marketplace
- High-Performance Computing
- AI on demand platform
- AI Testing and Experimentation Facilities

- High Value Datasets from public sector

- A secure and privacy-preserving IT environment
- The stakeholders are in control of their data
- Data made available on a voluntary basis and can be reused
- Sectoral data governance (contracts, licenses, access rights, usage rights)
- Technical tools for data pooling and sharing
**Overarching objectives**

- Enable **data-based cooperation** among media companies > a more **competitive EU media industry** in face of the online platforms
- **Boost the use of data** for innovative content (entertainment, education and news), production, curation, circulation and distribution across Europe
- Generate **additional value** and open **new markets** for the media industry

**Sharing of data – Key element of the data space**

- EA wide **variety of data**, e.g. content, user consumption and audience data, 3D animation models, production meta-data.
**Stakeholders**

European publishers, broadcasters, radios, advertising companies, media SMEs, technology providers, content and tech start-ups, content creators, producers and distributors, etc.

**Technical infrastructure - building blocks**

- Secure interoperability and an easy, cross-border access to key datasets
- Link to the creation of innovative solutions, tools and models for the production, curation, circulation and distribution of European media content across the Union,
- Ultimately contribute to connect sub-dataspaces from various media sectors to a coherent data space

**Important**

- **Type of action:** SME support grant (75% co-funding SMEs and 50% for all the other beneficiaries)
- **Indicative budget:** €8 million
- **Indicative duration:** 36 months
- **Indicative time of call opening:** September 2022
Outcomes – 3 layers of action

1. Infrastructure
   - Cloud-based – securely stored data
   - Data governance mechanisms
   - Features the underlying structural components to design, implement and operate a European common data space
   - Testing (“sandbox”) environment for pilots and innovative media services developed through other EU initiatives (e.g. HE)

2. Applications
   - Tools to operationalise content platforms (incl. e.g. modules on automatic translation, neutral search, editing tools, social media interaction, news aggregation and content-driven modules)
   - Tools for media data transaction, data analytics
   - Services for financial transactions based on the data usage (e.g. using blockchain), services for MR/AR/VR content creations (incl. AI elements)

3. Content - support to curation, joint-production and circulation of news and media content and its adaptation to different audience targets and consumer preferences.
Preparatory Action: Media platforms

Aim: Help increase the variety and diversity of factual content available to EU citizens, work towards sector-wide digital media infrastructures that build on multilingual repositories, involving broadcasters and publishers.

Estimated publication of call for proposals in Q3 2022

Budget: €6 million, multiple projects

Targets: News media companies and other organisations active in the sector, media technology developers.

Stay tuned
Support for media pluralism

Pilot project: Supporting **local and regional news media** in face of emerging ‘news deserts’ (€2 million, call for proposals will be published in Q2 2022) aims to prevent ‘news deserts’ by building resilience of news media in areas/communities where access is limited.

It will consist of:

- Mapping of the local/regional media landscape across Europe
- Providing tailored financial support (cascading grants)

Target: news media & other organisations active in the media domain.

Stay tuned
Citizen engagement & public sphere

Aim: strengthen coverage of European affairs from pan-European points of view.
Support for TV, radio, data journalism, multilingual EU affairs (e.g. European newsroom).

Upcoming calls under Multimedia Actions:
- Coverage of European affairs via a radio network (€4.4 million, 2 years, call for proposals will be published in Q2 2022).
- Coverage of European affairs via data journalism networks (€1.4 million, 2 years, call for proposals will be published in Q3 2022).

Upcoming Preparatory Action: 3rd ‘Youth media’ call (€9 million, call for proposals will be published in Q3 2022).

Stay tuned.
Citizen engagement & public sphere

Pilot Project: Call to improve the **media representation and inclusion for refugees and migrants** (€500 000, call for proposals foreseen in Q3/4 2022). Phase 1 project by European Cultural Foundation started 15 Feb 2022 and will last for 15 months, focus on enabling the capacities of the people involved, including artists.

New Pilot Project: Support for a **European Festival of Journalism and Media Literacy** (€1 million, call for proposals foreseen in Q4 2022)

Stay tuned

Closed today: Creative Europe yearly call to support **cross-border media literacy** projects (€2.4 million, 2 years, deadline 6 April 2022)
Tackling disinformation

Diverse actions to **tackle disinformation/ increase trust:**

- Horizon 2020: Projects such as [Ontochain](#) and [Trublo](#) provide cascade funding for innovation using blockchain principles for trustworthy information exchange

- Projects have been selected for the 2021 Horizon Europe call [AI against Disinformation](#) (2x €6.5 million) - they will start in a few months

- Horizon Europe 2023-24: continuation of activities expected to support media professionals and citizens using AI for trustworthy information exchange in ever-increasing complex media and social networks

Stay tuned about latest [news](#) on the Commission response to disinformation (incl. EDMO)
Other relevant calls

Cross-sector innovation lab under Creative Europe supports projects that address audiovisual as well as other culture/creative sectors and respond to common challenges and opportunities brought about by the digital transition (2022 call is currently open, deadline 7 Sept 2022, €13.6 million, 60% EU co-financing, no minimum/maximum grant, project duration up to 24 months, info session on 21 April)
DG REGIO – Support for young journalists

New DG REGIO call to support journalism education by universities and other educational institutions in the EU (1 project, max 95% / €1 million EU co-financing, project duration 12-18 months, deadline 21 April 2022);

Training for journalism students and young journalists (age 18-30). Applications open from 11 April to 11 July 2022: www.youth4regions.eu.
DG REGIO cohesion policy reporting grant

• Yearly DG REGIO grants for reporting on cohesion policy (up to 80% / €300k per project, total budget €7 million this year)

• 5th annual call currently under evaluation: winners to be announced in the summer; campaigns start shortly afterwards and run for 1 year

• Provides support for the production and dissemination of information and content linked to EU Cohesion policy

• Format and content of campaigns is up to the applicant

• Grant agreement annexes contain an editorial charter and a guarantee of editorial independence

• Applicants (single and/or multiple) include EU-based media but also academic institutions and NGOs, but not public authorities in charge of the implementation of Cohesion policy

• Campaigns cover printed press, audiovisual and online media, events and competitions

• Campaigns can focus on one region, or cover several Member States
Thank you

https://twitter.com/mediaeu