

The ILGA-Europe Fund for Racial Justice

[Call for proposals 2026-2027](#)

Deadline: 13 April 2026, Monday, 23:59 CET

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

This Q&A document is based on the Q&A session we hosted on 3 March for the ILGA-Europe Fund on Racial Justice – new and previously not included questions received in the session are in yellow. It also includes the questions and answers collected in our past calls for proposals within No One Left Behind Fund – the predecessor of the ILGA-Europe Fund for Racial Justice.

If you still have questions, you can e-mail anastasia@ilga-europe.org and antonella@ilga-europe.org.

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Questions about the focus of the Fund on racialised LGBTI communities

1. How strict is the focus of the Fund on racialised LGBTI communities?

Question: How strict is the requirement of an organisation to be led by racialised LGBTI people in this call?

Answer: This requirement is strict and is an eligibility criterion. Please, consult the call and other questions in this section of this Q&A document where we explain the rationale of the call and the definition of “racialised”.

2. What does “LGBTI organisation” mean?

Question: We are Black-led organisation with a majority of us being Black queer people. In our work, we focus on different aspects of our identities with a big focus on queerness but not exclusively. Are we eligible to apply?

Answer: We acknowledge that many LGBTI groups work on intersection of identities. As long as the LGBTI community (in general or some LGBTI subgroups), their rights and their lived experiences are at the core of your work, you are eligible to apply.

3. What do you mean by “racialised”?

Question: The call prioritises organisations led by and working for **racialised LGBTI communities**. Could you clarify what “racialised” means?

Answer: The term “racialised” refers to LGBTI people and communities who belong to BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Colour) communities and other racial and ethnic groups that may be minoritised within different societies across Europe. This might include, for example, people of African, Asian, Middle Eastern, North African, Roma backgrounds, Crimean Tatars, Kurds, and Sami people.

The ILGA-Europe Racial Justice Fund works for LGBTI organisations that are led by and rooted in these communities. This means organisations where these communities hold leadership and decision-making roles, and where the organisation’s mission and work are rooted in racial justice and focus on advancing the rights, wellbeing, and representation of LGBTI people from BIPOC and other minoritised ethnic communities.

We understand that migration/refugee status and faith/religion intersections are often part of lived experiences of racialised LGBTI communities. These intersections can be indicated and included in a project.

4. Are there any quotas set to demonstrate the profile of the group?

Question: In terms of this requirement, is there a proportion of the organisation's leadership/trustees that you require to be from racialised LGBTI communities in order to be eligible? Does "racially led" mean 100% led, more than 50% led, or something else?

Answer: The leadership and focus on the organisation rooted in racialised LGBTI communities is not defined as a numerical quota (for example 100% or more than 50%). Instead, the focus is on the core and essence of the organisation and its work. It is about who founded, governs, and makes up the organisation and whose experiences and priorities shape the strategy. It is not about listing individuals, job titles, or doing a headcount, but about the identity of the organisation, whether racial justice is central rather than secondary, what role racialized people play in leadership, strategic direction, decision-making, and activities. Organisations are encouraged to reflect on questions such as: Are people affected by racialization in your organisation's specific context in leadership, decision-making and other meaningful roles? Is racial justice and confronting racism and racialization at the heart of your strategy rather than an add-on?

5. How is the fit under this requirement determined?

Question: Does this Fund and the selection process differentiate between BIPOC organisations and white-led organisations working with/ for BIPOC people? How will ILGA-Europe ensure that those who are supported are indeed LGBTI groups led by and working for racialised LGBTI communities?

Answer: In an application form there is a section (Section 2) with two questions that are designed specifically for us to see and assess whether an organisation fits the profile of groups we aim to support. Additionally, we go back to some of the applicants with follow-up questions as part of our selection process, including with questions about the profile of the group, its governance and communities. We do our own research into groups and organisations who apply; we draw on experience and knowledge of colleagues if we need to know a little more about applications; and we use references provided in the application if there are any specific questions about the groups that cannot be answered based on the information provided in the application, in follow-up discussions with applicants, or online.

6. Questions about specific profiles of organisations and their eligibility to apply

Question: We are a mixed group with different identities running a space for FLINTA* people and dedicating some seminars for BIPOC people. Can we apply to cover our costs related to providing spaces for racialised LGBTI groups (so they can come for free/little fees)?

Answer: Our requirement for the groups who apply for this call is to be led by racialised LGBTI people and work primarily (exclusively) with racialised LGBTI communities. The idea of the programme is that the funding and support (including sharing and networking space) in this programme are dedicated for and go to racialised LGBTI groups.

You can encourage the racialised LGBTI groups who are in cooperation with you to apply. You can support their application through partnership agreements (offering space and your skills), but the

applicant needs to be a racialised LGBTI group (or an association of groups) and the resources need to go to the group(s).

If you have a BIPOC subgroup in your collective working separately and specifically with and for BIPOC people, there could be a possibility for them to apply. If you have a doubt in terms of how eligible your organisation is for this call, please, email us at anastasia@ilga-europe.org and antonella@ilga-europe.org.

Question: A big part of our organisation consists of racialised LGBTI people but the rest of the organisation is white. Can we say that our organisation is led by racialised LGBTI people and are we eligible to apply?

Question: We are an organization that works for asylum seekers. Our board and team are quite diverse and mixed in terms of gender identity and racial background. One of the requirements of the call is for the organisation to be led by and work with racialised LGBTI people. Are we eligible to apply?

Answer: Eligibility is based *not* purely on *representation* of racialised LGBTI people within the organisation or on the identities prioritised in any direct support activities. We are looking to support organisations that have been founded and are governed by racialised LGBTI people, who form the mission of the organisation, make decisions, set the agenda for actions, implement the activities, and distribute the resources. You can use Section 2 in Application Form (and if needed question 4.5) to explain your structure and how the organisation and its make-up meet the criteria for the call.

Question: Are we eligible as an applicant if we are not led by racialized LGBTI people but provide services to them and partner with a migrant-led group?

Answer: Applicant profiles like this fall outside the scope of this particular fund. The Fund is designed so that funding and support go directly to organisations that are led by and working for racialized LGBTI communities and have racial justice at the core of their agenda. Partnerships do not replace the core requirement that the main applicant itself be led by and working for racialized LGBTI communities. Organisations should therefore use the self-reflection questions: Are people affected by racialization in your context leading and making decisions in your organisation? Are racial justice and confronting racism and racialization central to your work, rather than secondary? Are you accountable to racialized LGBTI communities, rather than only offering services? If the honest answers are “no,” this Fund is not the right fit, and partners led by racialized communities should be encouraged and supported to apply themselves.

Question: In our country at the moment, we do not have an LGBTI organisation or an organisation that also works on LGBTI issues where racialised communities are a part of the organisational structure. We are (so far) the only LGBTI organisation in the country working intensely on anti-racism and applying anti-racism strategies into our work. Would we be eligible for this funding?

Answer: We acknowledge that there might be local contexts with very few or no (known) LGBTI organisations and groups working for and with racialised LGBTI communities, with these communities being part of the organisation and not only beneficiaries. In these contexts, working proactively on

anti-racism is crucial. However, this call has been designed specifically to provide funding for the work that racialised LGBTI communities are doing for and with racialised LGBTI communities.

Question: We are an NGO that works with LGBTI communities and on the rights of LGBTI people as part of our mission, among other priorities. Can we apply for this call? Can we apply for support to train staff members on LGBTI issues in order to make practices and policies of the organisation more inclusive?

Answer: The programme and call for proposals are intended for LGBTI groups and organisations across Europe that are working with and for racialised LGBTI communities. Building capacity of mainstream human rights organisations on issues pertaining to the rights and experiences of LGBTI people is outside of the scope of this programme.

Question: Would involving non-LGBTI racialized community leaders and focusing on allyship hinder a project, if the main focus remains LGBTI identities?

Answer: No, involving racialized community leaders from non-LGBTI migrant or racialized communities is not a disadvantage; it is welcomed. One of the programme's aims is to support alliances around racial justice and LGBTI equality and overcome isolation of agendas. Projects that are rooted in racial justice and LGBTI equality and that seek to build alliances, solidarity, and bridges with other social movements and racialized communities are strongly encouraged. As long as the work remains anchored in the realities and leadership of racialized LGBTI communities, including allied leaders and working on allyship can be a positive element of a proposal.

Questions about the geography of the Fund

7. List of eligible countries

Question: Can you provide a list of countries that are considered part of Europe for this call?

Answer: For this call Europe is considered to include the following countries: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom.

Country eligibility notice: The main funding source strictly limits the use of funds to organisations based in EU Member States. ILGA-Europe is working to secure additional resources that would allow us to support up to two organisations based outside the EU, as we have done in the previous iterations of this call for proposal in previous years. However, at this stage, we cannot guarantee that such additional funding will be secured. We share this information transparently so that organisations based outside the EU can make an informed decision about whether to apply.

8. Borders of Europe and overseas countries and territories

Question: How do you define the borders of Europe? Do you include, for example French colonies into the scope of funding? Can we work with the communities in the French overseas territories?

Answer: While we work only in Europe and Central Asia, we also recognise that overseas territories (both departments and communities) are part of France and exist within the French legal policy framework. We also recognise the colonial history and reality of these territories and acknowledge that sense of belonging to and forms of affinity with the region of Europe and Central Asia (and LGBTI movement there) can vary amongst LGBTI communities in overseas territories. Our work is strongly rooted in connections and exchange between LGBTI groups across the region, and this programme will also include such elements. With that, organisations from overseas territories are eligible to apply for this call (which includes funding support and on-line regular partner meetings). At the moment ILGA-Europe is in the process of analysing regulations and other aspects of working with the movement in overseas countries and territories (OCTs), so while funding is eligible, we cannot at this point commit to other forms of support (such as in-person trainings).

9. Working as a team of displaced people and with displaced communities

Question: Due to ongoing conflict in my country, many people have left. I believe most of the project participants will most probably currently reside outside of their country of origin. Is it an issue?

Answer: No, it is not a problem. We recognise that due to crises, wars and ongoing conflicts, many activists and LGBTI people have been displaced. What is relevant to mention about the scope of the Fund is that it will only support LGBTI organisations and communities that are based and working in Europe, and that work for and bring together communities residing in Europe, regardless of their country of origin or previous residency.

10. Working with communities in a European country different than the one the organisation is based in

Question: We are based in one European country and are planning to work with our communities in another European country. We are an organisation of and for racialised LGBTI people. Is it an eligible type of work or should we only work with racialised LGBTI communities in the country we are based in?

Answer: We understand that conflicts, migration patterns and other factors may necessitate work across borders and across different countries. Please, use the application form to explain your context, indicate the gaps your organisation wants to address in this particular case, and outline why it is essential to engage with these particular communities, while being based in a different country. Please, note that this call is intended for the LGBTI organisations based in Europe and working with racialised LGBTI communities in Europe.

11. Working with communities outside of Europe while being based in Europe

Question: Can an international association based in Europe conducting a project with LGBTI people in a country outside of Europe apply?

Answer: The programme and call for proposals are intended for LGBTI groups and organisations that are working with and for racialised LGBTI communities across Europe. Any activities outside of the region of Europe will fall outside of the scope of this Fund and ILGA-Europe's mandate overall. Proposals are invited from LGBTI organisations based in Europe and working with and for racialized LGBTI communities in Europe.

Questions about the membership requirement

12. ILGA-Europe's approach to offering support to non-members

Question: Are ILGA-Europe's funding and other support opportunities available only to members?

Answer: No, ILGA-Europe generally does not distinguish between members and non-members in our funding opportunities, learning initiatives, advocacy, and other support we offer to the movement. This particular call for proposals is limited to member organisations due to the eligibility conditions of the funding that supports this work, the main source being the European Commission.

13. The membership criterion in this call for proposals

Question: Do we have to be a member organisation at the time of submitting our application?

Answer: Due to the strict and non-negotiable funding source limitations outside of ILGA-Europe's influence, applicants have to be ILGA member organisations by 1 June 2026 (or have membership applications submitted and under consideration by 1 April 2026). For more information about membership, please visit: <https://ilga.org/membership/>

This means that you can apply for membership and apply for a grant in this call for proposals at the same time, and your application in this call will be eligible.

Question: Can we apply for membership before the proposal deadline? And if our application is still under consideration when the applications are assessed, will it have any effect on the outcomes of consideration/selection?

Answer: If your application for membership is under consideration as of 1 April 2026, you are eligible to apply. There is a separate question in the application form where we ask if you are already member

or if you have just applied to become a member. Your application for this call will be considered on par with those groups that are already members of ILGA-Europe.

Question: Can a non-member organisation apply through an umbrella organisation that is a member organisation?

Answer: Yes, this is possible if the umbrella organisation applies as the official applicant. In this case, the umbrella organisation would:

- Submit the application
- Sign the grant agreement
- Be formally recognised as the partner working with ILGA-Europe and the other programme partners

The organisation applying as the applicant must meet the eligibility criteria. Specifically, the applicant organisation must:

- Be an LGBTI organisation led by and working for racialised LGBTI communities, based and operating in Europe
- Be a member of ILGA-Europe, or have a membership application under consideration by 1 April 2026

A non-member organisation may still participate in the project, but it would do so as a partner organisation working with the applicant, rather than as the applicant itself.

14. How to apply for membership

Question: How to apply for membership?

Answer: ILGA World handles and grants membership for all six ILGA regions – Africa, Asia, Europe and Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America and the Caribbean, and Oceania. Members from Europe and Central Asia will make part of ILGA-Europe.

Please find further information and the membership form [on the website of ILGA World](#).

The ILGA World's membership form is under construction and is open only between 11 and 25 March. After 25 March, instead of filling in the form, you may reach out to ILGA World directly at membership@ilga.org to inquire about membership or apply.

15. Membership details – fees, responsibilities and value

Question: How accessible are the ILGA World membership fees?

Answer: Membership fees are established on a sliding scale, with the amount that is paid in annual fees depending on the organisation's annual budget for the year of the payment. For example, with an annual budget under €10,000, the fee is €10 per year; if your annual budget is under €50,000, the

fee is €30 per year. A full membership fees scale is available at the ILGA World website. Membership fees cannot be included as a cost in project proposals in this call, because this will constitute a conflict of interest.

Question: What are the benefits and responsibilities of membership?

Answer: Members from the region of Europe and Central Asia participate in the ILGA-Europe governance. This participation is not nominal, but is at the heart of ILGA-Europe as a membership-based organisation. You will have the right to elect or nominate your candidates for the Executive Board of ILGA-Europe, vote on important organisational issues, and ensure we are an accountable and inclusive organisation. General Assemblies happen twice a year. They are members' right and not an obligation. Members also participate in strategic planning processes, which define the way ILGA-Europe works and supports LGBTI movement in Europe and Central Asia. You can read more about membership rights and responsibilities [in our Constitution](#).

16. Composition of membership

Question: What is the composition of ILGA membership and the presence of BIPOC-led queer groups?

Answer: The list of member organisations in Europe and Central Asia is available [here](#), with some organisations anonymised due to security risks. It is organised according to the countries where organisations work in. We do not collect or publish statistics related to the profiles, focus, size, etc. of member organisation continuously. The full list of ILGA members globally, across different regions of the world, is available [here](#).

Other applicant eligibility questions

17. Applying as a registered vs non-registered organisation with a fiscal sponsor

Question: What does “registered group” mean in this context?

Answer: A “registered group” refers to an organisation legally incorporated under its country's laws, such as an association, non-profit, or foundation with formal legal status. In contrast, a “non-registered group” is an informal collective without such legal recognition, like a grassroots initiative. The funding call welcomes both types, provided they meet the eligibility requirements.

Question: Can a non-registered group or organisation apply and how to apply in this case?

Answer: Yes, non-registered groups can apply, and to do so they need to find a fiscal sponsor through which they can receive funds from ILGA-Europe. A fiscal sponsor is a registered legal entity that is able to receive funds on behalf of a non-registered organisation or an organisation that can for other reasons not receive funds directly from ILGA-Europe.

In this case, ILGA-Europe can enter into trilateral agreements with non-registered organisations (the grantee) and the fiscal sponsor. The Grantee is the one fully responsible for the implementation of the project, while the fiscal sponsor agrees to act to facilitate the grantee's activities when solicited to do so by the grantee. In practical terms, this means that the Grantee owns and implements the project, while the fiscal sponsor assists with the financial management of the grant. Among the tasks, the fiscal sponsor will facilitate the transfer of grant funds to the Grantee, may make payments within the project when authorised by the Grantee, and will assist the Grantee with financial reporting by providing all necessary documentation. Grantee's and Fiscal Sponsor's responsibilities will be clearly defined in the grant agreement.

A fiscal sponsor may charge a reasonable fee for their services, or want an accountant's fee or a share of a finance person's salary included in the budget, and that is an acceptable cost. As a non-registered organisation, you can apply as a sole applicant just using services of a fiscal sponsor who can receive funds from ILGA-Europe. You can also apply in partnership with the fiscal sponsor. If applied in partnership, you are the leading organisation, with whom ILGA-Europe makes the contract (for more details see applying in **partnership**).

Question: We are an LGBTI-led organisation and our fiscal sponsor is going to be an art institution that we've been working with. As being an ILGA-Europe member is a requirement for this call - who needs to apply for the membership - our LGBTI-led organisation or our fiscal sponsor?

Answer: Only LGBTI organisations can apply for membership. Additionally, if successful we will sign a grant agreement with you, indicating a fiscal sponsor in the agreement, but your organisation will be a grantee and the one responsible for the implementation of the project. So, in your case, your organisation needs to apply for membership and not your fiscal sponsor.

Question: Our fiscal sponsor already supports other projects of our organisation. Is this acceptable that an organisation acts as fiscal sponsor for several projects or also for other organisations?

Answer: There is no limit of how many projects or organisations a fiscal sponsor can support. Actually, having already collaborated with the fiscal sponsor, or choosing a fiscal sponsor that already has experience of supporting non-registered partner organisations, can help you with the management of the grant.

Question: We are a non-registered group and we are looking for a fiscal sponsor. Does the fiscal sponsor need to be an LGBTI organization led by racialized people? Does the fiscal sponsor also need to become a member of ILGA-Europe?

Answer: The fiscal sponsor is a legal entity that acts as a recipient for grants funds, but it is not the main grantee. This means that the eligibility criteria that applies to the grantee, in this case - being led by racialised LGBTI people working for and with racialised LGBTI communities and being a member of ILGA-Europe - do not apply to the fiscal sponsor. Therefore, the fiscal sponsor doesn't need to be part of the LGBTI movement and/or led by racialized people, and it doesn't need to be ILGA-Europe member.

18. Applying in partnership

Question: We are forming a partnership to apply. We are currently a consortium of which our Project Lead (the applicant) is an LGBTI organisation. Within the organisation, there is a department/group that consists of and works for racialised LGBTI persons. Do they meet the criteria for eligibility?

Answer: Applications from coalitions and organisations in partnerships are welcome. Please note that in applications made in partnership, the leading and main beneficiary must be the LGBTI organisation which is run by and works directly with and for racialised LGBTI communities.

The structure of the partnership and distribution of resources, roles and work need to be explained very transparently in an application form. In any partnership, we have to see that racialised LGBTI people are the primary vehicle for action and beneficiary (as in salaries as well as outcomes of the projects), with a meaningful role in decision making. You can use the application form to make sure all this is clearly outlined.

If the project is going to be implemented in partnerships where there are racialised and non-racialised LGBTI partners involved, the primary lead and beneficiary must be an organisation that is run by and works with racialised LGBTI people.

19. Applying as an individual activist

Question: The call invites applications from registered organisations or non-registered groups. Does this mean that an individual applicant operating under an Individual Entrepreneur licence is not eligible to apply?

Answer: You cannot apply as an individual person. We can fund either registered or non-registered organisations/groups. (For more details on applying as a non-registered organisation, see the section: *On applying as a non-registered organisation and fiscal sponsor.*)

20. Applying as an individual researcher

Question: I am a researcher at a University and lead on research related to racialised LGBTI issues - can I apply?

Answer: The Fund and the current call for proposals are intended for LGBTI groups and organisations across Europe that are working with and for racialised LGBTI communities. Projects by individuals are outside of the scope of the Fund and this call for proposals, and we will not be able to consider them.

21. Applying as an LGBTI entrepreneur

Question: We are two therapists, both racialised LGBTI people, and we have been working with racialized LGBTI community in our country. We are not affiliated with any organisation as we act as a business/ entrepreneurs. Are we eligible to apply?

Answer: The Fund and call for proposals are intended for LGBTI groups and organisations across Europe and not for individuals. Projects by individuals, including individual entrepreneurs, are outside of the scope of the Fund and this call for proposals, and we will not be able to consider them.

22. Applying when you have other funding from ILGA-Europe

Question: Currently, we have a project supported by ILGA-Europe. Are we eligible to apply for this call of proposals?

Answer: Yes, you are eligible to apply.

Questions about track record, financial and other capacity of applicant organisations

23. Do age and team size of applicant organisation matter?

Question: Does it matter how long a group has existed or how many people are in the group?

Answer: There is no minimum number of years of operation required for a group to be eligible to participate in this call, and we welcome groups that have never received grants. Similarly, there is no rule about the minimum or maximum size of the organisation. At the same time, the Fund prioritises initiatives that meaningfully engage their communities in collective action or organizing, so regardless of the size of the organisation, the community around it and the type of engagement will be considered in the assessment.

Please note that the Fund is not intended for individual activists.

The call explicitly recognises that many groups working with racialised LGBTI communities are small and may have limited experience due to limited access to funding. Part of the programme's objective is to offer by-demand support, tools, and capacity-building around financial management and project implementation. Applicants are invited to introduce their organisations and capacity in the application form without reservations so that the support can be tailored appropriately.

24. Does lack of experience managing grants matter?

Question: This is our first application and we cannot show an experience of managing grants. Will it affect us getting funding? What kind of support will be available to us if we do get funding from ILGA-Europe?

Answer: We are aware that communities organising at the intersection of racial justice and LGBTI equality have been historically underfunded and might have limited experience with funding. This being the first grant received and/or having little experience in managing grants does not prevent you from applying and ILGA-Europe from considering your application. We do ask a few finance-related questions in our application form (section 3). In this section, we ask you to provide an overview of grants you received, for us to know if you have managed grants before. We then ask you to do a few small practical financial exercises, for us to understand how you approach financial management and reporting. This will give us an idea about your financial capacity and systems, and an understanding of what support you may need as a group if you are selected.

If you are selected, we will provide guidance and support. As part of the grant agreement package, we will send you a guide that outlines administrative and financial responsibilities of this grant. Moreover,

we will guide you through the reporting deadlines and financial and administrative requirements during our first call in June, explaining all the supportive documentation you need to collect and how to fill the Excel sheets for the interim and final financial reports.

We will also direct you to some already available resources in our LGBTI activist resource centre, The Hub, and Antonella Cariello, the Grants Officer for this project, will be reachable by e-mail throughout the duration of the project to answer any additional questions you may have. Based on your group's needs, we may also define additional support; for instance, a pre-financial report call or a specific webinar on common issues.

25. External references

Question: We have never worked with ILGA-Europe and we need to provide external references in the application form. Who should we put as a reference? Do they need to be from a donor?

Answer: As a reference, you can provide a contact of a person who has worked with you in professional capacity, represents an organisation or a group, has a good knowledge about your group and can act as a reliable reference point for us to reach out to if we need to inquire about your group and your work. It can be a donor, it can also be a representative of a local partner organisation, for instance, or a leader of a group you have collaborated with (to give some examples).

Project, activity, and target audience questions

26. Duration of the project

Question: Is there a minimum and a maximum duration of the project?

Answer: The length of the project is fixed: 12 months. All projects will start on 1 June 2026 and end on 1 June 2027, with this being reflected also in the application form. The programme is designed to not only support grants to LGBTI groups but to bring them together as a cohort. The same duration of the projects across the cohort will support a shared journey and will allow to make the most of the sharing spaces in the programme (e.g. partner meetings).

Question: Are projects that run for less than 12 months, including one-time events, still eligible for funding?

Answer: The project duration is fixed at 12 months. We will award projects with a start date on 1 June 2026 and end date on 31 May 2027.

The focus is on projects rather than stand-alone activities. Even if a specific event or moment is the central milestone of your project, the proposal should show the broader process around it: what preparation and groundwork will take place beforehand, and what follow-up, learning, engagement or continuation will happen afterwards.

Proposals that frame activities within a wider project logic over the full 12-month period are therefore more likely to align with the Fund.

27. Applying to get funding for existing or ongoing project/work

Question: Can the funding be used for an existing project/ongoing work if this fits with the call's aims, or does it need to be a new project?

Answer: Yes, the funding can support ongoing work/project, given the work/project fits into the goals and mission of the call. For us to make an informed decision about your application, we would need to have a clear and transparent picture of the ongoing work, its scope, what part of it is the project you are applying with, and what activities and outcomes are supported by other sources/ other funders (with an indication of the sources/ funders and the amounts). This will allow us to see what our funding would contribute to and how it fits in the ongoing work, if the project is selected. You can expand on that in the application form.

28. Submitting several project proposals

Question: Can an organisation submit two separate (different) proposals?

Answer: Yes, an organisation can submit two different proposals. They will be evaluated separately and they both have to adhere to the criteria for the call. We are aware that applications take a lot of time, often from activists and groups for whom time is an already scarce resource. Hence, we want to note in transparency that the number of submitted applications will not by itself increase the chances of a successful application. We are happy to answer any questions to help groups in navigating the call for proposals and making their choices of what to apply with.

29. Including multiple activities into a project

Question: Can we submit one application with multiple activities inside, given all the activities serve the same overall purpose?

Answer: Yes, your project can include multiple activities, as long as they are clearly connected to one overall purpose. For example, you might combine community organising meetings with a public action or cultural initiative to claim space, followed by communication work to amplify your message. You could also link regular community gatherings with a campaign or collective response to a local issue. What matters most is that the activities reinforce each other and contribute to strengthening collective power and civic presence.

30. Including different projects in one application

Question: How many different projects can we have in one application?

Answer: We invite applications proposing a coherent project that has a goal and steps to move towards the change you envision. You can then include different activities under one project.

31. Including training for the team and/or strategic team meetings

Question: Can we propose a project or activities that enhance the cohesion of the team, strategic thinking and/or enhance skills of team members?

Answer: Strengthening internal organisational structures, skills and practices to build a sustainable presence for and with(in) the communities and wider civic society space is one of the four areas of work that we will be gladly supporting. So yes, the projects that include any activities related to that are welcome.

32. Using art-based methods in proposed activities

Question: We work with art-based methods, are you interested in a project that use this approach?

Answer: We support LGBTI-led organisations across Europe that employ variety of methods and approaches in their work and activism. Your project can have an art component as long as the project's content and main objectives are aligned with the goals and priorities in this call.

33. Working with a specific racialised LGBTI subgroup

Question: When it comes to the content of our project, its goal and activities, can it be focused on a specific group in a specific situation, for example, on access of racialised trans people to sport?

Answer: Yes, the subpopulation you work with can be specific. However, it must be racialised and part of LGBTI community.

34. Working with refugees and asylum seekers who do not hold European citizenship

Question: We are planning to work with refugees/asylum seekers. Do our beneficiaries have to have European citizenship for us to apply with a project and for it to be eligible for consideration?

Answer: No, your group members or beneficiaries don't have to hold European citizenship. However, please note that the Fund only invites proposals from organisations and groups that are based and work in Europe, and that work with and for communities in Europe.

Financial and budgeting questions

35. Cost eligibility

Question: Which costs are ineligible under this call?

Answer: Under this call, we can't cover the purchase of new electronic equipment. We can only cover the depreciation of new and existing equipment. You can read more about this in question 27. Alcohol is also ineligible. Moreover, we can't cover any form of community emergency or solidarity funds, that means, in simple terms, "a pot of unrestricted funds" that is distributed to the community as a financial aid to support members of the community in case of emergency.

Question: The biggest part of our budget is going to consist of salaries to remunerate time of people who will be running the project - do you have a limit for the human resources cost for this project?

Answer: Under this call, there is no budget percentage limitation to cover personnel and consultancy costs, as long as they are directed towards the objective of the call. This means that you can include as many human resources or external personnel costs as needed, and these costs might represent a considerable share of your budget.

Question: Our organization involves refugees and asylum seekers, both as part of our group and as beneficiaries. Does this represent an issue for any cost eligibility in relation to their remuneration?

Answer: No, neither your beneficiaries nor the people who work in your organisation have to hold European citizenship to be able to participate in this call. At the start of the project, if you are selected, there will be time dedicated to discussing your situation and jointly designing documentation and accountability practices that work for you. ILGA-Europe sees it as its responsibility to ensure compliance with funders' legal and financial requirements while minimising the administrative burden and risks for partner organisations.

36. Filling in the budget template

Question: We don't know how to fill the budget narrative part of the budget template, can you please explain what we need to include?

Answer: The budget narrative is simply the description of the expenditures you have budgeted. In this section, you have to add all information about how you have calculated this cost and what it will cover. You can look at the **pre-filled budget example** we have included in the call to see how to build the budget narrative for the different budget categories. Indeed, all categories may need different information, but the main guideline is to include all the details that can allow us to understand the reasoning behind a cost, and to check its proportionality and connection with the project activities.

Question: We have classified our expenditures in different categories than the one indicated in the budget form, to reflect our project activities, and we have some doubts about how to fill it. Moreover, we would like to know whether we can include office equipment purchase in our budget.

Answer: To correctly fill the Budget Template, it is essential to respect the budget categories that are indicated and explained in the form. Therefore, if you have conceptualised your activities differently, you need to translate each cost to the correct cost categories. In the narrative page of the budget, you can always add an explanation about how each expense is related to the project activities. Look at the **pre-filled budget** included in the call if you would like to see an example.

Under this call, we can't cover the expenditure for office equipment purchases. We can only cover the depreciation of new and existing equipment. Depreciation is a method that charges the project for the cost of "wear and tear" of your equipment during the project. This means that you can charge a proportion of the total value of the equipment costs.

For example, if for this project you buy a computer for €480 that is expected to have a useful life of four years, it will be depreciated at a rate of €120 per year, or €10 per month. This means that if you are implementing a project that lasts 12 months, you can include 12 months at €10 per month of the computer into the financial report of the project (total charge to that specific project is €120).

Question: Some of our project team members will be working on a voluntary basis - should we include volunteer unpaid work in the budget? Should we indicate it in an application form?

Answer: Volunteer unpaid work doesn't need to be included in the budget as it won't represent an actual cost. However, we understand that a lot of work done by LGBTI activists (especially, those working on intersections) is unpaid so we encourage you to indicate it in the application form. This will help us understand the shape of the team, the functioning of your organisation and the actual work (paid and unpaid) that will go to the project. You can include this in Sections 2 and 4.

Question: Where can we include the external personnel costs and what can be included there?

Answer: External personnel costs can be included under the category "Consultants and providers". Here you can indicate payments/honoraria for all services and consultancies provided outside of payroll for internally employed personnel, including any applicable taxes e.g. VAT. Examples of costs that can be included under this category are consultants, trainers, designers, translators.

Questions about the narrative proposal template

37. Information about organisational budget

Question: Do you need to know our 2026 budget?

Answer: Yes, in Section 1 we ask for your 2026 budget; in Section 3 of the application form, you need to include the topics and sizes of grants you have received in 2025. This is the information that we need to assess your previous experience and capacities in managing grants.

38. Providing names in the application: anonymity and confidentiality

Question: In the application there is a question about the team of the project. In our organisation, we work with highly marginalised populations (like sex workers) and we have concerns about anonymity and data protection. How should we fill that section and which measures do you have in place to protect anonymity in case our project is selected?

Answer: Working with LGBTI movement in Europe and Central Asia we are aware of the importance of ensuring data protection. When presenting your team, you can avoid including identifying personal details and just indicate members' roles and responsibilities towards the project. In case your project is selected, all the information and contact details will be stored on our safe server with multiple layers of protection and will not be disclosed to third parties without your consent. We will not ask for any information beyond what is absolutely essential for compliance, and will open space to agree on any extra security practices related to communication, exchange of information, or data management that specific partners might need.

Questions about commitments that grantee partners will have

39. Financial and narrative reporting

Question: In the call for applications, we have read there will be an interim financial reporting and a final narrative and financial reporting. We have never worked with ILGA-Europe before, therefore we are not familiar with your reporting structure, can you please explain what we might expect and how much time we have to allocate for the reporting?

Answer: For the financial reporting, you will need to list in Excel all the expenses you have incurred based on your project budget and submit the supportive documentation. If selected, you will get full instructions about which supportive documents are needed and on how to fill the Excel for the financial report. **The interim financial report** will cover the first months of the project and will be due on 4 November. **The final financial report** will be due at the end of the project (within two weeks of completion of the project) and will cover the entire project period. The time you will need to allocate for the financial reporting depends on your capacities and the level of support needed from us. You will receive information about the expectations for financial reporting at the time of signing the grant agreement, so that you enter this programme with awareness of the reporting activities it entails. We support our grantee partners throughout the implementation if there are any difficulties and questions related to the financial management of the grant.

For **the interim narrative reporting**, ILGA-Europe uses progress calls (four calls over the 12-month period) to see how the project is going and if there are any changes, obstacles, needs. There will be four progress calls with ILGA-Europe (in June, September, January and April), each call lasting up to one hour. For **the final narrative reporting**, we ask you to write a final narrative report based on a template we will provide with the grant agreement. In essence, it's a set of questions about the project's results, activities carried out during the project, and insights that surfaced during the project's implementation. The final narrative report will be due with the final financial report, two weeks after completion of the project. Time you will need to allocate for the final narrative reporting depends on your capacities and support needed from us. SEE ABOVE – also relevant here.

40. Time commitment to the partnership

Question: If we are successful and our project is supported, what kind of time commitment can we expect in terms of reporting and being in touch with ILGA-Europe and other partners?

Answer: We are aware that many LGBTI organisations run by racialised LGBTI people operate on a voluntary basis, with limited human, financial and time resources. Therefore, we want to communicate in advance the time commitment linked to this cooperation apart from implementing the project.

Participation in the programme comes with the following commitments:

- **What:** Three on-line meetings for programme partners to come together, share space and experiences, learn about each other's work, build connections
When: June/July 2026 (kick-off), February 2027 (mid-way), and June 2027 (closing)
Time: 1h 30 mins each meeting
- **What:** Four progress calls with ILGA-Europe to discuss an ongoing work, implementation of the project, needs, challenges, opportunities
When: June/July 2026, September 2026, January 2027, April 2027
Time: 1h each call
- **What:** Interim financial report
When: November 2026
Time: As required depending on your capacities and needed support from us
- **What:** Final financial and narrative reports
When: June 2027
Time: As required depending on your capacities and needed support from us

We will schedule meetings in advance and in conversation with you.

Additionally, we will offer a possibility of joining an in-person meeting for partner organisations ahead of ILGA-Europe Annual Conference (6/7 October 2026), with a possibility to also stay for the conference itself (7-11 October 2026). This will be an invitation to all grantee partners, and participation is not mandatory.

Questions about assessment of applications

41. How are applications assessed?

Question: How will the applications be assessed and who will assess them?

Answer: Applications will be reviewed through a three-stage assessment process.

1. Eligibility screening

First, all applications will undergo an eligibility check by ILGA-Europe staff to ensure they meet the basic requirements of the call. This includes confirming that the proposal:

- Is submitted by an eligible organisation based and working in Europe
- Is led by and working for racialised LGBTI communities
- Is submitted by an organisation (not an individual)

Applications that clearly and without doubt do not meet these criteria will not move forward to the next stage.

2. In-depth assessment

Eligible applications will then be assessed by a selection committee composed of three ILGA-Europe staff members with relevant expertise in movement support initiatives and financial assessment.

The committee uses a discussion-based assessment approach rather than a scoring system, considering the criteria outlined in the call. The review also takes into account the overall pool of applications, with attention to identifying key needs and forms of work emerging from this part of the LGBTI movement, and to ensuring a balanced representation across the selected proposals and a diversity of initiatives.

3. Leadership review and approval

The final selection of applications is then reviewed and formally approved by ILGA-Europe's leadership, including the Director of Programmes, Executive Director, and Finance Director.

Question: Does the programme aim to bring those groups that would be selected together to build networks and support each other? If yes, how does this consideration come into the selection process?

Answer: Yes, the programme will create spaces for the group to exchange and build connections through holding regular partner meetings (three meetings in 12 months). In the selection process, to the best of our ability we aim to support diverse projects that offer different approaches, methods and forms of activism. However, the merit of the project itself comes first and then, together with the cohort of partners (the group of organisations that have been selected), we adjust our peer-learning and capacity building activities accordingly.

42. How important is the technical project writing aspect?

Question: Organisations that face structural barriers to accessing funding often have less experience with writing applications or using "project language." Does ILGA-Europe take this into account, and how is it reflected in the assessment process?

Answer: Yes, when assessing applications, we do not focus primarily on how "well" an application is written either in terms of English proficiency or the use of specific "project language." Instead, we look at the application as a whole. For example, we consider:

- Does the application clearly explain who the group is and what it wants to do?
- Is there a clear connection between the group, its context, the communities it works with, and the proposed activities?
- Is the proposed plan clear, realistic, and feasible?

The application questions are designed to allow groups to tell the story of who they are and what they want to achieve. While the form includes some more structured components, such as the budget, financial information, and activity plan, we provide guidance to help applicants complete these sections.

We are also aware that some parts of the LGBTI movement have historically had less access to funding opportunities and related resources. This includes, for example, racialised LGBTI groups,

working-class queer communities, trans-led groups, and youth initiatives. We therefore do not expect applications to be perfect.

For successful applicants, we reserve time during the grant agreement phase to review and fine-tune the proposal together. We also provide ongoing accompaniment during project implementation, supporting organisations to strengthen their skills and knowledge in grant management and project implementation.

This approach reflects ILGA-Europe's broader practice of working collaboratively with partner organisations across our re-granting programmes.

Examples of projects supported in the past

Question: Can we see examples of projects funded under the No One Left Behind Fund?

Answer: Yes, you can see examples of previously funded projects under this link: [Socio-economic Justice | ILGA-Europe](#).

Please note that these examples from No One Left Behind – a programme that we have been running over the past years that is the predecessor of the current ILGA-Europe Fund for Racial Justice. While the overall mission behind these initiatives is the same and both work in support of the LGBTI organisations led by and working with racialised LGBTI communities, the focus and types of work that the Racial Justice Fund seeks to support is slightly different. For more information about the specifics, please refer to the call for proposals.