COVID-19: FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LGBTI ACTIVISTS

ILGA-EUROPE PROGRAMMES TEAM
CREATING OPPORTUNITIES

Creating Opportunities supports LGBTI activists to create campaigns with impact. Are you facing a threat or opportunity where public campaigning, mobilisation, or communications could help. Responding to COVID-19, we are already supporting groups with small social media adverts, and message-testing focus groups.

You don’t have to have a full plan yet, we can get started with a quick call to discuss ideas. As well as fast and flexible small grants you will also get findings from our research on effective message framing, and direct coaching from our strategic communications and campaigns consultant.

Email sho@ilga-europe.org to start the conversation

DIGNITY FOR ALL PROGRAMME

ILGA-Europe continues to support LGBTI human rights defenders and activists facing emergency situations in the time of COVID-19 through the Dignity for All programme. LGBTI organisations in Europe and Central Asia can apply for support if:

- You are in a difficult situation because you or your organisation are under threat or attack due to the work for human rights and equality for LGBTI people
- There is a need for an urgent action/ advocacy campaign to respond to threats or attacks targeting LGBTI people and organisations in your country
- You require training or assistance in improving organisational security skills and competencies
- If personal or organisational security of activists has been or are likely to be jeopardised or weakened due to the current COVID-19 situation

You can get more details about types of support and to request it on our website or email boris@ilga-europe.org
We kindly thank our colleagues at Freedom House and the Dignity for All programme who provided most of the opportunities below. ILGA-Europe has updated this list relevance to the European and Central Asian regions.

**COVID-19 LGBTIQ GLOBAL EMERGENCY FUND**
OutRright Action International has launched a fund that offers emergency financial assistance to LGBTIQ organisations that are addressing the impact of COVID-19 on the global LGBTIQ community. This opportunity is open to organisations outside North America and Western Europe. Find out more [here](#).

**CORONAVIRUS FAST RESPONSE FUND**
The Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation is offering grants to CSOs working in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine on projects to mitigate the effect of the pandemic. Projects should focus on rapid assistance for vulnerable groups, preserving good governance and accountability, countering fake news, and more broadly adjusting to the new reality that coronavirus has created. Find out more [here](#).

**EUROPEAN ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY**
The European Endowment for Democracy (EED) was set up as a flexible rapid-response mechanism to respond to local needs. During the COVID-19 crisis, EED continues work and can support LGBTI organisations in the European neighbourhood as part of their work. Find out more [here](#).

**COVID-19 CRISIS FUND FOR FEMINIST ACTIVISTS**
The Urgent Action Fund is providing grants for feminist activists working on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic response. The Fund prioritises activities related to such things as wellness, community care, remote work and digital gatherings, online advocacy campaigns, COVID-19 awareness campaigns, and supporting vulnerable populations. Find out more [here](#).
EXTERNAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

ELTON JOHN AIDS FOUNDATION’S COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUND
Recognising that people living with AIDS are extremely vulnerable due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Elton John AIDS Foundation has launched a fund to provide grants to fund solutions to addressing the specific challenges faced by those living with AIDS during this time. Projects should focus on mitigating the threat of COVID-19 to HIV/AIDS-positive individuals and/or increasing access to HIV healthcare programs. This opportunity is currently only open to existing grantee organisations. Find out more here.

CENTRE FOR APPLIED HUMAN RIGHTS – ARCTIVISTS FUND
CAHR has set up a fund – Arctivists – to support activists and artists across the world responding to the outbreak of COVID-19 and its implications for human rights defenders, activism, and shrinking civic and political space. Paired activists and artists are able to apply for up to £3,000; it is envisaged that most grants will be for between £1,000 and £2,000. Find out more here.

OPEN TECHNOLOGY FUND
The Open Technology Fund provides grants to organisations working to ensure internet freedom and access to information globally. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, OTF is increasing the pool of funding available to organisations specifically working on access to information relating to the pandemic. Projects and grant applications working on COVID-19 interventions are being prioritised. Find out more here.

PEACE FIRST
Peace First has begun offering rapid response grants to address COVID-19. The grants will go to young individuals and activists all over the world launching projects to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 around the world. Find out more here.
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES OF INTEREST TO LGBTI COMMUNITY MEMBERS

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUND FOR JOURNALISTS
This fund from national geographic will provide funding for journalists all over the world working to cover COVID-19 and its impact in their communities. Grants prioritise projects that aim to deliver news and information to underserved communities. Find out more here.

FORMAT
Format is providing $500 grants to freelance photographers who have been economically impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Find out more here.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S MEDIA FOUNDATION
The IWMF is taking relief fund cases from women-identifying journalists who have been economically impacted by the pandemic. They currently accept cases in English, Spanish, French, and Chinese for up to $2,000. Find out more here.

SUBSTACK
Substack is donating $100,000 in grants to independent writers on Substack who are experiencing economic hardship due to the pandemic. Find out more here.