



To Together, Moving Forward

Students and refugee students uniting for
inclusion in society and education

Deadline for applications - STAGE 1:
16 FEBRUARY 2020 - 23:59 Brussels time

“ESU believes that education is integral to building refugee self-reliance, fostering inclusion in host societies, and in recovery and rebuilding processes post conflict. Yet displacement has a direct, and destructive, impact on equitable access to quality education.” ESU, BM 77: Resolution on Improving the Accessibility of Higher Education for people with refugee background and seeking asylum, December 2019

Small-grants supporting inclusion

‘Together, Moving Forward’ (TMF) is a small grants programme run by ESU aiming at building positive refugee-host interactions across Europe.

Since 2016, TMF has provided ESU the vehicle to support student-led actions and projects around Europe aimed at breaking educational and societal barriers, and to amplify the voice of students advocating for a better perception of EU citizens toward migration challenges. More than 40 projects run by resourceful activists and creative change-makers have been supported. However, we are still confronted with little or uneven progress made by European governments and education systems, and public discourse regarding refugees and migrants remain very polarized.

We want to continue our efforts to encourage and promote valuable and viable options for refugees and asylum seekers to access and benefit from education, and be part in our communities.

We are inviting and supporting university students with or without refugee backgrounds to work together and get the system “unstuck”. It is time to combine your creativity to kick-start actions in Europe that tackle the main barriers limiting the access and inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers in education and society.

Our objectives

With this programme, we want to **inspire change and**:

-  Reshape public discourse around forced migration and confront hate speech in our societies
-  Inspire student-led initiatives addressing refugees’ and asylum seekers’ living conditions and not least their access to education;
-  Build capacity for student representatives to be more responsive to issues related to forced migration, focusing on social inclusion and access to education;
-  Empower National Student Unions to promote and advocate for clear policies that ease the access of refugees and asylum seekers to Higher Education;
-  Open up to new student groups and other stakeholders active on refugee issues, especially education;
-  Build long-lasting links between refugees, their communities, and student communities.

What we fund

We do fund:

- Support to **student-led** initiatives at local, national or European level.
- You can apply for **any sum up to 10,000 EUR** (or 12,000 EUR if there is a European component);
- **We fund:** project costs, including staff salaries up to 20% of the total grant (if sustainable and relevant).

We do NOT fund: scholarships and student fees, building (rent) or equipment costs (printers or computers, for instance).

You can decide on the actions and focus of the projects, but to be chosen, they **MUST**:

- have a clear link with the objectives of the call
- show good understanding of the context and **needs** being addressed
- take on actions that are relevant to those needs
- be student-led or have a strong student participation

A very strong attention will be given to the effective inclusion of young people or students with refugee background in the project, and as much as possible in the decision-making processes.

In the past year, we have funded:

an anti-hate speech campaign /// awareness raising campaigns /// production of infographics and videos /// grassroots student initiatives supporting refugee kids and their families /// websites /// mentoring programmes for refugee students /// capacity building events for students /// representatives and youth activists /// advocacy trainings and actions /// buddy programme and non-formal activities to break barriers /// networking events, conference and workshops ///

Read more about our [past projects](#) to get inspired

Who can apply

1. The programme is open to all non-for profit (student) organisations, not just ESU members. We encourage **student-led** groups, ESU members, local students' unions, and **refugee-led or migrant-led** organisations to apply for a grant.
2. Applicant organisations need to provide:
 - Copies of their statutes as an organisation or a copy of their official registration in the country.
 - An audit report proving the soundness of their financial system or a copy of accounts covering the last financial year should they not have an audited version
3. **If you are an informal group of students**, you can contact a local or national union of students, or another established organisation and ask for their support.
4. Application from a single individual will not be accepted.
5. We strongly encourage **partnerships between organisations**, with the aim of enlarging the scope, expertise and influence of each project.

How to apply

The application process is in two stages:

STAGE 1: Tell us about your project idea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept Note • Budget Proposal
<p>Tell us about your project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answer four simple questions to describe what you want to accomplish, why and how. • Include relevant, precise information but keep it under 2,000 words (about four A4 pages). • We will tell you within one-two weeks if your project can go on to the next stage. 	
STAGE 2: Convince us to work with you	<p>Provide further details, including info on project planning, financial status & proof of registration as an organisation, task division, communication...</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our follow up questions will partially depend on the size of the grant you request and for sure on the clarity of your first stage application →The clearer the first stage, the easier the second. • To help you get ready, we prepared a list of questions (in the application pack) we will most likely ask at STAGE 2. You will have about two-three weeks to come back to us. We will decide in about a month from then. 	

How we select

A selection committee will be in charge of selection. It includes student representatives, student with refugee-background, representatives an international organisation active in the same field. The TMF programme coordinator supervises the overall process.

We designed a list of selection criteria which will be applied in evaluating every single project. Read more about them and find some tips in our [Key principles and Selection Criteria](#) resource.

Application tips

- Write in clear and simple English;
- Support your claims with facts and data;
- Tackle a concrete issue with concrete actions. Expect concrete results;
- Ensure you have explained well enough why your approach is relevant, what you are going to do and how you are going to do it;
- Get familiar with the [key principles and selection criteria](#);
- Ask someone who doesn't know you or the project to read the proposal before you submit it. They can spot what is missing or what is not clear.

Apply now

**>> Deadline for STAGE 1 applications is
16 FEBRUARY 2020 <<**

Based on the application process, expect to know whether your project is approved in about 7 weeks from the Stage 1 application deadline. Get ready to sign the grant agreements and start your project. 70% of the grant will be in your bank account soon after that. The remaining 30% will have to wait until after the validation of the financial and narrative report.

Other deadlines will be communicated at a later stage.

Need more help from ESU?

- Contact Fanchon, our programme coordinator at movingforward@esu-online.org or call +33 6 75 86 87 00 with specific questions during working hours
- Discuss it with one of the former grantees ([find contacts on website](#))
- Have a look at our [FAQ page](#)