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Fellowship selection procedure

Project: **Enhancing EU's role in consolidating local democratic resilience in Moldova and Serbia**

Acronym **DREMS**, Project Number **101085517**

Call: ERASMUS-JMO-2022-HEI-TCH-RSCH

Topic: ERASMUS-JMO-2022-COE

Type of action: ERASMUS Lump Sum Grants

Granting authority: European Education and Culture Executive Agency

Beneficiary: Babeș-Bolyai University

Project duration: 36 months

Project summary

The project "Enhancing EU's role in consolidating local democratic resilience in Moldova and Serbia (DREMS)" aims to enhance the EU's role in the process of consolidating local democratic resilience in Moldova and Serbia by promoting a cognitive transfer of democratic resilience practices at the local level with the help of academia and civil society representatives. To this end, the project aims to produce 10 podcasts, 1 policy brief, 4 academic articles and a local democratic resilience toolkit based on the data collected during the research phases (focus groups with representatives from local public administration, academia, civil society and local media) that will take place in both countries. In addition, DREMS aims to increase academic knowledge about democracy in Eastern European countries by introducing 3 new courses at the Faculty of European Studies, Babeș-Bolyai University. Finally, DREMS awards 4 fellowships to civil society actors from Serbia and the Republic of Moldova. For the residential phase, the fellows will be present in Cluj, where they will be offered a training programme and will be involved in an exchange of best practices with a local NGO. For the second phase of the fellowship, the fellows will return to their home countries where they will organise 4 awareness-raising events on democratic resilience. Once established, the Centre will act as a focal point of academic expertise on democratisation and democratic resilience, working closely with civil society representatives from Eastern Europe and generating insights that will complement EU initiatives in this field.

Keywords:

- EU International Relations and Diplomacy Studies
- EU integration
- Democratic engagement and civic participation

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– Global Governance, International Law, Human Rights

Under WP4. Scholarships and democratic resilience tools, a fellowship programme will take place. The activities of the project also propose the involvement in this approach of several experts from the civil society from Serbia and the Republic of Moldova who, due to the fellowship financial support, will be able to become acquainted with the ways that Romania has considered appropriate in its process of effective democratisation. Each fellow will become an ambassador for democratisation and democratic resilience in their country of origin. Moreover, countries that are on the periphery of the EU (Serbia and the Republic of Moldova) have the chance to delve into European public diplomacy. The selection of the scholarship holders will be made according to the present methodology, so that the most active and involved members of civil society from the countries targeted by the project will be encouraged to participate in the competition.

This activity promotes and encourages dialogue between academia and civil society by providing scholarships for civil society in Serbia and the Republic of Moldova and by transferring tools to improve democratic resilience in the beneficiaries' countries of origin.

The fellowship will be organised for 4 people, 2 from Serbia and 2 from Moldova. This activity will include the organisation of the selection process, the actual conduct of the fellowship and the implementation activities in the countries of origin. The fellowship selection will ensure horizontal principles of gender equality, equal opportunities, equal treatment, etc. For the implementation of the fellowships, the project will target 2 persons from each country (Serbia and Moldova) for a period of 3 months. Each fellow will receive a monthly grant of 2,000 euro. Four civil society representatives from Moldova and Serbia will be involved in a fellowship programme for 3 months. Out of the 3 months, 2 weeks will be spent at Babeș-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, where they will participate in different activities aimed at ensuring an exchange of good practices with academics and civil society representatives from Romania. During the first part of their stay, they will participate in a training programme offered by a local NGO that has implemented a series of important projects in the field of democratisation, familiarise themselves with the created toolkit, be invited to give lectures to Romanian students and participate in the podcasts on democratic resilience. For the second part of the fellowship, the fellows will return to their countries where they will hold several public lectures/awareness campaigns (to diverse audiences) that will help implement the toolkit in their communities. Their valuable input will help to develop a comprehensive list of recommendations that will be included in the policy brief to be published at the end of our project.

The results of WP 4 are: Organisation of a competition to award 4 fellowships to civil society actors from Serbia and the Republic of Moldova; Organisation of a training programme for fellows; Launch of 10 podcasts on democratic resilience; Organisation of 4 awareness-raising events on democratic resilience, hosted by fellows, in the countries of origin. A competitive selection will be made based on the following criteria

- The most active and committed members of civil society;
- Work in/cooperate with NGOs with effective activities at regional and/or national level;

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- Have a democratisation focus;
- Have a relevant history of implementing democratisation projects with a high degree of visibility
- Have advanced knowledge of English;
- Are willing to spend a certain amount of time in Romania.

A training service on democratic resilience will be organised for 4 people, in English. The training will be organised for a period of 7 days, in which the training / familiarisation with the theoretical part on democratic resilience will be ensured, as well as the presentation of some case studies and the organisation of some round tables/ field studies. The purpose of the training programme is to get acquainted with the tools of democratisation and democratic resilience, to present case studies, to offer support from experts, to be involved in teaching activities, to participate as guests in podcasts etc.

Fellows will be required to deliver monthly activity reports and a final report.

The application must include the following documents (in English)

- Letter of motivation including implementation plan (max. 3 pages)
- Curriculum vitae outlining relevant experience and supporting documentation for the experience described (max. 5 pages)
- Certificate/letter of support from an NGO

Documents should be sent by email to: teodor.hodor@ubbcluj.ro.

The selection calendar is as follows:

- June 27th - publication of the call for applications;
- July 8th - deadline for applications;
- July 9th - publication of results;
- July 11th - submission of objections;
- July 12th - publication of final results;
- July 15th - confirmation of acceptance by the selected candidates.

The results will include a list of selected applicants (4 people), a reserve list and a list of rejected applications, if applicable.

This will be followed by the signing of the contracts and the setting of the timetable for the participation of the 4 selected fellows in the project activities.

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