

partnership at each U.S. media outlet, and should, wherever possible, identify personnel that will participate from both the U.S. and Ukrainian sides. For the visits to Ukraine, activities should focus on complementing those activities conducted in the U.S. and increasing the professional capacity of the Ukrainian participants and their colleagues who may not travel to the U.S. This aspect of the program should also strengthen the sustainable relationship between the two outlets.

Preference will be given to projects that do not exceed \$150,000.

The contact for this theme is Kendra Davis, (202) 619-5328, kldavis@pd.state.gov.

Tolerance

Single Country Projects for Ukraine Only

Proposals should focus on promoting constructive dialogue and reduction of stereotyping, violence and hatred among diverse groups. Projects should focus on minority communities such as the Tatars in Crimea or the Roma in other parts of Ukraine. Projects may be designed and implemented through media outlets, educational institutions, NGOs or other partners. Projects should build a valued working relationship between U.S. and overseas professionals and should develop, test, and result in a training program that can continue after grant support concludes. Proposals should address specific inter-communal conflicts and facilitate dialogue among teachers, professionals, journalists, community activists and local government officials in order to promote better understanding among parties in conflict. Programming should also introduce the evolution of U.S. laws designed to protect minority rights and promote tolerance. Projects should design and conduct a public awareness campaign to help dispel stereotypes and foster acceptance of cultural differences. Travel in both directions, including a hands-on, U.S.-based program with a train the trainer component, should be proposed. Continuous communication, mentoring, and consultations between overseas participants and trainers/mentors should be described in detail and conducted throughout the life of the grant.

Preference will be given to projects that do not exceed \$150,000.

The contact for this theme is Kendra Davis, (202) 619-5328, kldavis@pd.state.gov.

Press Spokespersons Training

Single Country Projects for Uzbekistan Only

ECA is interested in proposals that provide intensive, hands-on training to Uzbek national and government spokespersons as well as spokespersons from non-governmental entities. Proposals should focus on public affairs and public information as they are handled by government and non-governmental institutions. Program activities should cover such topics as how public affairs offices function in government; the importance of transparency in government; communicating openly with citizens and journalists; crisis communication; strategic planning; press office management; and the provision of accurate, timely information to the public.

Programs should consist of a Washington, DC, component, including meetings with the public affairs offices and spokespersons of federal agencies and departments, as well as shadowing experiences with state or local governments and non-governmental organizations. A train-the-trainers component should be included. In-country workshops should also be implemented, during which participants from the U.S. program will work as co-trainers and will reach out to a larger audience of governmental and non-governmental spokespersons from Uzbekistan. Media representatives may also participate in the in-country training program.

The Public Affairs Section (PAS) in Tashkent will be responsible for selecting participants through an open, merit-based process designed jointly by the grantee and PAS.

Preference will be given to projects that do not exceed \$150,000.

The contact for this theme is Michael George, (202) 619-5330, mdgeorge@pd.state.gov.

Central and Eastern Europe

Requests for grant proposals for the following countries will be announced in separate competitions: Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia-Montenegro/Kosovo, Slovak Republic and Slovenia. Proposals involving Central and Eastern Europe WILL NOT be accepted under this competition, and if received, will be technically ineligible.

Western Europe

Proposals involving Western Europe will not be accepted under this

competition, and if received, will be technically ineligible.

Budget Guidelines and Cost Sharing Requirements

Grants awarded to eligible organizations with less than four years of experience in conducting international exchange programs will be limited to \$60,000. Applicants must submit a comprehensive budget for the entire program and must provide a summary budget as well as breakdowns reflecting both administrative and program budgets in the proposal. Applicants may provide separate sub-budgets for each program component, phase, location, or activity to provide clarification. Please refer to the Proposal Submission Instructions (PSI) for complete budget guidelines and formatting instructions.

Since Bureau grant assistance constitutes only a portion of total project funding, proposals should list and provide evidence of other anticipated sources of financial and in-kind support. Applicants are strongly encouraged to provide cost sharing to the fullest extent possible. State Department Review Panels will consider cost sharing seriously when valuating all proposals.

The following are deemed allowable program costs:

1. Travel. International and domestic airfare (per the "Fly America Act"), ground transportation, and visas for U.S. participants. (J-1 visas for Bureau-supported participants from Eurasia to travel to the U.S. are issued at no charge.)

2. Per Diem. For U.S.-based programming, organizations should use the published Federal per diem rates for individual U.S. cities. For activities in Eurasia, the Bureau strongly encourages applicants to budget realistic costs that reflect the local economy. Domestic per diem rates may be accessed at: <http://policyworks.gov/org/main/mt/homepage/mtt/perdiem/perd03d.html>. Foreign per diem rates can be accessed at: <http://www.state.gov/m/a/als/prdm/>.

3. Interpreters. For U.S.-based activities, applicants may hire their own locally-based interpreters or may ask the Bureau to assign U.S. Department of State interpreters. The Office of Citizen Exchanges strongly encourages applicants to use locally-hired interpreters. Typically, one interpreter is provided for every four visitors that require interpreting. When an applicant proposes to use State Department interpreters, the following expenses should be included in the budget: Published Federal per diem rates (both "lodging" and "M&IE"); "home-