

7TH CALL FOR PROJECTS OF COOPERATION

French cooperation program for Croatian Civil Society Organisations

The French Embassy in Croatia launches its 7th call for projects aimed at promoting French-Croatian cooperation in priorities areas.

This program is implemented with the support of the Office for Cooperation with NGOs of the Government of the Republic of Croatia.

New version of the call: this edition includes several changes, so please pay close attention to the criteria and procedures!"

I. What is the objective of the call?

The call offers Croatian associations the opportunity to benefit from a grant of up to 3,000 EUR to implement projects within their areas of expertise/action that align with specific priorities of the French Embassy in Croatia.

Projects that promote French expertise or demonstrate a direct link to France will be prioritised in the selection process, particularly those including an active involvement of a French partner.

II. What are the sectoral priorities of the call?

To be eligible, project proposals must fall under at least one of the following priority themes:

1/ GENDER EQUALITY:

Fight against domestic violence:

- Suggestion of project: the Embassy has made available with Croatian subtitles five short-movies from the French body *MIPROF*¹: project proposals aiming at promoting these short movies among identified groups of stakeholders (such as nurses, doctors, law students, social workers, police officers, high schools, etc...) will receive special attention in the selection process;

Fight against gender stereotypes, especially professional ones: promotion of successful Croatian and French female figures:

- Projects can be in all fields of activities (science, gastronomy, military, etc... all sectors that are traditionally dominated by male figures)
- Sport: special attention will be given to proposals that address the situation of female Paralympic athletes;

Any other project related to the topic.

¹ MIPROF is the *French Interministerial Mission for the Protection of Women Against Violence and the Fight Against Human Trafficking*; the short movies are available on the You Tube channel of the Embassy:
www.youtube.com/@ambassadefranceencroatie6233

2/ SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:

UNOC3:

- In the context of the third United Nations Conference on the Oceans (UNOC3) that was held in Nice at the beginning of June 2025, projects promoting UNOC3 priorities will receive special attention;
- All proposals connected to the protection of coastal areas, the local communities (especially those living on the Croatian islands), initiatives promoting nature-based solutions, education on sustainable practices etc...

Sustainable tourism: a special attention will also be given to projects promoting sustainable and innovative practices in tourism;

Any other project related to the topic.

3/ MEDIA LITERACY:

Critical thinking:

- Education to identify fake news and exert critical thinking;
- Training youth to forge fact-based opinions and viewpoints on societal topics;
- Promotion of an informed use of social media.

Artificial intelligence: special attention will be given to projects addressing new challenges related to artificial intelligence

Fight against disinformation in general;

Any other project related to the topic.

Special attention will be given to projects encouraging the participation of youth into public and social life and debate.

III. Who can apply?

The applicant must be a non-profit civil society organisation registered in the Croatian Register of Non-profit Organisations (RNO) for at least 12 months. The applicant must have a transparent financial reporting (consultable in the RNO).

Applicants who were selected in the framework of the previous calls are eligible but their application will not be given priority.

IV. What types of activities can be supported (non-exhaustive list)?

- Organisation of conferences, roundtables, debates, workshops and seminars
- Activities oriented towards children and youth in the framework of cross-curricular subjects (on civic education, media literacy, etc.)
- Organisation of study visits to discover a good practice in France with a concrete plan to implement it in Croatia
- Awareness raising, citizen mobilisation and advocacy activities
- Joint publications, training sessions, etc...

Selected projects will be entitled to use the premises of the French Institute (Preradovićeva 5, Zagreb) for their public events during the project's duration, provided they submit a request at least one month in advance and in accordance with the French Institute's event schedule.

Important remarks:

- Profit making activities are not eligible.
- "One-off" conferences or events with no clear follow-up activities should be avoided.
- Online activities can also be supported.
- The Embassy will be invited to participate in all the public events organised within the project, and when possible and suitable, to address the audience.

V. What should be the duration for the project?

The maximum duration for the project is 12 months. Projects should start in 2025 and be completed by September 2026.

VI. What is the level of co-financing?

The maximum amount that can be awarded to a project is €3,000, covering no more than 80% of the project's total budget. Therefore, a minimum co-financing of at least 20% is expected from the Croatian partner.

There is no minimum grant.

In parallel to this call, being selected for funding from the French Embassy means the project will become eligible to co-funding from the Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs of the Republic of Croatia; under modalities described here: <https://udruga.gov.hr/istaknute-teme/financiranje-programa-i-projekata-udrug-iz-javnih-izvora/sufinanciranje/sufinanciranje-2025/6087>

VII. What are the selection criteria?

Relevance: alignment with the needs and challenges faced by Croatian society and with the priorities of the call;

Feasibility of the proposed activities;

Coherence between the defined objectives and the activities proposed;

Impact of the project at local, regional and/or national level.

VIII. Selection process and indicative timetable:

First step:

- Submission to the embassy of a concept note in English (two pages maximum) summarising the project. The template for this note can be found on the webpage of the French Embassy and has to be completed and returned in PDF format to djuro.zifra@diplomatie.gouv.fr. Any additional document will be disregarded at this stage. **Deadline for the submission of the concept note: Sunday, July 6, 2025.**

- Applications will be evaluated by a selection committee composed of representatives of the French Embassy and of the Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs of the Republic of Croatia.

Second step:

- On the basis of a first preselection, the Embassy will contact the short-listed project applicants for more details (mid-July)
- **Expected publication of the final results: end of July 2025**
- Signature of the contract and project kick-off: August/September 2025

IX. Reporting procedure:

A narrative and financial report in English will be sent to the French Embassy within 2 months maximum after completion of the project.

X. Contacts:

For any further information, contact the French Embassy: djuuro.zifra@diplomatie.gouv.fr

All necessary documents can be found on the French Embassy website <https://hr.ambafrance.org/> and on the website of the Office for Cooperation with NGOs of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, <https://udruga.gov.hr/>.