

UNHCR
Call for proposals from community organizations for 2024

1. Call for proposals

What is this call for proposals?

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, has been working in Bulgaria since 1993. In 2024, we are interested in supporting projects led by refugees, asylum seekers, beneficiaries of temporary protection, or stateless persons in Bulgaria with technical assistance and small grants. In this page you will find information on the support we can offer and how to apply.

The call for proposals is available also in Bulgarian, Ukrainian, Russian, Arabic, and Pashto. If you would like to translate it into [Farsi](#) or [Kurdish](#), please use the links provided here for an unofficial, artificial intelligence-based translation. You can also fill in the form in these languages (please see below).

Who can apply?

Your organization can apply if you fulfil these requirements:

1. You are a formal or informal **organization** that works in Bulgaria,
2. The organization's **leadership** is mostly composed of refugees, asylum seekers, beneficiaries of temporary protection, or stateless persons,
3. The organization's **actions** support refugees, asylum seekers, beneficiaries of temporary protection, or stateless persons, by providing assistance or services to them, or by promoting their rights.

Additionally, your

- Organization is legally registered in Bulgaria, or
- Organization is registered in another country (observing the requirements on payment of the grant), or
- One of the members of your board or leadership has a legal status in Bulgaria.

How will UNHCR support selected organizations?

In Bulgaria, UNHCR will select proposals from organizations led by refugees or stateless persons or community organizations for small projects to be implemented in 2024. In order to support community organizations led by refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons, the requirements have been simplified.

We may provide financial support of up to a maximum of 22,000 leva (subject to the review of the proposal), provide advice or trainings on how to increase your impact and strengthen your organization, and/or help you connect with other actors that can support your work. Our objective is to help your organization grow, build its operational capacity for future activities and provide more and better support to the people you serve, and we will agree on a support plan with selected organizations.

Even if your organization is not selected for a grant, we may later open spaces for new grants or reach out to you to see if there are other ways to support you, so if you want to work with us, don't hesitate to register.

How will the financial support be provided?

The organization or a key member in the organization should have a local bank account to receive the payment. The use of organizational rather than personal bank accounts is preferred.

What type of activities can receive funding?

Generally, in 2024 UNHCR is interested in supporting community activities related to, for example:

- Access to accurate and trustworthy information
- Advocacy for rights, including the rights of children, of persons with disabilities, or older persons
- Well-being, especially community-based psycho-social support
- Women's organization and empowerment
- Activities that aim at preventing or safeguarding against gender-based violence against women and girls and others, or creating awareness of misconduct such as sexual exploitation or abuse, or about human trafficking
- Access to assistance
- Community mobilization and empowerment to promote equal access to rights and services
- Non-discrimination and social inclusion, including through arts and sports
- Bulgarian language support
- Support for children, adolescents, and youths, including community-based childcare and activities aiming at socio-cultural development of children and engagement of youth in the community
- Access to education, including community support for children's education
- Access to employment and entrepreneurship, including recognition of professional qualifications in Bulgaria, or access to technical or vocational training, and prevention of labor exploitation or child labor
- Activities supporting empowerment or well-being of persons with disabilities or older persons, or of other disadvantaged / particularly vulnerable individuals
- Activities supporting social cohesion between refugee or stateless communities and the local communities, or activities benefiting both communities
- Activities that support the community's engagement with the local authorities, opinion leaders and community leaders

If you are not sure whether what you want to do falls in these categories, or you have another idea, you can apply, and we will review all proposals to see if they are a good fit for our objectives. Innovative proposals that support the protection and inclusion of refugees and stateless persons, including those that help activate or mobilize the community's own resources and skills or promote their acceptance in the local society, and those that help mobilize community volunteers, are likely to fall within the framework of this call for proposals.

How do I apply?

Please fill out the registration form in the link below. You can fill it out in English, Bulgarian, Ukrainian, Russian, Arabic or Pashto. The call for proposals is available also in Bulgarian, Ukrainian, Russian, Arabic, and Pashto. If you would like to translate it into [Farsi](#) or [Kurdish](#), please use the links provided here for an unofficial, artificial intelligence-based translation. You can also fill in the form in these languages (please see below).

Make sure you complete the registration before **19 February 2024**.

In the next month, UNHCR will reach out to pre-selected organizations to discuss their proposal and select the final list of participating organizations.

[Link to registration form: UNHCR Bulgaria - Refugee Led Organizations - Registration Form - January 2024](#)

I have questions!

We will have a questions and answers session on **7 February 2024 from 14pm to 15pm**. You can connect on that date via [this link](#).

If you have any question in the meantime, you can send an email to bulsoorg@unhcr.org.