



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS (CfA)

SMALL GRANT SCHEME FOR LOCAL AND GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATIONS IN KOSOVO

Reference No.	GLPS - 01/2026
Project title:	Strengthened Civil Society Role in Fighting Social Inequality and Gender-Based Violence in Kosovo
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Information Session date:	28 May 2026 (via Zoom)
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1. Background information

1.1. About the Group for Legal and Political Studies

Group for Legal and Political Studies (GLPS) is an independent, non-partisan and non-profit public policy organization based in Prishtina, Kosovo. Our mission is to conduct credible policy research in the fields of politics, law and economics and to push forward policy solutions that address the failures and/or tackle the problems in the said policy fields.

Through advocating the policy solutions derived from our policy research, we aim to support four fundamental policy developments: a. to support the democratization of the polity with regard to institutional and substantive policy reform; b. to strengthen the rule-of-law capacity and performance via informed policy solutions and practical advocating strategies; c. to enhance the economic growth and development by promoting market strategies that increase the rate of growth and stability, and d. to help improve regional cooperation and Kosovo's presence at the international level.

GLPS works closely with civil society organizations, public institutions, and international partners to promote inclusive and evidence-driven policymaking processes.

1.2. About the Project

The project is titled: "Strengthened Civil Society Role in Fighting Social Inequality and Gender-Based Violence in Kosovo", funded by the European Union, and implemented by GLPS. Its main objective is to further strengthen the role and capacities of GLPS and civil society organizations in addressing social inequalities, advancing democratic governance, and ensuring proper access to justice for all. Furthermore, the project seeks to promote informed citizenship, enhance institutional accountability, and support civil society engagement in addressing key issues related to social inequality and gender-based violence in Kosovo.

Main results of the project are:

1. Increasing the skills and employability of young women and men in the rule of law sector through internships and capacity building programs;
2. Increasing women and men's knowledge on access to justice through awareness and advocacy activities;
3. Enhance public trust and transparency towards the justice sector through systematic court monitoring;
4. Strengthen cooperation between relevant institutions through evidence-based advocacy and policy research on specific human rights issues.





2. Objectives of the Small Grant Scheme

The Small Grant Scheme directly contributes to at least two specific objectives of the project, including SO.5: Strengthened role of civil society in engaging with policy shaping and implementation, and SO.6: Increased capacities of local organisations/grassroots in engaging with the policy and decision-making at local level on specific human rights issues via grant schemes and awareness raising.

2.1. Overall objective

The ultimate goal of the grant scheme is to strengthen the role of local organizations and enable them to participate, monitor and advocate on some of the key local policies dedicated to protection and promotion of human rights and access to justice, by reducing social inequalities and gender-based violence through advocacy, civic engagement, and improved access to justice. Simultaneously, it will also provide for a professional platform to enhance the dialogue among civil society, local authorities and citizens.

2.2. Specific objectives

The grant scheme seeks to:

- strengthen the capacities of local CSOs to participate in policy dialogue, monitoring, and advocacy processes;
- support locally driven initiatives addressing social inequalities and gender-based violence;
- promote informed civic participation and citizen engagement in public decision-making;
- foster cooperation between civil society, communities, and public institutions;
- contribute to sustainable civil society development through financial support and mentoring.

3. Priority areas for support

Applicants are encouraged to propose initiatives that address one or more of the following priority areas. Proposed activities should demonstrate clear relevance to the overall goal and specific objectives of the grant scheme.

a) Combating Social Inequalities

Projects that aim to address various forms of social inequality affecting vulnerable or marginalized groups in Kosovo, including initiatives that promote equal access to opportunities, services, and participation in public life.





b) Prevention and Response to Gender-Based Violence

Projects that contribute to preventing gender-based violence, raising awareness, and supporting victims or survivors of violence.

c) Promotion of Human Rights and Access to Justice

Projects that strengthen citizens' awareness of their rights and improve access to justice mechanisms.

d) Civic Engagement and Participatory Democracy

Projects that strengthen civic participation and encourage citizens to engage in policy dialogue and decision-making processes.

e) Policy Monitoring and Advocacy

Projects that support civil society organizations in monitoring public policies and advocating for improvements related to social equality, gender-based violence, and human rights.

4. Grant information

Through this grant scheme, up to four (4) grants with a maximum total budget of EUR 40,000 will be funded. The maximum grant amount that can be awarded per individual project is EUR 10,000. All grant-funded activities must have an implementation period ranging from 6 to 12 months. The number of grants and the amount of funding available are subject to change, and GLPS reserves the right not to award any grants as a result of this call.

5. Eligibility criteria

5.1. Applicant Eligibility

To be eligible for funding, applicants must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Applicants must be civil society organizations (CSOs) registered in Kosovo.
- Be non-profit making;
- Organizations must have been registered for at least one (1) year prior to the publication of this call.
- Applicants must demonstrate experience or interest in at least one of the priority areas listed in Section 3.





- Be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action, and not acting as an intermediary;
- Have sufficient operational and financial capacity to carry out the proposed action;

Applications from political parties or organizations affiliated with political parties will not be considered.

5.2. Eligible Project Activities

To be considered for funding, proposed activities must directly contribute to the overall goal of JUST REACT 2.0. Eligible activities include:

- **Policy Monitoring:** Monitoring the performance of local or national authorities regarding human rights and GBV policies.
- **Evidence-Based Advocacy:** Initiatives and policy dialogue with decision-makers to improve institutional accountability.
- **Awareness & Education:** Community-based prevention initiatives and campaigns addressing GBV and discrimination.
- **Civic Participation:** Organizing public consultations and forums to promote citizen engagement.
- **Access to Justice:** Initiatives that educate vulnerable groups on their rights and legal protections.

5.3. Ineligible Project Activities

The following types of activities are **not eligible** for financial support:

- **Political Activities:** Initiatives supporting or affiliated with political parties or electoral campaigns.
- **Direct Financial Aid:** Projects consisting primarily of providing sub-grants or direct financial aid to individuals.
- **Profit-Making Actions:** Activities designed to generate commercial profit for the applicant.
- **Retrospective Costs:** Activities that started before the contract signature or fall outside the 6–12-month period.





6. Information on submission of the application

All applicants are required to submit an application. The application should be, specific, complete, and concise, and should clearly demonstrate the applicant's capacity and expertise in contributing to the objectives of this program.

Applications must be submitted via email to applications@legalpoliticalstudies.org no later than the deadline indicated on the first page of this CfA.

All correspondence must include the name of the applicant organization and the title of the proposed project (*for example: NGOName_ProjectTitle*).

To assist applicants in meeting the structural requirements of this call, GLPS provides the following mandatory templates:

- Annex 1: Application Form (Word)
- Annex 2: Detailed Budget and Justification (Excel)

Note: These templates are attached to this Call for Applications or can be requested via email.

Application Package:

- Annex 1: Application Form (Sections 1-6);
- Annex 2: Detailed Budget and Justification (Excel);
- Proof of Registration: A copy of the organization's registration certificate and fiscal number.

Note: The certificate must prove the organization has been registered for at least one (1) year prior to the publication of this call.

- Tax Administration Verification Certificate;
- One (1) CV of the proposed project staff;
- At least one reference from previously implemented projects, preferably related to similar activities.

Incomplete applications will not be considered for evaluation.





7. Grant award and contractual arrangements

Following the completion of the evaluation process, successful applicants will be notified in writing and invited to enter into a Grant Agreement with the Group for Legal and Political Studies (GLPS).

The Grant Agreement will define the rights and obligations of both parties, including implementation modalities, reporting requirements, payment conditions, and visibility obligations.

Grant beneficiaries will be required to:

- implement the project in accordance with the approved application and agreed timeline;
- ensure proper financial management and use of funds;
- submit narrative and financial reports in line with the reporting schedule;
- comply with applicable EU visibility and communication requirements.

Payments will be disbursed in instalments, subject to the successful implementation of activities and submission of required reports.

GLPS reserves the right to request additional information or clarification prior to contract signature and during project implementation.

8. Information Session and contact

A public information session will be held on 28 May 2026, via Zoom, organized by GLPS and announced through its official communication channels.

The contact point for this CfA and any questions related to the application process is: applications@legalpoliticalstudies.org.

Requests for clarification must be submitted in writing before the deadline for questions indicated on the first page of this call.

Relevant responses may be shared with all potential applicants to ensure transparency and equal access to information.





9. Evaluation criteria

Applications will be reviewed by an Evaluation Committee composed of project representatives. The evaluation process will consist of two stages:

1) Administrative and Eligibility Check

Applications will first be reviewed to verify that:

- all required documents have been submitted;
- the applicant meets the eligibility criteria defined in this Call for Applications;
- the proposal has been submitted before the deadline.

Applications that do not meet these requirements may not proceed to the technical evaluation stage.

2) Technical Evaluation

Eligible applications will proceed to the technical evaluation stage. Eligible applications will be evaluated and ranked based on the following weighted criteria:

Criteria	Max. Points	Specific Assessment Focus
Relevance & Impact	30	Does the project address a real gap in Social Inequality or GBV in Kosovo? Does it align with JUST REACT 2.0 objectives?
Methodology & Logic	25	Is there a "Strategic Sequence"? Are Activity IDs (A1, A2) used correctly to link the narrative to the budget?
Operational Capacity	20	Does the staff CV show expertise? Has the organization managed similar budgets (2024/2025) successfully?





Budget & Cost Effectiveness	15	Is the EUR 10,000 request realistic? Are unit costs (from Annex 2) matched to Kosovo market rates?
Sustainability	10	Will the impact last after the 6–12 months of funding end?

10. Additional information

The publication of this Call for Applications does not constitute a commitment by GLPS to award any grants, nor does it obligate GLPS to cover any costs incurred in the preparation or submission of applications.

GLPS reserves the right to fund all, some, or none of the applications received, as well as the right to cancel, extend, or reissue this Call for Applications if necessary.

Only proposals that demonstrate strong relevance to the objectives of the grant scheme and present a feasible and impactful intervention will be considered for funding. GLPS reserves the right to request additional clarifications from applicants during the evaluation process if necessary.

All materials and documents submitted by applicants will be retained for evaluation and audit purposes. The information contained in the applications will be treated confidentially and used solely for the purpose of proposal evaluation. It will not be disclosed to third parties, except where required by applicable law or upon request of the donor.

All applications must be completed and submitted electronically to applications@legalpoliticalstudies.org before the application deadline indicated in this Call for Applications.





11. Indicative timetable

Activity	Date
Publication of CfA	13 May 2026
Deadline for questions	4 June 2026
Information session	28 May 2026 (via Zoom)
Submission deadline	14 June 2026 (23:59)
Evaluation period	June 2026
Notification of results	July 2026
Contracting	July 2026

