

CIVIL SOCIETY INVOLVEMENT IN THE EU ACCESSION PROCESS

EXECUTIVE PROGRAM FOR WESTERN BALKANS CSO EXECUTIVES

Given the successful completion of last year's edition, the Kosovar Civil Society Foundation (KCSF) in close collaboration with College of Europe, extends this invitation to civil society practitioners in the Western Balkans to become part of the second edition of the Executive Program in Prishtina, on **22-24 of October 2018**.

Adapting to the developing context, the Executive Program targets top-level executives of local and regional civil society organizations who are committed to engage into advocacy actions and have thematic focus on EU affairs.

The program of this edition is tailored:

- to boost the capacities of civil society organizations in EU's institutional set-up, policies and challenges towards accession of Western Balkans;
- empower civil society organizations to provide contribution in European integration process through strategic and tactical approaches for the EU enlargement and accession perspective;
- provide opportunities for CSOs to increase practical skills; and
- expand CSOs network to better leverage synergies for inter-organizational collaborations afterwards.

This program is being delivered in the scope of a long-term collaboration between the KCSF and the College of Europe, with the support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

THE PROGRAM:

The executive training, being an advanced program, requires to have background/previous knowledge on European Integration subjects, therefore participants are required to go through a set of materials in advance.

The program consists of three main modules:

- EU institutions and decision-making;
- EU fact finding;
- The Enlargement Policy and strategic and tactical approaches for accession.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Up to 25 participants from Western Balkan countries including; Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, FYROM, Kosovo, Montenegro and Serbia will be selected to participate among:

- Senior Executives (i.e. Executive Directors, Program Directors or equivalent) of CSOs who are active in EU policy areas;
- Candidates committed to engage into advocacy actions, specifically towards EU institutions;
- Candidates active in national and preferably regional level, with proven working experience;

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REASONS TO APPLY

Leading a civil society organization is a demanding endeavor; therefore, this hands-on program has been crafted to provide participants with what they really need:

Why: It is about a high-level training and exchanging first-hand experience, which can be translated into impactful actions. “**Resourceful**” and “**Impactful**” are the key words.

What: Participants will receive what they need. All topics and ways of delivery have been thoughtfully selected to benefit experienced civil society executives. Only subjects of real interest have been included.

Who: Top-notch experts and up to 25 leaders of well-established CSOs will attend. In addition to transmitted knowledge, this is also an excellent opportunity for peer-to-peer exchange and networking.

Where: The activities will take place in Pristina, at Emerald Hotel, which is located within 15 minutes of the city center.

When: From October 22 to 24, 2018, it will be three days of intensive learning and collaboration.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

All interested candidates should send their CV in EU format and Cover Letter/Motivation Letter to jeta.bucinca@kcsfoundation.org

Participation, accommodation and other event expenditures will be covered by KSCF. Participants are expected to cover their own traveling expenses, including visas, if applicable.

Prior to program delivery, to ensure the homogeneity of the group, the participants will be provided with pre-reading material package.

Only selected candidates will be informed by e-mail.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS SEPTEMBER 14, 2018.

For further information on the background of the organizers and the program, please refer to the links below:

Kosovar Civil Society Foundation: <http://kcsfoundation.org/?page=2,6,682#.Wz4FDNlzaUk>

College of Europe: <https://www.coleurope.eu/training-projects>

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PRISHTINA 22-24 OCTOBER 2018