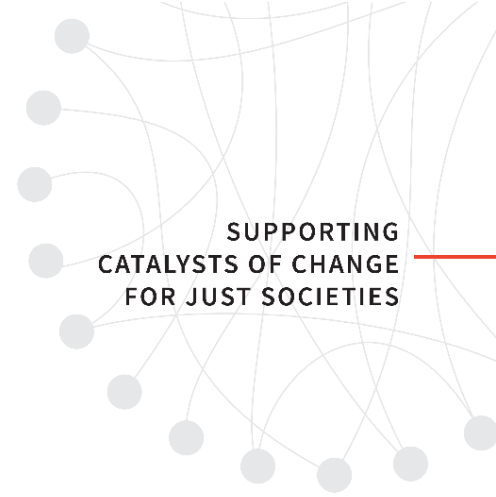




NETHERLANDS  
HELSINKI  
COMMITTEE



SUPPORTING  
CATALYSTS OF CHANGE  
FOR JUST SOCIETIES

## Call for Experts to Support the Needs of Exiled CSOs from Belarus

### Project Background

In 2020-2022, the legislative framework for CSOs in Belarus continued to become more restrictive and prohibitive. These new reforms, in combination with the impact of the sanctions in response to the war, further put human rights organisations at risk and restricted the possibilities for them to receive support from outside of the country, making their work nearly impossible. The intensified wave of persecution of civil society organisations and their official liquidation has led to a growing demand for the reallocation of the whole teams of these CSOs, for them to be able to continue human rights work (temporarily) in exile. Organisations and individual human rights defenders in exile also face barriers, from legal questions to procedures to open bank accounts and personal issues with arranging visas, insurance and housing. Providing support to the work of these organisations is crucial for keeping the human rights community in and from Belarus alive and maintaining the civil society infrastructure to the extent possible so that these organisations are ready to go back whenever the circumstances change.

In the first quarter of 2023, the NHC provided flexible emergency grants to the exiled Belarusian CSOs working on the protection of human rights to ensure that these organisations could re-locate their staff members, re-calibrate and continue their work from exile. These grants covered costs related to the relocation and adjustment of the strategy of these organisations to the current circumstances.

### Objective of the Call

Within the scope of the project, the NHC is now looking for a qualified expert from Belarus to work with the dedicated NHC staff on this project. Local knowledge and expertise are crucial for addressing the context-specific needs of the exiled CSOs that are supported under this project, as well as for strategically adjusting activities where necessary in relation to the needs of the exiled organisation on the ground. In this regard, the selected expert will serve as a focal point for the NHC and will play a strong role in the effective implementation of project activities.

### Responsibilities and tasks

The selected expert will be responsible for the following tasks:

- Providing support to the NHC throughout the sub-granting process, which includes reviewing reports from local partners, monitoring and evaluating awarded grants, participating in M&E visits if necessary; supporting NHC project staff in drafting narrative reports for the donor.

- Playing a strong role in coaching of and communicating with the selected local partners. This includes providing advice on protecting their staff and adjusting their operations and strategy based on their needs.
- Supporting the NHC in planning and executing advocacy-related activities aimed at amplifying the voices of human rights organisations and defenders from the affected region on the international level.
- Providing advice to the NHC on visibility of the project and, where relevant, drafting communications initiatives about the project, such as social media outlets and posts, interviews, anonymous success stories, press releases, etc.

## Required qualifications and skills

Prospective applicants are required to have the following qualifications and skills:

- A minimum of five years' experience and expertise in developing and implementing activities in one or more of the following areas particularly in the field of protection and promotion of human rights:
  - Organisational support for CSOs, crisis management and strategy readjustment;
  - Advocacy campaigning for CSOs at regional/international arena;
  - Supporting good governance practices and prevention of burnout in CSOs.
- A comprehensive understanding and expertise on the Belarusian civil society organisations is required, with the added benefit of having a pre-existing network with the CSO community.
- Demonstrable experience in supporting sub-granting processes, from assessment and selection of local partners to supporting implementation of projects through the provision of coaching, administrative support, and/or monitoring and evaluation;
- Professional fluency in English and Belarusian;

## Confidentiality

Throughout the assignment and for five years after the date of final payment for service, the expert must agree to keep confidential all data, documents, or other materials in any format disclosed in writing or orally concerning the project.

## Application Process

The NHC will contract one selected expert for a period of one year, with the possibility of extension if deemed appropriate.

We ask interested candidates to **APPLY ONLINE** no later than **6 October, 2023**.

For questions regarding the project or the application procedure, please contact us by email to [hrdprogramme.nhc@protonmail.com](mailto:hrdprogramme.nhc@protonmail.com) no later than 29 September, 2023.

Only full applications consisting of a completed online application form and CV will be assessed.

## Selection Criteria

	<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Maximum score</b>
1	Knowledge of the Belarusian civil society and understanding of current needs of those exiled organizations that promote and protect human rights	<b>30</b>
2	Expertise in coaching local CSOs on organizational development in crisis conditions	<b>30</b>
3	Experience in supporting the sub-granting process and monitoring and evaluating awarded grants	<b>15</b>
4	Vision of planning and executing advocacy-related activities on international arena	<b>15</b>
5	Cost-effective and realistic daily rate	<b>10</b>
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>100</b>