



Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

# Promoting Sovereignty and Rule of Law in Europe

Bureau of Democracy Human Rights and Labor, Department of State

Opportunity number: DFOP0019631

Application deadline: **Monday, August 31 at 23:59:59 ET**

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## A. Basic Information

### 1. *Overview*

|                                       |                                                        |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Funding Opportunity Title</b>      | <b>Promoting Sovereignty and Rule of Law in Europe</b> |
| <b>Funding Opportunity Number</b>     | DFOP0019631                                            |
| <b>Announcement Type</b>              | Initial announcement                                   |
| <b>Deadline for Applications</b>      | <b>Monday, August 31 at 23:59:59 ET</b>                |
| <b>Assistance Listing Number</b>      | 19.345                                                 |
| <b>Length of performance period</b>   | 24 to 36 months                                        |
| <b>Number of awards anticipated</b>   | 1 award (dependent on amounts)                         |
| <b>Award amount</b>                   | \$2,960,039 (approximately)                            |
| <b>Total available funding</b>        | \$2,960,039 pending availability of funds              |
| <b>Type of Funding</b>                | <b>FY 2025 Democracy Funds</b>                         |
| <b>Anticipated project start date</b> | <b>September 30, 2026</b>                              |

**Funding Instrument Type:** Cooperative agreements include substantial involvement of the bureau or embassy in program implementation of the project. An FAA can also include substantial involvement. Examples of substantial involvement are included in section C below.

**Project Performance Period:** Proposed projects should be completed in 36 months or less.

The Department of State will entertain applications for continuation grants funded under these awards beyond the initial budget period on a non-competitive basis subject to availability of funds, satisfactory progress of the program, and a determination that continued funding would be in the best interest of the U.S. Department of State.

**This notice is subject to availability of funding.**

### 2. *Executive Summary*

This program will document and analyze democratic backsliding in Europe as it relates to mass migration, with a particular emphasis on research regarding the human rights and social impacts of the mass migration crisis in Europe.

## B. Eligibility

### 1. *Eligible Applicants*

The following organizations are eligible to apply:

- U.S.-based non-profit organizations/nongovernmental organizations (NGOs)
- Foreign-based non-profit organizations/NGOs
- Private or public institutions of higher education
- For-profit organizations or businesses

## ***2. Cost Sharing or Matching***

Providing cost sharing, matching, or cost participation is not an eligibility factor or requirement for this NOFO and providing cost share will not result in a more favorable competitive ranking. Per 2 CFR 200.306, budget line items that are proposed for cost share must be allowable per 2 CFR 200, Subpart E—Cost Principles.

## ***3. Other Eligibility Requirements***

All organizations must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) issued via SAM.gov as well as a valid registration in SAM.gov. Please see Section D.3 for more information. Individuals are not required to have a UEI or be registered in SAM.gov.

Applicants are only allowed to submit one proposal per organization. If more than one proposal is submitted from an organization, all proposals from that institution will be considered ineligible for funding.

## **C. Program Description**

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) seeks applications for a project that aims to research and advocate for immigration policies and laws that protect sovereignty and the rule of law and promote democratic resilience in Europe. This program advances the National Security Strategy's goals of "support[ing] our allies in preserving the freedom and security of Europe," including by addressing "migration policies that are transforming the continent and creating strife."

### ***1. Goals and Objectives***

The European Union has faced significant challenges related to migration flows, particularly following the 2015 migration crisis and subsequent waves of arrivals. These challenges include managing border security while maintaining Schengen Area principles, processing asylum claims efficiently, integrating newcomers into labor markets and social systems, and addressing public concerns about cultural cohesion and security. For example, many countries have grappled with integration issues in urban areas and debates over secularism and religious expression, while others have faced challenges related to its complex federal structure and the distribution of responsibilities between regional governments. The EU has struggled to implement a unified migration policy, with member states often disagreeing on burden-sharing mechanisms, border management responsibilities, and the balance between humanitarian obligations and border control.

Migration has tested European legal frameworks in several ways. Courts and administrative systems have faced increased caseloads from asylum applications and appeals, sometimes creating backlogs that strain judicial resources and delay proceedings. Some countries have implemented emergency measures or expedited procedures that civil society organizations have challenged as potentially compromising due process protections. Migration has also highlighted tensions between national sovereignty and EU law, with some member states resisting EU-level migration quotas or policies they view as infringing on their authority. Additionally, the challenge of managing irregular migration has raised questions about how rapid influx of migrants can lead to greater rates of criminality, the breakdown of law and order, and risks of irregular law enforcement practices such as “two-tier” policing. These pressures have sparked ongoing debates about how to maintain robust rule of law standards while addressing legitimate migration management concerns.

DRL seeks proposals to systemically, academically, and factually document and analyze democratic backsliding in Europe as it relates to mass migration, rule of law, and national sovereignty, with a particular emphasis on research regarding the human rights and social impacts of the mass migration crisis in Europe.

Proposals must address both of the following objectives:

**Objective 1: Civil society organizations conduct methodologically-sound, credible research about mass migration across the European Union.**

*Illustrative activities:*

- Systematic research, data, documentation and publication of reports analyzing the human rights, criminal, economic, and societal impact of the mass migration crisis on local European populations.
- Trainings on research methodologies and documentation techniques.
- Trainings for journalists and media actors on how to accurately report on issues of mass migration and demographic change.
- Policy debates on sovereignty, migration, and globalism to examine the balance between national sovereignty and supranational governance and compare integration models across the EU.
- Analysis of the domestic application of immigration laws and spending on public services and how these laws and policies influence demographics across Europe.
- Distribution of publications on the influence of immigration to the public to increase their awareness of the impacts of mass migration.

*Illustrative outcomes:*

- Evidence-based documentation is used to inform public and institutional debates on mass migration.
- Increased public access to high-quality information on the impacts of mass migration and changing demographics on European countries.
- Increased public understanding of policy options to drive public debate on immigration.
- Research and data on the impact of mass migration is cited by government institutions and the public.

**Objective 2: Civil society advocates for civil and social reform to improve rule of law and democratic resilience across the European Union.**

*Illustrative activities:*

- Development of immigration policy recommendations based on research conducted under objective one that reflect a wide range of viewpoints and public spending priorities.
- Evidence-based advocacy for improved immigration policies and policy implementation.
- Civil society participation and/or input in decision-making forums related to immigration laws and policies.
- Public debates and research papers on the influence of mass migration on the rule of law in Europe.

*Illustrative Outcomes:*

- Advocacy on immigration policy leads to increased public awareness and stronger adherence to the rule of law.
- Involvement of civil society as a stakeholder in debates on immigration policy is strengthened.
- Input from civil society on immigration policy and related laws is integrated into national and regional fora.

**In addition, competitive proposals will meet the following criteria:**

- Proposals should describe clear performance indicators, data collection methods, and how progress toward objectives will be measured.
- Explain how feedback from beneficiaries will be incorporated into ongoing program adjustments and how lessons learned will be documented and shared.
- Consistent with the Foreign Assistance Act and applicable State/Foreign Operations appropriations provisions governing democracy and political party assistance, all proposed activities must be nonpartisan and offered on a fair and equitable basis to all democratic political parties, and implementers will not seek to influence the outcome of any election.
- Applicants may allocate a proportion of the funding as subaward agreements, whereby subrecipients implement program activities that contribute to meeting the program goal

and objectives. While the application will be strengthened by inclusion of at least 1-2 identified subrecipients at the time of application, including letter(s) of commitment, other subrecipients may be identified and approved by DRL during the period of performance of the award.

- A compelling proposal will collect data on migration and demographics and their impacts on European Union countries. A compelling proposal will also increase civil society participation and input in discussions related to immigration policy reform and the impacts of mass migration on the rule of law.

### **Program-Specific Requirements:**

- a. The organization will submit to DRL for approval an annual workplan that includes a timeline, planned milestones, and short descriptions of all workshops and events, and a list of stakeholder groups and organizations participating. The workplan will be due 60 days from the start of the award, and annually thereafter.
- b. The organization will submit to DRL for approval a Monitoring & Evaluation Narrative to describe the organization's approach to monitoring and evaluation, including proof and verification of results outlined in the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and methodologies for internal and external evaluations. The Monitoring and Evaluation plan is due 90 days from the start of the award.
- c. The organization will submit to DRL for approval Key Personnel proposed for this award, demonstrating how the individual(s) qualifications align to the criteria of Key Personnel positions. Key personnel are to be submitted within 30 days of the start of the award.
- d. The organization could be subject to annual site visits by the programming monitoring team.
- e. Grantees must notify their Grants Officer Representative and their Technical Program Officer prior to any international travel, even if pre-approved in the grant budget. Grantees must also notify their Grants Officer Representative and their Technical Program Officer regarding any travel-related incidents resulting from any programmatic activities under any project or grant, USG or otherwise.
- f. The organization will submit to DRL for approval any evaluation, research or survey methodologies.
- g. DRL may also provide technical assistance or subject matter expertise, reviews and comments on draft materials, reports, or publications.

## **2. Substantial Involvement**

The Department of State will be substantially involved in carrying out the following various aspects of this cooperative agreement. Examples of substantial involvement may include but are not limited to:

1. **Approval of Convening Participants, Locations and Agendas:** Given the need to ensure alignment with U.S. foreign policy objectives, the Department reserves the right to review and provide input on proposed convening participants, locations, and timing. The recipient will coordinate closely with the Department on major convenings to ensure they advance program goals and do not inadvertently undermine Department diplomatic efforts.
2. **Review of Program Materials and Content:** The Department will review and provide input on key program materials.
3. **Participation in Key Program Activities:** Department representatives may participate in or observe major program activities, such as training workshops, research analysis convenings, or other significant events, as appropriate and feasible.
4. **Strategic Guidance:** The Department may provide strategic guidance on program direction, including which countries are included, in response to changing policy considerations or political conditions that may affect program implementation or beneficiary safety. DRL will provide guidance to ensure all activities remain consistent with the Foreign Assistance Act and applicable State/Foreign Operations appropriations provisions.
5. **Technical Assistance:** DRL will provide technical assistance on project planning and implementation frameworks, including but not limited to the Performance Indicator Tracking Table, monitoring and evaluation narrative, and accompanying monitoring and evaluation plan or offers guidance on methodology or approach.

Please note that areas of substantial involvement will be negotiated with the applicant prior to award issuance.

#### **D. Application Contents and Format**

Please follow all instructions below carefully. Proposals that do not meet the requirements of this announcement or fail to comply with the stated requirements will be ineligible.

#### **Content of Application**

Please ensure:

- The proposal clearly addresses the goals and objectives of this funding opportunity
- All documents are in English
- All budgets are in U.S. dollars
- All pages are numbered
- All documents are formatted to fit 8 ½ x 11 paper, and
- All Microsoft Word documents are single-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, with a minimum of 1-inch margins.

The following documents are **required**:

1. *Mandatory application forms*

- SF-424 (Application for Federal Assistance – organizations)
- SF-424A (Budget Information for Non-Construction programs)
- SF-424B (Assurances for Non-Construction programs)

2. *Summary Page (optional)*

Cover sheet stating the applicant's name and organization, proposal date, program title, program period proposed start and end date, and brief purpose of the program.

3. *Proposal Narrative (15 pages maximum)*

The proposal should contain sufficient information that anyone not familiar with it would understand exactly what the applicant wants to do. You may use your own proposal format, but it must include all the items below.

- **Proposal Summary:** Short narrative that outlines the proposed project, including project objectives and anticipated impact.
- **Introduction to the Organization or Individual applying:** A description of past and present operations, showing ability to carry out the program, including information on all previous grants from the State Department and/or U.S. government agencies.
- **Problem Statement:** Clear, concise and well-supported statement of the problem to be addressed and why the proposed program is needed
- **Project Goals and Objectives:** The “goals” describe what the program is intended to achieve. The “objectives” refer to the intermediate accomplishments on the way to the goals. These should be achievable and measurable.
- **Project Activities:** Describe the program activities and how they will help achieve the objectives.
- **Project Methods and Design:** A description of how the program is expected to work to solve the stated problem and achieve the goal. Include a logic model as appropriate.
- **Proposed Project Schedule and Timeline:** The proposed timeline for the program activities. Include the dates, times, and locations of planned activities and events.
- **Key Personnel:** Resumes are not required at this time. Instead, provide only the selection criteria your program will apply throughout the grant period of performance when filling key positions.
- **Project Partners:** List the names and type of involvement of key partner organizations and sub-awardees.
- **Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan:** This is an important part of successful grants. Throughout the timeframe of the grant, how will the activities be monitored to ensure they

are happening in a timely manner, and how will the program be evaluated to make sure it is meeting the goals of the grant?

- **Future Funding or Sustainability** Applicant's plan for continuing the program beyond the grant period, or the availability of other resources, if applicable.

#### 4. *Budget Justification Narrative*

After filling out the SF-424A Budget (above), use a separate file to describe each of the budget expenses in detail. See section *I. Other Information: Guidelines for Budget Submissions* below for further information.

#### 5. *Attachments*

- A line-item budget, expanding upon the summary categories found in the SF-424A. Subgrantee budgets, if known at time of submission, should also be included as tabs (please see template attached to NOFO).
- Key personnel position descriptions. Resumes are not required at this time. Instead, provide only the selection criteria your program will apply throughout the grant period of performance when filling key positions.
- Letters of support from program partners describing the roles and responsibilities of each partner.
- If your organization has a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) and includes NICRA charges in the budget, include your latest NICRA as a PDF file.
- Official permission letters, if required for program activities.

### E. **Submission Requirements and Deadlines**

#### 1. *Address to Request Application Package*

Application forms required above are available at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and MyGrants.

#### 2. *Department of State Contacts*

If you have any questions about the grant application process, please contact: DRL-PRU-Solicitation@state.gov

#### 3. *Unique entity identifier and System for Award Management (SAM.gov)*

##### **Required Registrations**

All organizations, whether based in the United States or in another country, must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and an active registration in SAM.gov. A UEI is one of the data elements mandated by Public Law 109-282, the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA), for all Federal awards. An applicant must maintain an active registration while it has a proposal under review by the Department and must continue to keep the registration active for

the entire duration of the period of performance of any Federal award that results from this NOFO.

The 2 CFR 200 requires subrecipients to obtain a UEI. Please note the UEI for subrecipients is not required at the time of application but will be required before an award is processed and/or directed to a subrecipient.

***Note: The process of obtaining or renewing a SAM.gov registration may take anywhere from 4-8 weeks. Please begin your registration as early as possible.***

- Organizations **based in the United States** or that pay employees within the United States will need an Employer Identification Number (EIN) from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and a UEI prior to registering in SAM.gov.
- Organizations **based outside of the United States** and that do not pay employees within the United States do not need an EIN from the IRS but do need a UEI prior to registering in SAM.gov.
- **Organizations based outside of the United States that do not intend to apply for U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) awards are no longer required to have a NATO Commercial and Government Entity (NCAGE) code to apply for non-DoD foreign assistance funding opportunities.** If an applicant organization is mid-registration and wishes to remove an NCAGE code from their SAM.gov registration, the applicant should submit a help desk ticket (“incident”) with the Federal Service Desk (FSD) online at [www.fsd.gov](http://www.fsd.gov) using the following language: “I do not intend to seek financial assistance from the Department of Defense. I do not wish to obtain an NCAGE code. I understand that I will need to submit my registration after this incident is resolved in order to have my registration activated.”

Organizations based outside of the United States and that DO NOT plan to do business with the DoD should follow the below instructions:

Step 1: Proceed to SAM.gov to obtain a UEI and complete the SAM.gov registration process. SAM.gov registration must be renewed annually.

Organizations based outside of the United States and that DO plan to do business with the DoD in addition to Department of State should follow the below instructions:

Step 1: Apply for an NCAGE code by following the instructions on the NSPA NATO website linked below:

NCAGE Homepage:

<https://eportal.nspa.nato.int/AC135Public/sc/CageList.aspx>

NCAGE Code Request Tool (NCRT):

[NCAGE Code Request Tool \(nato.int\)](#)

## **Exemptions**

An exemption from the UEI and sam.gov registration requirements may be permitted on a case-by-case basis. See [2 CFR 25.110](#) for a full list of exemptions.

Organizations requesting exemption from UEI or SAM.gov requirements must email the point of contact listed in the NOFO at least two weeks prior to the deadline in the NOFO providing a justification of their request. Approval for a SAM.gov exemption must come from the warranted Grants Officer before the application can be deemed eligible for review.

### **4. *Submission Dates and Times***

Applications are due no later than *Monday, August 31 at 23:59:59 EST*.

### **5. *Funding Restrictions***

#### **i. Funding Restrictions for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)**

None of the funds awarded resulting from this Notice of Funding Opportunity may be made available for subawards, direct financial support, or otherwise used to provide any payment or transfer to United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

#### **ii. Certification Regarding Compliance with applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws**

If the place of performance or delivery of any award made under this NOFO will be within the United States, applicants are advised that they will be required to certify the following at the time of award:

- 1) Its compliance in all respects with all applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws is material to the government's payment decisions for purposes of section 3729(b)(4) of title 31, United States Code and;
- 2) It does not operate any programs promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion that violate any applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws. A program promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion means a program whose purpose is to promote preferences based on race, color religion, sex, or national origins, such as in training

or hiring.

- iii. Certification Regarding Compliance with 20 U.S.C. 1011f and any other applicable foreign funding disclosure requirements

Applicants are advised that IHEs must certify the following at the time of award, and that this certification requirement must be included in any subaward agreements to IHEs:

- 1) Its compliance in all respects with section 1011f of title 20, United States Code, and any other applicable foreign funding disclosure requirements is material for purposes of section 3729 of title 31, United States Code, and for receipt of appropriate Federal grant funds.

- iv. Certification of Trafficking in Persons Compliance and Compliance Plan

Applicants are advised that they will be required to certify the following at the time of award for awards where the estimated value of services to be performed outside the United States exceeds \$500,000:

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- 1) To the best of the Recipient's knowledge, neither the Recipient, nor any subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor of the Recipient or any agent of the recipient or of such a subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor, is engaged in any of the activities described in [2 CFR 175.105\(a\)](#);

The recipient has implemented a Trafficking in Persons compliance plan to prevent activities described in [2 CFR 175\(a\)](#) and is compliant with this plan; and the compliance plan must follow the minimum requirements described in 2 CFR 175(b)(5).

- 2) That the Recipient has and will implement procedures to prevent activities described in [2 CFR 175.105\(a\)](#) and to monitor, detect, and terminate any subrecipient, contractor, subcontractor, or employee of the recipient engaging in these activities.

Recipients do not need to submit a copy of the plan. However, they must provide it to the Grants Officer upon request, and as appropriate, must post the useful and

relevant contents of the plan or related materials on their website and at the workplace. Recipients must re-certify on an annual basis for the entire award period of performance.

- v. Prohibition on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). If your project involves the purchase or use of an UAS, see this [link](#) for requirements and information you must include in your application.
- vi. Promoting Human Flourishing in Foreign Assistance (PHFFA)

Applicants for foreign assistance awards should be aware of requirements in 2 CFR Part 602, 603, and 604.

These policies are referred to collectively as the Promoting Human Flourishing in Foreign Assistance (PHFFA) Policy.

[602](#): The award term imposes certain abortion-related requirements on foreign nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), United States NGOs, public international organizations, foreign governments, and parastatals.

[603](#): The award term imposes certain requirements relating to gender ideology on foreign nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), United States NGOs, international organizations, foreign governments, and parastatals.

[604](#): The award term imposes certain requirements relating to discriminatory equity ideology on foreign nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), United States NGOs, international organizations, foreign governments, and parastatals.

The Department recognizes there are costs associated with these policies. Potential one-time and recurring costs the Department identifies for recipients and grantees are for familiarization with the policy, development and delivery of organizational training and implementation guidance, routine compliance monitoring, and recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

## **6. *Other Submission Requirements***

All application materials must be submitted electronically through [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov) or MyGrants.

## F. Application Review Information

### 1. *Review Criteria*

Each application will be evaluated and rated based on the evaluation criteria outlined below.

**Quality and Feasibility of the Program Idea:** The program idea is well developed, with detail about how program activities will be carried out. The proposal includes a reasonable implementation timeline. The proposal does not include any activities contrary to any standing Executive Orders. For a full list, see <https://www.federalregister.gov/>.

**Organizational Capacity and Record on Previous Grants:** The organization has expertise in its stated field and has the internal controls in place to manage federal funds. This includes a financial management system and a bank account. If sub-awards are proposed, applicant demonstrates experience managing subawards.

**Program Planning/Ability to Achieve Objectives:** Goals and objectives are clearly stated and program approach is likely to provide maximum impact in achieving the proposed results.

**Budget:** The budget justification is detailed. Costs are reasonable in relation to the proposed activities and anticipated results. The budget is realistic, accounting for all necessary expenses to achieve proposed activities.

**Monitoring and evaluation plan:** Applicant demonstrates it is able to measure program success against key indicators and provides milestones to indicate progress toward goals outlined in the proposal. The program includes output and outcome indicators and shows how and when those will be measured.

**Sustainability:** Program activities will continue to have positive impact after the end of the program.

### 2. *Indirect Costs*

If two or more applications receive equivalent scores based on the evaluation criteria outlined in this NOFO, preference will be given to the applicant with the lower indirect cost rate, as consistent with Executive Order 14332, Section 4(b)(iii). This preference will only be applied as a tie-breaking mechanism and does not supersede the primary evaluation criteria.

### 3. *Review and Selection Process*

A review committee will evaluate all eligible applications.

#### 4. *Risk Review*

##### i. Risk factors

Under the merit review as required by 2 CFR 200.206, prior to making a Federal Award the Department will review and consider the following risk factors:

- a. Financial stability
- b. Management systems and standards
- c. History of performance
- d. Audit reports and findings
- e. Ability to effectively implement requirements

##### ii. Responsibility/Qualification Information in SAM.gov

The Federal awarding agency, prior to making a Federal award with a total amount of Federal share greater than the simplified acquisition threshold, is required to review and consider any information about the applicant that is in the U.S. government designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM.gov (see 41 U.S.C. 2313)

An applicant can review and comment on any information in the responsibility/qualification records available in SAM.gov.

Before making decisions in the risk review required by 2 CFR 200.206, the Department will consider any comments by the applicant, along with information available in the responsibility/qualification records in SAM.gov.

#### G. **Award Notices**

The award or cooperative agreement will be written, signed, awarded, and administered by the Grants Officer. The award agreement is the authorizing document, and it will be provided to the recipient for review and counter-signature. The recipient may only start incurring project expenses beginning on the start date shown on the award document signed by the Grants Officer.

If a proposal is selected for funding, the Department of State has no obligation to provide any additional future funding. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the discretion of the Department of State.

Issuance of this NOFO does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the U.S. government, nor does it commit the U.S. government to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals. Further, the U.S. government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received.

**Unsuccessful applicants:** Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by via email.

**Payment Method:** Payments under this award will be made through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Payment Management System (PMS).

Recipients may not draw down funds without the affirmative authorization of the Department of State. In addition, recipients must submit, with each PMS payment request, a detailed explanation justifying the request.

## H. Post-Award Requirements and Administration

### 1. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements*

Before submitting an application, applicants should review all the terms and conditions and required certifications which will apply to this award, to ensure that they will be able to comply. These include:

In accordance with the Office of Management and Budget's guidance located at 2 CFR part 200, all applicable Federal laws, and relevant Executive guidance, the Department of State will review and consider applications for funding, as applicable to specific programs, pursuant to this notice of funding opportunity in accordance with the following:

- Guidance for Grants and Agreements in Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations (2 CFR), as updated in the Federal Register's 89 FR 30046 on April 22, 2024, particularly on:
  - o Selecting recipients most likely to be successful in delivering results based on the program objectives through an impartial process of evaluating Federal award applications (2 CFR part 200.205),
  - o Promoting the freedom of speech and religious liberty in alignment with *Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty* (E.O. 13798) and *Improving Free Inquiry, Transparency, and Accountability at Colleges and Universities* (E.O. 13864) (§§ 200.300, 200.303, 200.339, and 200.341),
  - o Providing a preference, to the extent permitted by law, to maximize use of goods, products, and materials produced in the United States (2 CFR part 200.322), and
  - o Terminating agreements pursuant to the U.S. Department of State Standard Terms and Conditions, including, to the greatest extent authorized by law, if an award no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities (2 CFR part 200.340).  
For the avoidance of doubt, the Department has sole discretion over the determination that an award no longer effectuates program goals or agency priorities, and this provision permits awards to be terminated at the Department's convenience, including when it determines that the award no longer advances the national interest.

- 2 CFR 25 - UNIVERSAL IDENTIFIER AND SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT
- 2 CFR 170 - REPORTING SUBAWARD AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION INFORMATION
- 2 CFR 175 - AWARD TERM FOR TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS
- 2 CFR 182 - GOVERNMENTWIDE REQUIREMENTS FOR DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE)
- 2 CFR 183 - NEVER CONTRACT WITH THE ENEMY
- 2 CFR 600 – DEPARTMENT OF STATE REQUIREMENTS
- U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS
- Recipients must comply with all applicable Executive Orders A searchable list can be found in the Federal Register: <https://www.federalregister.gov/>

## 2. *Reporting*

**Reporting Requirements:** Recipients will be required to submit financial reports and program reports. The award document will specify what reports are required and how often these reports must be submitted.

**Foreign Assistance Data Review:** As required by Congress, the Department of State must make progress in its efforts to improve tracking and reporting of foreign assistance data through the Foreign Assistance Data Review (FADR). The FADR requires tracking of foreign assistance activity data from budgeting, planning, and allocation through obligation and disbursement. Successful applicants will be required to report and draw down federal funding based on the appropriate FADR Data Elements, indicated within their award documentation. In cases of more than one FADR Data Element, typically program or sector and/or regions or country, the successful applicant will be required to maintain separate accounting records.

Applicants should be aware of the post award reporting requirements reflected in 2 CFR 200 Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters.

## 3. **Branding and Marking**

The Department of State, its programs, and U.S. Government funding and assistance should be easily identifiable to the Department's global audiences.

Recipients of federal assistance awards must follow the branding guidance published at [Guidance for Contracts and Grants - U.S. Department of State Brand System](#). Branding policy exceptions are outlined in the U.S. Department of State Foreign Affairs Manual [10 FAM 416, Policy Exceptions](#).

For more information, visit: <https://brand.america.gov/>

## **I. Other Information**

### **Guidelines for Budget Justification**

**Personnel and Fringe Benefits:** Describe the wages, salaries, and benefits of temporary or permanent staff who will be working directly for the applicant on the program, and the percentage of their time that will be spent on the program.

**Travel:** Estimate the costs of travel and per diem for this program, for program staff, consultants or speakers, and participants/beneficiaries. If the program involves international travel, include a brief statement of justification for that travel.

**Equipment:** Describe any machinery, furniture, or other personal property that is required for the program, which has a useful life of more than one year (or a life longer than the duration of the program), and costs at least \$10,000 per unit.

**Supplies:** List and describe all the items and materials, including any computer devices, that are needed for the program. If an item costs more than \$10,000 per unit, then put it in the budget under Equipment.

**Contractual:** Describe goods and services that the applicant plans to acquire through a contract with a vendor. Also describe any sub-awards to non-profit partners that will help carry out the program activities.

**Other Direct Costs:** Describe other costs directly associated with the program, which do not fit in the other categories. For example, shipping costs for materials and equipment or applicable taxes. All “Other” or “Miscellaneous” expenses must be itemized and explained.

Indirect Costs: These are costs that cannot be linked directly to the program activities, such as overhead costs needed to help keep the organization operating. If your organization has a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate (NICRA) and includes NICRA charges in the budget, attach a copy of your latest NICRA. Organizations that have never had a NICRA may request indirect costs of 15% of Modified Total Direct Costs as defined in 2 CFR 200.1.

“Cost Sharing” refers to contributions from the organization or other entities other than the U.S. Embassy. It also includes in-kind contributions such as volunteers’ time and donated venues.

Alcoholic Beverages: Please note that award funds cannot be used for alcoholic beverages.