

For the purpose of implementation of the project: Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue, financed by the European Commission, DG Enlargement, Regional Co-operation and Programmes, through the program Civil Society Facility, Operating grants to IPA CSO Associations, Support to regional thematic associations, Grant Contract No.: 2014/351-922

**Local Democracy Agency - LDA Subotica, Serbia announces:**

## CALL FOR EXPERT

**CULTURAL PARTICIPATION OF THE YOUTH IN THE BALKANS : Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Kosovo\*, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:**

**COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS AND PRACTICE**

### I Objective:

The objective of the Consultancy is to provide support to lead applicant – the European Association for Local Democracy (ALDA) and coapplicants (Local Democracy Agencies: Central and Southern Serbia, Subotica, Kosovo\*, Montenegro, Mostar, Prijedor, Zavidovici in Bosnia and Herzegovina and ALDA Skopje) in the implementation of regional comparative research on the topic of youth cultural participation in the Western Balkans as and integral component of the project **Balkan regional platform for youth participation and dialogue**: <http://www.alda-balkan-youth.eu>

The main objective of the research component within the project in 2017 is to contribute to increasing the focus of governments in the Western Balkans to provide more favourable conditions for enhancing cultural participation of youth. More specifically, the research study will encompass youth strategies and national/local sector policy measures adopted in respective countries in support to promoting EU Youth Strategy:

- Support the development of creativity among young people
- Increase access to culture and creative tools
- Make new technologies available to empower young people's creativity and innovation, and boost interest in culture, the arts and science
- Provide access to places where young people can develop their creativity and interests
- Facilitate long-term synergies between policies and programmes in culture, education, health, social inclusion, media, employment and youth to promote creativity and innovation
- Promote specialised training in culture, new media and intercultural skills for youth workers

The project is funded by the EU

- Promote partnerships between the cultural and creative sectors, youth organisations and youth workers
- Facilitate and support young people's talent and entrepreneurial skills
- Promote knowledge about culture and cultural heritage

The comparative study will serve as indicator of differences/discrepancies between the existing legislative/institutional framework and the position and needs of young people (aged 15-30), youth groups in the communities involved in this project so as to provide guidelines/recommendations for their future evidence based advocacy activities. The Comparative study is intended to provide an overview of the causes/tendencies related with the cultural values, youth cultural production and cultural reception in public and/or private sphere, youth participation in creative cultural industry, informal education for cultural innovations, cultural entrepreneurship development, competencies/skills development for intercultural dialogue etc.

The research will focus on the population of youth groups from the areas targeted by the Local Democracy Agencies (young people from smaller communities in urban/rural areas and youth marginalized groups, the unemployed, young people with low education, young people who are not involved in non-formal education, youth with low economic status).

The key findings and the presentation of the Comparative study results will be presented at the Third Balkan Youth Forum for Local Democracy which will be held in Prishtina, October 2017.

## II Methodology and the scope of the work:

Expert(s) will be engaged to:

1. Design the research and propose adequate research methodology and undertake regional comparative desk/field research that will result an in-depth insight of present state of youth cultural participation in the Balkans
2. design questionnaires for local field researchers to collect local data that will complement regional comparative desk research,
3. organise online training/coaching for local research team members in LDAs
4. organise focus groups interviews with the assistance of LDAs local research team members, analyse collected feedback,
5. manage online consultations with relevant regional/country based stakeholders,
6. analyze collected data and produce conclusions based on regional and local responses/results of surveys undertaken,
7. Produce draft research publication based on the the findings from the desk/field research based on representative sample, as well as the draft conclusions from the online survey, focus groups and interviews conducted.

Entire research work must be designed and conducted in a way to provide statistically reliable and relevant data. The Consultant(s) would be responsible to lead applicant ALDA and the coaplicants, for the quality of the material produced at the end of the project.

## III Period of the engagement:

April – October 2017

#### IV Requirements:

- University degree in social/political/economic sciences, advanced degree is an asset
- At least 5 years of experience in the field of research work
- Knowledge of youth policies in the Balkan region and EU
- Good understanding of cultural diversity and intercultural communication approaches, human/minority rights in local communities, participatory democracy, education for active citizenship, informal education policies
- Good knowledge of national legislative/institutional framework of youth related policies
- Good communication skills
- Knowledge of at least one of the local languages of the countries included (preferably a native speaker)
- Excellent knowledge of English (working level)
- Demonstrated analytical reporting skills
- Experience in donor funded projects and working in international/multicultural environment would be considered as advantage

#### Application and deadline

Interested candidates should send the package of 1) motivation letter, 2) Outline of proposed research design & methodology; 3) CV of expert(s) and 4) two reference contacts relevant for the assignment.

Applications should be sent to the following e-mail address with „Application for regional research“ in the subject of the email: Local Democracy Agency Subotica: [ldasubotica@aldaintranet.org](mailto:ldasubotica@aldaintranet.org) before **31st March 2017**.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.