



Partner search form
For Creative Europe project applications

Call	<i>Support to European Cooperation Projects 2025</i>
Strand or category <i>(please choose)</i>	<i>Small Scale Cooperation Projects</i> <i>Medium Scale Cooperation Projects</i>

Cultural operator – who are you?

Name of the organisation	The Romanian Center for Documentary Photography
Country	Romania
Organisation website	www.cdfd.ro
Contact person	Petrut Calinescu petrut.calinescu@gmail.com +40722298538
Organisation type	NGO
Scale of the organization	Small (approximately 10 core team members)
PIC number	875177942
Aims and activities of the organisation	<p>CdFD is a small Romanian NGO working with documentary photography (which may stretch from photojournalism to art) in interdisciplinary team (photographers, writers, designers, coders, researchers, musicians).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • we provide photography grants; • have launched the first printed collection of documentary photography in Romania; • developed a free online digital archive of the most important visual projects done recently in Romania. <p>The results of our work are typically photo exhibitions, books, or experimental publications, such as zines or postcard sets</p> <p>In 2024, our latest project – Pride and Concrete. 10 years Later - was nominated for the European Press Prize / The Migration Journalism Award 2024 and we've also published the book of the project.</p> <p>After the pandemic experience, we are slowly shifting our classic photo exhibitions into multimedia projections/websites which are more flexible, easier to travel with and reach new audiences. We</p>

usually wrap up our projects in a multimedia projection with an original soundtrack by Electric Brother (a well-known musician in Romania) based on the sounds recorded during field research.

We aim to tour multimedia photo projections, photo books, and experimental editorial print pop-up exhibitions across Europe, all based on CdFD's interdisciplinary, long-term visual documentary projects. These projects, spanning over a decade, will be accompanied by an original music soundtrack by Electric Brother based on a audio archive collected during field research.

The activities include screenings of long-term documentary photography projects (10+ years) (we have our own set-up of a pop-up cinema), engaging debates, and mentorship programs for emerging creators. By this, we seek to promote documentary photography as a powerful tool for intercultural communication, stimulate meaningful dialogue, and expand audiences for contemporary visual arts.

We have organized grant competitions in Romania for documentary photography projects and secured funding for cultural initiatives, including support from **Administration of the National Cultural Fund in Romania (AFCN)** since 2016.

Furthermore, we have successfully collaborated with esteemed organizations such as the **Romanian Cultural Institute (ICR)**, the **Order of Architects of Romania (OAR)**, the **Center for Cultural Projects of the Municipality of Bucharest (ARCUB)**, the **German Marshall Fund**, **World Press Photo**, the **Robert Bosch Foundation**, and **Journalismfund.eu**

The cofounders of CdFD

Ioana Calinescu is an independent journalist by conviction and, more recently, a co-founder of extensive independent cultural projects with social impact such as the Museum of Abandonment (MA) and the Romanian Center for Documentary Photography (CdFD). She has been experimenting with a blend of social and

	<p>cultural project communication for several years. Over the past years, she has been responsible for PR and communication at the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Bucharest.</p> <p>Petrut Calinescu is an independent photographer and the co-founder of the Romanian Center for Documentary Photography (cdfd.ro). He is represented by Panos Pictures. He studied journalism and spent a long time working as a photojournalist, then dedicated himself to long-term documentary photography projects. Some of his most well-known projects are The Black Sea and Pride and Concrete. More information at: www.petrut-calinescu.com</p>
Role of the organisation in the project	Partner, with expertise in producing documentary visual content, multimedia curation, and organizing interactive cultural events.
Previous EU grants received	No EU grants received to date, but our projects have been funded by institutions such as the World Press Photo, Robert Bosch Foundation, and Journalism Funds.

Proposed Creative Europe project – to which project are you looking for partners?

Sector or field	Documentary photography, multimedia, visual arts
Description or summary of the proposed project	
Partners currently involved in the project	

Partners searched – which type of partner are you looking for?

From country or region	EU member states, the Balkans, and the Black Sea region
Preferred field of expertise	Cultural organizations, film/photography festivals, art centers, and educational institutions interested in visual journalism and storytelling, and exploring themes related to the Black Sea.
Please get in contact no later than	ASAP

Projects searched – are you interested in participating in other EU projects as a partner?

Yes / no	YES
Which kind of projects are you looking for?	Cooperation projects in fields such as photography, multimedia events/festivals, visual education, migration, and intercultural dialogue with a special interest in the Black Sea Region.

Publication of partner search

This partner search can be published?*	YES
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