



**PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION
EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**ВІДДІЛ ПРЕСИ, ОСВІТИ І КУЛЬТУРИ
ПОСОЛЬСТВО СПОЛУЧЕНИХ ШТАТІВ АМЕРИКИ**

4 Hlybochytska St., Kyiv 04050 Ukraine
Phone (044) 490-4026; fax: 490-4050

Вул.Глибочицька 4, Київ 04050
Україна
Тел. (044) 490-4026; факс: 490-4050

<http://www.usembassy.kiev.ua>

DEMOCRACY COMMISSION SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM / MEDIA DEVELOPMENT FUND

THEMATIC COMPETITION: HUMAN RIGHTS

The U.S. Embassy in Ukraine calls for proposals from Ukrainian NGOs and media outlets to support the development of human rights in Ukraine. The purpose of the grant competition is to support both new and experienced human rights organizations in their efforts to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and monitor potential human rights violations. We strongly encourage proposals focused on the following themes related to vulnerable or marginalized individuals: women's rights, the rights of victims of human trafficking and domestic violence, the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) people, the rights of individuals with mental or physical disabilities, the rights of the elderly, children's rights and the rights of at-risk youth, the rights of ethnic and religious minorities, the rights of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), and the rights of HIV/AIDS affected individuals and households.

The project activities must fall into the following areas to be considered for funding in this thematic competition:

- Conducting education or media campaigns on the rights of vulnerable or marginalized groups, including "know your rights" campaigns to empower at-risk individuals and stigma reduction campaigns to create a more tolerant society. Organize trainings for journalists on human rights to improve reporting in the media and increase media coverage.
- Monitoring and reporting on possible violations of the rights of vulnerable or marginalized groups in Ukraine or in the region where the organization is located.
- Organizing cultural or outreach events that focus a spotlight on the rights of vulnerable or marginalized groups including essay contests, tolerance camps for youth, and media.
- Developing the institutional capacity of human rights organizations to respond to legal and social challenges against the rights of vulnerable or marginalized groups. Design train the trainer courses and manuals on human rights trainings related to these groups.
- Ensuring equal access to the justice system for vulnerable or marginalized groups, including projects supporting legal advocacy, (client counseling and representation, primary and secondary legal aid) and strategic litigation against discrimination and other issues to influence broader legal practice in Ukraine.

The U.S. Embassy will fund high-quality and results-oriented projects from media and NGOs throughout Ukraine. The duration of programs may vary depending on the proposals, but the length of the project should be no longer than six months. The average project budget will be \$5,000–\$15,000, subject to availability of funds and subject to potential changes in U.S. or Ukrainian law.

COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

- Eligible organizations and their members may not represent any political party, or serve as appointed or elected public officials at the time of application or for the duration of the grant. Media organizations or mass media which belong to and/or are financially supported by any political party (other than via intermittent advertising) are not eligible to apply.
- Eligible organizations may not make any expenditures with their own funds on behalf of political parties, party coalitions, or their representatives.
- Grant money may not be used to contribute to any political campaigns, nor may it be used to offset the expense of contributing to any political campaign.
- Eligible organizations may not publish or communicate anything that explicitly or implicitly favors or opposes any political candidate, political party, or party coalition.
- Eligible organizations may not use U.S. government funds to advocate or lobby for or against specific laws in Ukraine; this provision shall not be interpreted so as to hinder an eligible organization from publicizing conflicts between existing laws and respect for fundamental human rights.
- Application to, or receipt of funds from this thematic competition, does not disqualify any organization from competing for other U.S. Government funds, including the general competition for the Democracy Commission Small Grants Program or the Media Development Fund, or other thematic competitions.

TO APPLY:

Only electronic applications will be accepted. No paper application will be accepted. You must submit your application in PDF format. Applications must be completed in both English and Ukrainian.

Project proposals, marked “Human Rights – 2012,” must be received no later than 11.59pm (Ukraine time) on **February 15 , 2012** at one of the following email addresses:

Electronic copy:

KyivDemgrants@state.gov (for Democracy Commission projects)

KyivMDF@state.gov (for Media Development projects)

In all correspondence please refer to the Human Rights-2012 Competition.

You must use the standard Democracy Grants Program or Media Development Fund application forms and follow the instructions provided at:

<http://ukraine.usembassy.gov/democracy-grants.html>

or

<http://ukraine.usembassy.gov/media-fund.html>

Applicants may also request information by calling (044) 490-4026 or by writing to KyivDemgrants@state.gov or KyivMDF@state.gov .

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered for the thematic competition.