

Awarded Grants – Media Fund Serbia¹

1. The Independent Journalists` Association of Serbia - **Decision vs Official Note**; €27,000
November 1, 2024 – October 31, 2025.
The overall goal of this project is to contribute to the creation of a favorable environment where media freedom and freedom of expression can be fully exercised without interference. To achieve this, the project focuses on enhancing the institutional framework and practice that protect journalists' rights and safeguard media freedom.
2. Independent Journalists' Association of Vojvodina - **Building Local Capacity to Combat Threats and Uphold Journalistic Rights**; €26,930
December 1, 2024 – November 30, 2024.
The overall goal of the project is to raise the capacities of the media community, primarily in multi-ethnic communities in Serbia through strengthening the existing network of trustees in cooperation with legal expert, by educating them to recognize, report and respond to threats and hate crimes, SLAPP lawsuits and other forms of discrimination.
3. The Journalists` Association of Serbia - **Where does the Media reform take us one decade later** €27,000
November 1, 2024 – October 31, 2025.
The overall goal of the project is to enhance transparency, accountability, and understanding of media project co-financing in Serbia. The project aims to improve public access to information and promote fair and effective distribution of public funds to the media sector.
4. Union of Journalists of Serbia - **The Role of Trade Unions in Strengthening the Work and Professional Capacities of Journalists and Media Workers**; €12,000
November 5, 2024 – November 4, 2025.
The goal of the project is to continue the debate on establishing social dialogue in the media sphere in Serbia in order to move towards signing a branch collective agreement, as stipulated by the Media Strategy.
5. Association of Media - **Making ALL Media Visible**; €26,978
November 5, 2024 – November 4, 2025.
The overall goal of the initiative is to contribute to the establishment of a transparent, functional, sustainable, and fair media market protected from political influence, as stipulated in the effective Media Strategy.

¹ The Media Fund Serbia is a program implemented by the Balkan Trust for Democracy of the German Marshall Fund of the United States, supported by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Belgrade/Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA) and the Swiss Development Cooperation Office in Serbia (SDC).

6. Association of Local Independent Media “Local Press” - **Local independent media in focus;** €27,000
November 1, 2024 – October 31, 2025.
The project aims to strengthen and involve independent local media in regulating the media scene in Serbia and to support them in identifying, reporting, and publicly informing about daily pressures and occasional threats that hinder their work.
7. Association of Independent Electronic Media - **Enhancing safety of journalists through innovative monitoring and education;** €26,990.
November 1, 2024 – October 31, 2025
The project is to increase the safety of media workers through monitoring the implementation of the Media Strategy and producing educational articles and video content on established web/mobile phone app and promote a stronger partnership and cooperation between the competent institutions and media and journalistic associations.
8. Slavko Curuvija Foundation - **Towards Accountable, Transparent and Effective Media regulation in Serbia;** €29,885
January 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025.
The project aims to advocate for transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of Serbia’s Regulatory Body for Electronic Media (REM), keep stakeholders, the media community and the public alerted on all key developments and mobilize the broader media community and civil society to protect human rights in TV broadcasting.
9. SHARE Foundation - **Path to Resilience: Advancing Cybersecurity of Local Media in Serbia”;** €30,000
March 17, 2025 – December 15, 2025
This project will increase the internal capacities of ten local media actors for risk mitigation and resilience when it comes to preventing and responding to cybersecurity incidents. The project will conduct a comprehensive cyber security training for a group of local/civic media in Serbia to make them more resilient to digital risks and challenges, as well as provide recommendations to improve their cybersecurity posture in the future.
10. Balkan Investigative Journalist Network Serbia- BIRN - **Journalism in the Digital Age: Strengthening Investigative Approaches to Digital Rights;** €27,000
March 17, 2025 – December 15, 2025
The overall goal of this project is to enhance the investigative capacity of local media and empower journalists to cover underreported digital rights issues, while ensuring greater public access to reliable and diverse information. By increasing the visibility and reach of in-depth reporting, the project aims to reinforce trust in independent media and encourage institutional accountability.

11. Center for Investigative Journalism – Foundation - **Seeing Clearly: From Local Realities to National Stories**; €26,695
March 17, 2025 – December 15, 2025
The project will produce seven investigative stories, four of which will be based on local topics, focusing on key social issues like human rights, justice, and climate challenges. Research will yield the most relevant topics, focusing on their causes, consequences, and broader implications. The produced video explainers will be distributed through targeted outreach campaigns, aiming to reach 500,000 views per video, and engage audiences in informed discussions on pressing topics.

12. Hourglass - **Public interest stories: pluralism of views for informed citizens**, €24,040
March 17, 2025 – December 15, 2025
The project aims to enhance public understanding of critical reforms in Serbia focusing on legal and policy changes related to fundamental rights. It is to foster public debate, improve media pluralism, and ensure citizens are informed about the implications of these reforms in a context where media capture and political influence hinder objective reporting.

13. Civic Association Sumadija’s Center for Civic Activism Res Publika - **The Investigative Voice: Strengthening Local Journalism and Civic Engagement in Šumadija**; €26,840
March 17, 2025 – December 15, 2025
The project will strengthen investigative journalism in Kragujevac and the Šumadija region by enhancing collaboration between Res Publica and Glas građana Šumadije, two local citizens’ associations. It will empower local journalists to produce in-depth, data-driven, and ethically responsible investigative reports on public interest issues through mentorship, skills development, and network-building. Investigative storytelling will be combined with strategic digital outreach, using multimedia content to maximize audience reach.

14. VREME Fond - **Health Under Scrutiny: Investigating Serbia’s Healthcare Crisis in Collaboration with Local Journalists**; €26,850
April 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025
The project aims to strengthen local investigative journalism in Serbia by collaborating with local journalists on in-depth investigations into critical healthcare issues. Through hands-on reporting, mentorship, and workshops, Vreme Fond aims to equip local journalists with the skills to uncover critical issues while producing impactful stories that drive public awareness and accountability.