

Funder recommendations at-a-glance

27 February 2025

Immediate support for grantees

- ∞ Provide bridge loans and assist with cash-flow issues
- ∞ Loosen reporting deadlines to reduce administrative burdens
- ∞ Ensure flexibility in grantmaking to meet urgent needs
- ∞ Explore strategic alignment and collaborative approaches to minimise damage

Strengthening local philanthropy ecosystems

- ∞ Invest in local philanthropy infrastructure
- ∞ Shift from emergency responses to resilience-building approaches
- ∞ Support long-term sustainability through core funding
- ∞ Empower local actors in decision-making and resource allocation

Addressing shrinking space, i.a. in Eastern Europe & Western Balkans

- ∞ Advocate for continued support to civil society in the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe
- ∞ Ensure transparency in fund allocation to prevent government-affiliated entities from absorbing resources
- ∞ Mobilise European and global philanthropic actors to step up engagement and financial support
- ∞ Develop contingency plans for future funding disruptions to prevent long-term setbacks

Protecting civic space and human rights organisations

- ∞ Support organisations working in politically sensitive areas, recognising their financial and political risks



- ∞ Strengthen support to advocacy efforts to protect civil society from increasing scrutiny and threats
- ∞ Form a broader consortium to collectively address challenges facing civic space

Enhancing organisational resilience

- ∞ Provide flexible and long-term core funding to grantees
- ∞ Cover overhead costs generously and front-load payments for upcoming grants
- ∞ Make restricted grants more flexible to accommodate changing needs
- ∞ Invest in grantees' organisational development, including internal systems, staff well-being and capacity-building
- ∞ Boost grantees' reserves and support contingency planning to enhance financial sustainability

Strategic considerations for philanthropy

- ∞ Recognise sector-specific impacts (e.g., financial risks in climate funding, political risks in human rights and DEI)
- ∞ Reassess investment strategies, particularly regarding major tech companies linked to the crisis
- ∞ Engage more deeply with the political aspects of philanthropy to support long-term democratic resilience
- ∞ Balance public statements carefully, ensuring they add value without shifting the focus away from affected communities