



## Questions and Answers

### Competition for the Best Media Reports on European Integration in the South East and South West Serbia

With the intention of clarifying the procedure of submitting media reports for [Competition for the Best Media Reports on European Integration in the South East and South West Serbia](#) please find a list of answers to frequently asked questions. Prospective applicants are, however, welcome to contact us at [rspc.ep.comms@unops.org](mailto:rspc.ep.comms@unops.org) for any and all further clarifications.

#### I

**Q:** Since the language of the media reports have not been specified in the Competition Criteria, will the report in Albanian, Roma or Bulgarian language lose their quality while being translated, which can affect the judging?

**A:** European PROGRES has engaged official interpreters for the Albanian and Roma language, and if needed the Bulgarian language interpreter will be engaged, while the reports will be judged on the journalism related criteria, validity and relevance of information and its presentation.

#### II

**Q:** Does the media outlet whose bank account was blocked for two-three days, is eligible to apply?

**A:** According to the competition propositions, if a media outlet's account was blocked in the last year (from 1 March 2016 to 1 March 2017), the application will be treated as ineligible.

#### III

**Q:** If there is/are document(s) missing within the application, is it allowed or possible to submit it/them later? If yes, what documents can be submitted additionally, and what would be the procedure?

**A:** All documents should be sent as described in the Propositions of the competition. However if some document is missing or there is a clear administrative omission in the application, the Evaluation committee may request clarification from an applicant. Documents that can be additionally submitted should have a historical character (not created for this competition specifically). The Evaluation Team reserves the right to reject any incomplete application and in order to avoid situations in which good quality submissions are refused the applicants should strive to send the completed applications or similar.

#### IV

**Q:** Does the audio, audio and video, or computer equipment must be produced within the European Union (EU) countries, since the largest donor of the Programme is the EU? The media representatives expressed the concern about this since as they say, the largest quantity of the equipment, which is the quality one, is produced outside the EU?

**A:** According to the UNOPS Procurement rules it is not allowed to narrow the competition by the

origin of goods.

## V

Q: Is VAT included in the value of the equipment stated?

A: Stated value of the equipment should be NET amount (without VAT).

## VI

Q: Do Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) have to submit the certificates of the tax administration and local government that the media publisher has paid all tax obligations until the date of publication of the call?

A: If legal entity which applies for a competition is not in position to provide the requested document(s), equivalent document or statement with an explanation should be submitted instead.

## VII

Q: Are media outlets allowed to submit more than one media report for the Competition? Do they need to send them separately, and each time with all required documentation?

A: Each application should be submitted in line with the requests set out in the Propositions of the competition.

## VIII

Q: Are CSOs or video production houses that are not registered as media outlets within the Media Register, Serbian Business Registers Agency, eligible to apply for the Competition?

A: According to the Competition Propositions in order to be eligible to apply the media outlets need to be registered within the Media Register, Serbian Business Registers Agency, as an integrated, centralised, electronic database on media.

## IX

Q: Is it possible for the media outlets based outside the European PROGRES Area of Responsibility (AoR) to produce and publish reports about developments in some of the Programme municipalities in the period from the date the Competition was published to March 2017 and thus become eligible to apply?

A: Regional media outlets that are based outside the European PROGRES AoR need to provide evidence of at least five media/press reports on the CD (for TV stations, radio stations and print media) or web links for the independent online media editions proving that they have been covering and reporting on the developments in at least five Programme LSGs in the previous two years. Thus publishing the media reports subsequently, after the Competition launching, does not make the media outlets eligible to apply.

**X**

Q: Does a journalist and the media outlet need to apply jointly?

A: According to the Competition propositions only media outlets are eligible to apply. The journalist has to have any kind of labour contract with the media outlet in line with applicable national legislation. UNOPS and European PROGRES reserve the right to ask for the copy of the aforementioned contract from the awarded media outlets/journalists.