



## Call for proposals

### Majalat II Consortium

*Fostering the structured dialogue with civil society in the Southern Mediterranean countries and the EU*

Deadline for submission of applications :

**24/03/2024 at 23:59 (CET time)**



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### **Context:**

The situation following the 2011 revolutions in most of the countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) has been characterized increasingly by an unstable environment, conflicts, limited separation of powers and the rule of law. The climate crisis, global inflation, and pandemics have further exacerbated underlying inequalities and structural vulnerabilities. Populist and authoritarian regimes are gaining ground, riding on social tensions and economic crisis, a trend reflected in Europe. Civil society organisations and activists in the region are increasingly subjected to frequent attacks and face various forms of restrictions on their political action, such as legal obstacles, asset freezing, review and conditionality of funding, restrictions on movement and freedom of expression, public defamation campaigns, legal proceedings, and imprisonment.

### **About MAJALAT II:**

In the context of the multiple political, social, economic, and environmental challenges affecting the Euro-Mediterranean region, MAJALAT II seeks to facilitate the development of a safe and conducive environment for civil society actors from the Southern Mediterranean countries (CSOs, social movements, academics and activists) to engage in constructive dialogue with public authorities.

**MAJALAT II** is a three-year regional initiative (2023-2025) that is part of the Civil Society Facility for the Mediterranean and is co-funded by the European Union. The project is led by a Consortium of civil society organisations and networks in the Euro-Mediterranean region: [EuroMed Rights \(EMR\)](#), [Forum Alternatives du Maroc \(FMAS\)](#) and [Legal Agenda \(LA\)](#).

### **Thematic Objectives and Priorities:**

This Call for Proposals aims to support CSOs from Southern Mediterranean countries in monitoring national and regional policies, conducting research, organizing events and producing key expertise to inform evidence-based policy-making and respect for human rights, with a view to strengthening their participation in national and regional dialogue processes, including with the European Union.

The subgranting programme will comprise **up to 20 small grants** to fund projects linked to the three target themes of the MAJALAT II project:

- 1) **Good governance, rule of law and human rights**
- 2) **Climate change and social justice**



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### 3) Independence and transparency of the judiciary

Over one year (June 2024-June 2025), the MAJALAT II subgranting program will aim to support the following type of actions:

- Monitoring of public authorities and private entities, as well as local, national and regional policies and legislative initiatives,
- Production of studies, reports, policy briefs (and other) that contribute to advocacy initiatives, multi-stakeholder dialogue and evidence-based policy development;
- Networking activities and events (workshops/conferences/seminars/seminars/small localized actions) that facilitate policy dialogue at local, national, regional and EU levels.
- Coalition and capacity building activities that can amplify advocacy messages and policy inputs, as well as stimulate multi-stakeholder engagement.

The following actions are not considered under this Call:

- Projects that are not related to the three thematic areas listed above
- Projects that fill a funding gap in existing activities or programs.

*Particular attention will be paid to applications that can demonstrate innovation and added value, as well as a gender-sensitive approach and the inclusion towards youth, minorities and rural populations.*

#### **Eligibility criteria:**

##### **Geographic scope:**

This Call for Proposals covers the **Southern Mediterranean countries**.

##### ***Who can apply?***

This Call for proposals is open to local, regional and international non-profit organizations, CSOs, and networks based in the target region. Eligible applicants must be duly constituted nationally or internationally and have legal status. At the initial stage of the project proposal, the applicants will have to indicate the type of organisation applying for the grant.

Applications from for-profit entities working on the promotion of human rights that cannot register as non-profit organizations due to restrictions on freedom of association and expression in their countries will also be considered eligible, provided that the Proposed Action to be funded under the MAJALAT II Grant is not for profit. We strongly encourage the HROs in this situation to share a statement (declaration & financial statements) confirming the non-profit purpose to support their application.

Applicants will have to demonstrate that:



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- They have a democratic structure and are independent from governments;
- They subscribe to the values of Human Rights in its universality, indivisibility and interdependence;
- Are engaged and have experience in one or the three themes listed above;
- Will be managing and implementation of the Proposed Action and not acting as intermediaries.

Excluded applicants: individuals, government bodies.

**Implementation period:**

The implementation period for the supported actions is a **maximum of one year**, from **June 2024 to June 2025**.

**Grant amount:**

A maximum of **20 actions** in total will be selected under this Call for Proposals. Each selected CSO will be eligible for financial support **from 5,000€ to 15,000€**, depending on the action and the budget required to implement it.

**Eligible costs:**

Eligible costs refer to the actual expenses incurred by the beneficiaries, adhering to the following criteria:

- Incurred during the action's implementation.
- Clearly specified in the estimated overall budget for the action.
- Essential for executing the action.
- Identifiable and verifiable, recorded in the beneficiary's accounting records, following accounting standards and customary cost accounting practices.
- In accordance with relevant tax and social legislation requirements.
- Demonstrating reasonability, justification, and alignment with sound financial management principles, emphasizing economy and efficiency.

*Under this subgranting programme, overheads costs (7%-10%) will be considered eligible and will have to be included in the budget submitted at the application stage.*

**Evaluation Process:**



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Applications sent in by the deadline with all required documents will be examined and assessed by a Selection Committee on the basis of predefined evaluation criteria.

Only shortlisted applicants will be invited for an interview with the Selection Committee.

Selected applicants will be informed in writing of the Selection Committee's decision regarding their application and, in the event of rejection, of the reasons for the negative decision, during the last two weeks of **May 2024**. This letter will be sent by e-mail. Applicants should therefore check their e-mail regularly.

### **How to apply:**

#### ***Procedures for submitting applications:***

Complete grant applications must be submitted in **English, French or Arabic** by email to following address [majalat.remddh@gmail.com](mailto:majalat.remddh@gmail.com) **before March 24, 2024, at 23:59 (CET time)** (date and time of sending serving as proof). An email acknowledging receipt will be sent in response as soon as possible. Any questions regarding the call for proposals can be sent by e-mail to the same address.

#### ***Application forms and supporting documents to be provided:***

Applications must include the following documents:

- 1- The application form filled in, which is available on the [MAJALAT II website](#) in English, French and Arabic ( a brief summary of the action will be required), including a full budget for the action.
- 2- The association's complete legal file including:
  - The statutes of the CSO
  - The minutes of the last general meeting where possible
  - The minutes of the appointment of members of the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors
  - The list of members of the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors
  - The final or provisional receipt for the filing of the legal file with the competent authorities or proof of registration of the CSO in the country
  - The tax identification notification form
- 3- The association's annual activity and financial reports validated by the General Assembly for the last two years: 2022 and 2023.
- 4- The latest audit report on the CSO's accounts



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