

-
- Visegrad Fund
-
-

ANNUAL REPORT
2019

GRANTS

37%

Success rate

€24,580

Average grant

Visegrad Grants | Visegrad+ Grants | Visegrad Strategic Grants

Submitted/Approved 2019		
Deadline	Submitted	Approved
February	304	109
June	215	88
October	216	75
Total	735	272

Grants 2018					
Country/€	Visegrad Grants	Visegrad+ Grants		Strategic Grants	Total
		EaP	WB		
CZ	1,254,689	51,132	0	66,870	1,372,691
HU	1,236,938	104,164	70,524	0	1,411,626
PL	1,139,571	214,535	0	49,052	1,403,158
SK	959,712	64,850	120,029	0	1,144,591
non-V4	230,008	742,451	366,685	0	1,339,144
Total					6,671,209

GRANTS

Focus area	%
Culture and common identity	32.23
Education and capacity building	24.54
Innovation, R&D, entrepreneurship	11.36
Regional development, environment, tourism	10.26
Democratic values and the media	8.06
Public policy and institutional partnership	6.96
Social development	6.59

MOBILITY

Visegrad Scholarship Program

Submitted/Approved—Scholarships 2018			Support
Country	Submitted	Approved	Scholars + Hosts (€)
Czechia	13	6	179,000
Hungary	40	18	218,000
Poland	8	4	97,200
Slovakia	30	22	155,000
Albania	127	52	236,700
Armenia	10	3	23,900
Azerbaijan	28	6	27,800
Belarus	10	1	4,600
Bosnia and Herzegovina	233	13	103,400
Georgia	20	9	36,800
Kosovo	14	5	26,800
North Macedonia	16	1	4,600
Moldova	32	5	40,100
Montenegro	2	1	4,600
Serbia	9	3	18,400
Ukraine	8	0	1,500
Total	600	149	1,179,300

Residencies

Program/support	Submitted	Supported
Visegrad Artist Residency—Performing Arts	29	8
Visegrad Artist Residencies—Visual & Sound Arts	34	16
Visegrad Artist Residencies in New York	123	4
Visegrad Literary Residencies	110	32
Total (€)	296	60

Country/support	Support (€)		
	Artists	Hosts	Total
Czechia	34,500	19,750	54,250
Hungary	34,500	13,000	47,500
Poland	34,500	8,500	43,000
Slovakia	34,500	10,750	45,250
Total (€)	138,000	52,000	190,000

OTHER PROJECTS

Visegrad Strategic Conferences

ID code	Grantee	Project title	Budget (€)
VSC19CZ1	EUROPEUM	The Prague European Summit 2019	60,000
VSC19CZ2	Forum 2000 Foundation	23rd Forum 2000 Conference	40,000
VSC19CZ3	EUROPEUM	Transatlantic Policy Forum 2019	25,000
CZ Subtotal			125,000
BDPST19	Antall József Knowledge Centre	think.BDPST 2019	100,000
HU Subtotal			100,000
VSC19PL1	Villa Decius Association	18th Visegrad Summer School	39,650
VSC19PL2	Res Publica Foundation	Commitments and opportunities – A new EU budget from a V4 perspective	99,950
PL Subtotal			139,600
VSC19SK1	Globsec	GLOBSEC 2019 Bratislava Forum	100,000
VSC19SK2	Globsec	Visegrad Dimensions of the GLOBSEC Tatra Summit 2019	10,000
VSC19SK3	Slovak Foreign Policy Association	Central European Energy Conference 2019	20,000
SK Subtotal			130,000
Total:			494,600

Think Visegrad Think-Tank Network + the Mid-Term Conference

The Think Visegrad think-tank platform concluded its seventh year of successful operations in December 2019 with a total output of 12 short-term analyses, 4 long-term analyses and with 8 visiting fellows from non-V4 countries.

The fifth Mid-Term Review Conference was interlinked with the regular V4+Western Balkans ministerial meeting in Bratislava and took place in May 2019 under the organization of the Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association.

Think Visegrad in Brussels

Coordinated by EUROPEUM Prague, the joint representation of V4 think tanks in Brussels under the brand Think Visegrad in Brussels concluded its fourth year of its operations having fully utilized its **€49,500** budget.

The following public events were organized with various partner organizations in Brussels: "Opening accession talks with Albania and North Macedonia: lessons of the past", "Implications of Brexit for EU Decision Making", " European Foreign Policy towards Eastern Europe: Future of Eastern Partnership beyond 2020" and an additional event titled "Overcoming Dividing Lines in Europe". Moreover, three private roundtables were planned but due to the fact the new European Commission has not been installed at the time of the event, it was decided to postpone it until 2020. The following two private events took place: "Tackling global protectionism—European views and responses" and "Tackling global protectionism—European views and responses".

The following eight fellows took part in week-long research/study trips in Brussels and were hosted by the Think Visegrad in Brussels: **Dániel Bartha** (CEID Budapest), **Patrik Kováč** (SFPA Bratislava), **Gergely Varga** (IFAT), **Ryszarda Formuszewicz** (OSW), **Zuzana Podracká** (Globsec), **Alica Kizeková** (IIR), **Bartosz Bieliszczuk** (PISM) and **Louis Cox-Brusseau** (Europeum).

Civil Servants Mobility Program

The fifth annual edition of the civil servant mobility program was another project carried out by the Think Visegrad consortium coordinated by the Slovak Foreign Policy Association. For the first time in its history, the program took place with three focus countries at the same time (and with a 50% higher budget) targeting both the EaP region (Ukraine) and the Western Balkans (Albania, North Macedonia). In total, only 55 people participated as the Ukrainian group—which had to be for logistical reasons postponed until the beginning of 2020—could not participate (due to the public measures adopted worldwide in regard to the pandemic); the last Ukrainian portion is expected to be concluded in Q3 2020.

2019	UA	Pre-school education (CZ), Regional development and foreign investment (PL), Energy efficiency (SK)	15
	AL	Tourism (CZ), Euro-Atlantic integration (HU), Border management (PL), Public finance and public debt (SK)	20
	MK	Environment (CZ), Euro-Atlantic integration (HU), Regional and cross-border cooperation (PL), Digitalization, digital economy and data protection (SK)	20
Total			242

V4 Energy Think Tank Platform

A second edition of the think tank platform focusing on energy and energy security was successfully concluded in 2019 having fully utilized its **€50,000** budget. The project was implemented by a consortium led by REKK Foundation for Regional Policy Co-operation in Energy and Infrastructure and with the following partner think tanks: **Association for International Affairs** (CZ), **Instytut Jagielloński** (PL) and **the Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association** (SK).

The main outputs consisted of 3 policy papers and 3 policy briefs (on A. the EU gas market, B. the European Union's and national climate policies, and C. "Safe nuclear and the V4 region") and 2 public workshops in Budapest and Prague. The grantee also organized a special evening session at the Central European Energy Conference 2019.

V4 Startup Force

Like in 2018, Design Terminál. Kft. continued with the V4 Startup Force project under a slightly different consortium of partners—**UP21** (CZ), **Reaktor** (PL) and **Campus** (SK). The budgeted sum of **€146,852.00** was fully utilized.

Visegrad Bicycle Race

The seventh edition of the four separate bicycle races under the single banner of a Visegrad Bicycle Race took place in 2019 with a higher budget (€40,000) given to the Slovak Cycling Federation. For the first time in the history of the project, one of the partners could not implement its part (Czech Cycling Federation) and handed over its due to the Hungarian partner. The Budaörs-based Movement Health Recreation Sport Club thus carried out two races in Hungary in 2019—the regular one (Budapest–Pannonhalma) and a fall edition (Vasarosnameny–Nyíregyháza). The overall budget of the race was again raised to the previous amount of **€100,000** but incremental lowering of the sum was approved by the National V4 Coordinators as of 2020.

Grantee	Awarded sum (€)
Czech Cycling Federation, Prague	–
Movement Health Recreation Sport Club, Budaörs	40,000
Dolnośląski Związek Kolarski, Wrocław	20,000
Slovak Cycling Federation, Bratislava	40,000
Total	100,000

Western Balkans Fund

Obligations continued to be fulfilled within the Memorandum of Understanding (signed in Tirana on September 15, 2017) in regard to the technical assistance to the Western Balkans Fund. The final tranche of the **€80,000.00** support was disbursed in 2019 and duly accounted for.

Visegrad Fund's Executive Director conducted a tour throughout the Western Balkan capitals in 2019 in order to prioritize the Western Balkans Fund within the respective foreign ministries and to gain support for their annual contributions to the institution and remained in close contact with the management of the Western Balkans Fund in preparations of further cooperation between the two institutions. This effort was crowned by a unique joint board meeting in Bratislava of the two institutions attended by management of both funds and also by the decision-making bodies of both (the Experts and the Council of Senior Officials). The meeting took place on November 15, 2019 and prepared the steps for continuation of the cooperation in terms of extending the technical assistance (which was approved at the V4 + WB6 ministerial meeting in Prague on February 27, 2019.)

INSTITUTION BUILDING

The Fund's Personnel Policy

The Fund operated with the staff of 14 people with 2 statutory representatives forming the management. Several personnel changes took place during the year.

The management of the fund

<i>Andor F. Dávid</i>	Executive Director
<i>Marek Pavlík</i>	Deputy Executive Director

The staff was as follows

(in alphabetical order)

<i>Anna Adamczyk</i>	Project Manager (since October 2, 2017)
<i>Zsófia Bajnay</i>	Project Manager (until July 23, 2019)
<i>Lucia Becová</i>	Project Manager (as of December 4, 2019)
<i>Anna Bednarczyk</i>	Project Manager
<i>Darina Lendvorská</i>	Project Manager
<i>Martin Marciňa</i>	Executive Assistant
<i>Romana Mjartanová</i>	Project Manager
<i>Michal Pavlík</i>	Public Relations Manager
<i>Dániel Péter</i>	Project Manager
<i>Beáta Regecová</i>	Accountant
<i>Orsolya Rigó</i>	Project Manager (as of July 15, 2019)
<i>Kateřina Šrámková</i>	Project Manager (as of December 16, 2019)
<i>Jiří Sýkora</i>	Chief of Cabinet
<i>Paulina Woźniak</i>	Project Manager (until May 31, 2019)

As every year, the Fund also hosted several interns during 2019: Andrea Stefano Arroque (BR), Mátyás Földvári (HU), Andrea Komová (SK), Dayeun Lee (KR), Kristoffer Holte Lindegaard (DK).