**Disrupting the Rise of Disinformation Campaigns in the Biological Sphere Through Grants and Mentorship in Eastern Europe**

**Program Overview:** CRDF Global is pleased to announce a grant opportunity to support counter-disinformation initiatives that respond to active influence campaigns by malign actors that undermine established norms in biosecurity. Grants are a one-time, five-month award of up to $10,000 USD to conduct research and develop solutions to discredit efforts by state actors to subvert international biological science. Grants should empower recipients to recognize and immediately and scientifically counter any claim of misinformation that may reduce their ability to recognize, respond to, and control biological incidents, whether intentional or naturally occurring. Following the completion of a research paper, grant recipients are expected to deliver at least one training of 1-2 days in length to STEM institutions in their country and/or region that excel in biology and biotechnology research and development. The training should focus on efforts to identify disinformation tactics, techniques, and procedures used by state-based malign influence campaigns on biological information, such as during infectious disease outbreaks. As part of this grant, CRDF Global will assign subject-matter experts (SMEs) to serve as mentors for grant recipients, will connect recipients located in the same country to enhance coordination and advance national efforts, and will guide grantees in the development of their research and the trainings. Optionally, grantees may also publish their research or present it at a virtual conference.

**Eligibility:**

* Individuals with strong past performance conducting research, trainings, and other activities on countering disinformation, specifically in biosecurity, biotechnology, and biological threats, are eligible to apply.
* Grants will be awarded to individuals or teams of individuals. Use of grant funds to cover institutional indirect costs is not permitted.
* Grant recipients must be nationals of Georgia, Romania, or Turkey, and living in those countries.
* Proposed projects must address disinformation related to biosecurity norms and disinformation’s impact on public health and national security.
* Applications must be submitted in English.
* Additional information about this opportunity, including evaluation criteria and CRDF Global grant policies can be accessed at <https://www.crdfglobal.org/grants/fellowships-funding-opportunities>

**Application Deadline: Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until December 20, 2022.**

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**Instructions:** Please fill out this document to apply for a grant. When it is complete, please send this document via email to techtrainings@crdfglobal.org along with all supporting documents (listed below). Note that your application will not be reviewed unless all application sections have been completed and all required documents are submitted.

All applications must be submitted in English. Please note that all grant recipients must be nationals of Georgia, Romania, or Turkey, and living in those countries.

**Supporting documents include:**

* The curriculum vitae (CV) and passport or state-issued ID card of the grant recipient(s);
* Application materials and grant deliverables must be submitted in English.

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| **1. General Project Information**  |
| 1a. Project Title  |
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| 1b. Project Duration (Not to exceed 8 months)  |
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| **2. Applicant Information**  |
| 2a. Job Title/Position  |
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| 2b. First Name  |
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| 2c. Last Name  |
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| 2d. Country of Citizenship  |
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| 2e. Name of Institution, including: 1. Division or Department
2. Address of Institution
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| 2f. Please describe your previous experience related to your proposed project, including notable publications.   |
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| **3. Applicant Contact Information**  |
| 3a. Phone Number  |
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| 3b. Fax Number  |
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| 3c. Email Address  |
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| **4. Previous CRDF Global Funding**  |
| 4a. Have you previously received funding from CRDF Global or participated in a CRDF Global training?  |
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| 4b. If yes, please list the type and date of each training/award of funding.  |
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| 4c. Describe how you learned about CRDF Global and this grant opportunity.  |
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| **5. Project Details**  |
| 5a. Please provide an abstract or outline of no more than 500 words. The following points should be addressed:  1. *What is your proposed project?*
2. *How does your proposed project relate to the objective defined in the grant announcement?*
3. *Who is your target audience?*
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| 5b.  In no more than 150 words, please explain your plans for future work on this topic beyond the grant period. How does this project contribute to your long-term biosecurity and/or disinformation strategy and programming?  |
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| 5c.  Please list each step/task for your project and the anticipated number of weeks or months to complete each step/task. The length of the project should not exceed eight (8) months. Responses should be listed as estimated number of business days.  |
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| 5d. Please list relevant publications and presentations that you have authored:  1. Title of work
2. Publication/Conference
3. Date
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| 5e.  List three relevant professional references:  1. Full name
2. Institution and relationship
3. Email address
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