

Call for Applications 2022

We are looking for successful and solution-oriented Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue Projects

in the fields of Art/Culture, Youth, Human Rights, Global Citizenship Education, Integration and Gender Equality

Tederal Ministry Republic of AustriaEuropean and International

Affairs



Background Information

The Intercultural Achievement Award (IAA) is a key project of the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs. Launched in 2014, it aims at identifying and awarding innovative and best practice projects in the field of intercultural dialogue.

Since 2007, the Task Force "Dialogue of Cultures" supports partner organisations with the implementation of intercultural and interreligious projects and designs, finances and implements initiatives itself. With these projects, the Task Force takes up priorities set by the Federal Minister for European and International Affairs and the Federal Government.

Topics

Dialogue is a multifaceted concept. Thematic priorities according to the Austrian strategic focus facilitate compatibility of the submitted projects. Therefore, the intercultural projects applying for the IAA must be active in at least one of the following areas:

- Art/Culture
- Youth
- Human Rights
- Global Citizenship Education
- Integration
- Gender Equality

Awards

The Intercultural Achievement Award (IAA) is awarded in the following categories:

- Category **Sustainability**: "Best ongoing project on the cross-cutting topic of environment and interculturality" EUR 10.000.-
- Category **Recent Events**: "Best project related to a current event" EUR 6.000.-
- Category **Technology**: "Best application of technology in the context of an intercultural project" EUR 6.000.-
- Category **Innovation**: "Most innovative intercultural project" EUR 6.000.-
- Category **Media**: "Best media contribution for intercultural understanding" EUR 6.000.-

The prize money is meant to promote the continuation of successful projects.

General eligibility criteria

- Applications can only be made by non-governmental organisations (including associations, foundations, charitable educational institutions, religious organisations and commercial organisations) whose projects mainly **focus on intercultural and interreligious dialogue.** Government, science, research or international institutions are excluded from admission.
- The project's activities **must focus on a minimum of one of the following areas**: Art/Culture, Youth, Human Rights, Global Citizenship Education, Integration and Gender Equality.
- The project must be **running for at least 1 year** already. This criterion not only ensures the viability of the project idea but also allows for the measurement of impact.
- Projects that have already been submitted in the past but that have not won, may be submitted again.
- Projects may be submitted for multiple categories as long as they meet the specific eligibility criteria listed below.

Specific eligibility criteria

Category Sustainability: "Best practice project on the cross-cutting topic of environment and interculturality"

- The project offers solution approaches in the cross-sectional topic of environment/ecology and intercultural/interreligious challenges.
- The organisation must be in operation for at least 2 years.

Category Recent Events: "Best project related to a current event"

• The project must have been implemented between 2021 and 2022 and may also consist of a successful single action in the field of intercultural or interreligious dialogue. This prize category aims at projects that have reacted to current events or developments and have contributed to intercultural understanding, also on an occasional basis.

Category **Technology**: "Best application of technology in the context of an intercultural project"

• The project must use innovative technological solutions that promote intercultural and/or interreligious dialogue.

Category Innovation: "Most innovative intercultural project"

• The project must be characterized by an innovative methodological or creative within the scope dialogue of cultures and religions.

Category Media: "Best media contribution for intercultural understanding"

- Submitted contributions can encompass all classic media (i. e. print, TV, radio etc.) and social media. Submitted contributions must have verifiably and visibly impacted the public sphere in a positive way.
- The contribution must have verifiably achieved a wide impact for the intercultural dialogue.
- Complete journalistic, media works or dialogue platforms focusing on raising awareness, understanding and peaceful coexistence are also encouraged to apply for the IAA.
- Only contributions published after January 01 January 2021 will be accepted for further consideration.

Only applications that fulfil these criteria will be considered eligible.

Selection and Award Presentation

<u>Applications received by April 15, 2022</u> at the latest will be checked for completeness by the task force. An independent jury in Vienna consisting of experts in the field of intercultural dialogue will then undertake the final selection. There will be one winner per category.

The award ceremony is scheduled to take place in autumn 2022. The awardees will be invited to attend the ceremony as well as networking events and visits in Vienna.

Assessment Criteria

In order to ensure a comprehensive assessment of projects based on clearly defined criteria, the following guidelines will be used in the process:

Applications:

A detailed online application form with guiding questions can be found <u>here</u>. All questions must be answered in English in a clear and precise manner (clarity), be structured (detail and focus) and should convince the reader of the project purpose and objectives (persuasiveness).

Projects:

- Does the project respond to the needs of the beneficiaries on the ground and is appropriate in the local context of operation? (**relevance**)
- Is/was the target group clearly defined and accessible for the project activities? (impact)
- Have objectives, activities and results been clearly defined? (clarity)
- Are objectives, activities and results measured and evaluated regularly? (evaluation, sustainability)
- Is the project innovative and introduces new concepts and methods, encourages creative thinking, applies solution-oriented approaches, and passes these on to beneficiaries? (innovation, methods, creativity)
- Is the concept of the project applicable to other contexts and therefore able to be implemented by different organisations? (**transferability**, **sustainability**)
- Did/does the project reach its objectives; is there proof of its impact? (success)
- Does the organisation have the necessary structures and competencies in place to successfully implement and manage the project, both content-wise and financially? (**structure**)
- Does the organisation have relevant experience in the field of intercultural dialogue and exchange? (**experience**)
- Are the principles of respect, equality and diversity visible in the structure of the organisation as well as in the implementation of activities with both partners and the target groups? (equality)

Send your application per e-mail to dialogue@bmeia.gv.at.

Deadline: 15 April 2022