



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

August 8, 2024

Case No. FL-2023-00098

Tyler Sanderson
America First Legal Foundation
611 Pennsylvania Avenue SE #231
Washington, DC 20003

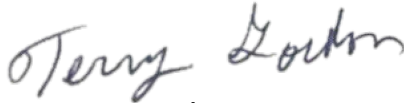
Dear Mr. Sanderson:

As we noted in our letter dated June 27, 2024, we are processing your request for material under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552. The Department of State ("Department") has identified an additional 11 responsive records subject to the FOIA. Upon review, we have determined all 11 records may be released in part.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made redactions, the applicable FOIA exemptions are marked on each record. Where applicable, the Department has considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing these records and applying FOIA exemptions. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released and is enclosed.

We will keep you informed as your case progresses. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Stephanie Johnson, Assistant U.S. Attorney, at stephanie.johnson5@usdoj.gov. Please refer to the case number, FL-2023-00098, and the civil action number, 23-cv-01939, in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Terry Gordon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Terry Gordon

Chief, Litigation and Appeals Branch

Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.

The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

- (b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:
- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
 - 1.4(b) Foreign government information
 - 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
 - 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
 - 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
 - 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction
- (b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
- (b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:
- | | |
|----------------|---|
| ARMSEXP | Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c) |
| CIA PERS/ORG | Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g) |
| EXPORT CONTROL | Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c) |
| FS ACT | Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004 |
| INA | Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f) |
| IRAN | Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505 |
- (b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information
- (b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product
- (b)(6) Personal privacy information
- (b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:
- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
 - (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
 - (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
 - (D) disclose confidential sources
 - (E) disclose investigation techniques
 - (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual
- (b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions
- (b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

Other Grounds for Withholding

- NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

Problem Statement

Russian disinformation and malign influence is exacerbating democratic backsliding in Central and Eastern Europe and undermining the EU and Transatlantic Alliance. In the region, there is a lack of sufficient understanding, capacity, reaction and effective approaches regarding these threats. In response, NED would increase support to leading organizations defending the integrity of the information space, boost the capacity of less experienced groups working in this field, assist new organizations and activities addressing Kremlin disinformation and malign influence, and foster greater coordination and knowledge sharing among groups working on this challenge, thereby bolstering resilience across the region.

Project Objective 1: To expand the impact of foundational organizations in Central and Eastern Europe that are defending the integrity of the information space and countering Russian malign influence.

Needs	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Leading civil society groups and media outlets in Central Europe are receiving only minimal support to address the challenge of Russian disinformation and malign influence.	(b)(4)				

Project Objective 2: To build the capacity of less experienced groups in the region that are becoming active in this field.

Needs	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Civil society groups and media outlets in Southern and Eastern Europe lack the capacity and know-how of their more experienced	(b)(4)				

counterparts in Central Europe in taking on the challenge of Russian disinformation and malign influence.	(b)(4)				
<i>Project Objective 3: To foster new programs addressing the challenges of Russian disinformation and malign influence in Central, Eastern, and Southern Europe.</i>					
Needs	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
In Southern and Eastern Europe, civil society and investigative journalist groups are only now beginning to address the challenge of disinformation and malign foreign influence. However, there is a dearth of funding for these activities.	(b)(4)				

Project Objective 4: To encourage coordination between, share knowledge and lessons learned among, and facilitate the effective and efficient implementation of programs strengthening resilience to Russian disinformation and malign foreign influence.					
Needs	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
As increased U.S. and international funding for projects on Russian disinformation and malign influence becomes available, there is a need for greater coordination and knowledge sharing between growing numbers of donors and implementers working on the issue.	(b)(4)				
Assumptions	External Factors				
(b)(4)					

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**EUR/ACE FY 2022 Annual Performance Review
Project Narrative**

Organization:	National Endowment for Democracy
Office:	Europe
Specific Country, Countries, or Region Assisted:	Europe Regional - Disinformation

Project Narrative

1. Alignment with Strategies:

The New Strategies Priorities document proposes addressing strategic challenges from Russia and China by deterring aggression and countering economic and security threats. NED's strategy of assisting Central and Eastern European NGOs and independent media outlets that face coercion and malign influence, as well as supporting civil society and independent media that are combating Kremlin disinformation and its "Russian World" narrative, aligns with the Strategies of increasing the capacity and strengthening the resilience of U.S. partners and allies to deter aggression, coercion, and malign influence by state and non-state actors.

(b)(4); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4) ; (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4) ; (b)(5)

(b)(4); (b)(5)

3. F Monitoring Indicators for PPRs:

Please provide the F indicator data for the previous year as an attachment. Please provide data on baselines, targets and actual results achieved by year

N/a

Resources (hyperlinked):

FATAA

18FAM300 (see 18 FAM 301.4-1)

Annex A: New Strategic Priorities

(b)(4); (b)(5)



Requisition Number: FA7637176

Requisition Title: Grantmaking Program in C. Europe

Purchase Request: FA7637176

Request Type: Grant

Requesting Office: ADMINISTRATIVE SRVCS DIV (EUR/EX/ADM)

Issued on Tue, 21 Aug, 2018

Created on Tue, 21 Aug, 2018 by (b)(6)

Vendor:

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

1025 F STREET, NW

SUITE 800

WASHINGTON, DC 20004-1409

UNITED STATES

Phone: USA202/378-9616

Contact: NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

Ship To:

Department of State

2201 C STREET, NW MAIN STATE

ATTN: IM

WASHINGTON, DC 20520

UNITED STATES

Deliver To:

(b)(6)

Surcharges:

Number	Description	Amount	Details
1	AQM Surcharge	\$33,950.63 USD	1900-2017-2018-197278030600NC-1012-EUR--1370-10128DNC00-2597--120110-----

Generated Order No.: SLMAQM18GR2177

Item	Description	Part Number	Unit	Qty	Unit Price	Extended Amount
1			each	1	\$2,716,050.00 USD	\$2,716,050.00 USD

Bill To:

Department of State

2201 C STREET N.W

ATTN: FM

Washington, DC 20037

UNITED STATES

Phone: USA202-647-9568

Fax: USA202-647-4970

Funding:

Type	Percentage	Amount(Local Currency)	Amount(USD)	Details
Commodity Accounting Line	100%	\$2,716,050.00 USD	\$2,716,050.00 USD	1900-2017-2018-197278030600NC-1012-EUR-1370-SLMAQM18GR2177-4121--120110----2018FDSTREB60NC-SLMAQM18GR2177

Order No.: SLMAQM18GR2177

Total

\$2,716,050.00 USD

Status: Ordered

Approvals					
Required	Status	Reason	Approver	Approved By	Date
Not Required	Approved	Approver 6: Watcher - Optional Approver	EUR/ACE Grant Watcher		Mon, 27 Aug, 2018
Required	Approved	Approver 1: Organizational Approver 1	EUR/AQM Grant Officer	(b)(6)	Fri, 24 Aug, 2018
Required	Approved	Approver 5: FMO	EUR/ACE Grants Budget		Sat, 25 Aug, 2018
Required	Approved	Approver 7: Final Approver	EUR/AQM Grant Officer		Mon, 27 Aug, 2018
Not Required	Approved	Grants Officer Representative (GOR)	(b)(6)		Mon, 27 Aug, 2018

Requisition Comments

- COMMENT by on 08/21/2018
2018-08-21 15:52:30 (b)(6) (Additional Comments)
Funding Package Approved on 2018-08-21 15:52:30 by (b)(6)

(WEBILMSGRANTSADMIN, Tue, 21 Aug, 2018)

Requisition Attachments

- ATTACHMENT by (b)(6) on Thursday, August 23, 2018 at 8:54 AM
Award Provisions.docx (67404 bytes)

ATTACHMENT by (b)(6) on Thursday, August 23, 2018 at 9:01 AM
Roles and Responsibilities -2177.docx (21775 bytes) ATTACHMENT by (b)(6) on Thursday, August 23, 2018 at 9:07 AM
SOW.pdf (359872 bytes) ATTACHMENT by (b)(6) on Thursday, August 23, 2018 at 9:07 AM
BUDGET-18-GR-2177.pdf (145448 bytes)

**Department of State Roles and Responsibilities
Points of Contact (POC)**

**The Bureau of Administration, Office of Logistics Management, Office of
Acquisitions Management (A/LM/AQM)**

1. Grants Officer (GO)

The Grants Officer is the only person authorized to approve a payment, award, amend, and terminate a federal assistance award. The recipient must contact the GO to request changes to the federal assistance award, terms and conditions including an extension, budget changes, etc. The GO's name, email and telephone number are:

Name: (b)(6)
Telephone: (b)(6)
E-mail: (b)(6)@state.gov

2. Grants Management Specialist (GMS)

Name: (b)(6)
Telephone: (b)(6)
E-mail: (b)(6)@state.gov

3. The Bureau of European & Eurasian Affairs (EUR)

Grants Officer Representative

The Grants Officer Representative (can also be the Project Officer) is the person with the technical expertise related to program implementation and who is designated, in writing **(see attached GOR letter)**, by the GO to administer certain aspects of a specific federal assistance award. The GOR is not authorized to approve or deny any request to amend the award. The GOR's name, email, and telephone number are:

Name: (b)(6)
Telephone: (b)(6)
Email: (b)(6)@state.gov

4. Bureau/Post Budget Officer/Financial Management Officer:

Name: (b)(6)
Telephone: (b)(6)
Email: (b)(6)@state.gov

**Department of State Roles and Responsibilities
Points of Contact (POC)**

5. a) Recipient Point of Contact

The Recipient's Point of Contact is responsible for assisting EUR or suggesting who in the organization to be contacted in regard to this agreement.

Name: Nancy Herzog, **Senior Director, Grants Administration**

Address: National Endowment for Democracy (NED)
1025 F Street, NW Suite 800
Washington, DC 20004

Telephone: (b)(6)

Email: (b)(6)@ned.org

b) Grantee Authorized Representative

Name: J. William Leonard, Chief Operating Officer

Address: National Endowment for Democracy (NED)
1025 F Street, NW Suite 800
Washington, DC 20004

Telephone: (b)(6)

Email: (b)(6)@ned.org

Please notify DOS in anticipation of any changes in the above Recipient Administrators Points of Contact. Also note that any change in a key person specified in the application or the Federal award require prior approval from the Grants Officer per 2 CFR 200. 308(c) 2.

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177



U.S. Department of State Award Provisions

Mandatory Award Provisions:

1. Standardized Assistance Instrument Identification Number:
S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177
2. Amount of Award: \$ 2,716,050.00
3. Purpose/Scope of Award:
 - a. Purpose: **National Endowment for Democracy**, (hereinafter referred to as the "Recipient") is hereby awarded a Grant to support "Grantmaking Program Promoting Democracy in Eurasia Region and Georgia." The Recipient shall (The National Endowment for Democracy (NED) will address the challenge of disinformation and other malign influence and building democratic reliance in Central, Southeastern, and Eastern Europe
 - b. The Recipient shall carry out the Agreement in accordance with its proposal dated August 17, 2018, and any revisions to which both parties agree to in writing. The above-mentioned proposal is hereby incorporated by reference and made an integral part of the Agreement.
 - c. For the objectives, timeline, and results of this project, see attached Scope of Work.
4. Grants Officer Contact Information: see attached Roles and Responsibilities
5. Grants Officer Representative (GOR) : see attached Roles and Responsibilities
6. Post-Award Compliance:

Department of State Standard Terms and Conditions for Federal Assistance Awards are incorporated by reference and made part of this Notice of Award. Electronic copies containing the complete text are available at:

<https://www.state.gov/m/a/ope/index.htm>

The Recipient and any sub-recipient, in addition to the assurances and certifications made part of the Notice of Award, must comply with all applicable terms and conditions during the project period.

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177

7. Authorized Budget Summary

All expenditures paid with funds provided by this Agreement must be incurred for authorized activities, which take place during this period, unless otherwise stipulated.

3. Travel	(b)(4)		
4. Equipment			
5. Supplies			
6. Contractual			
7. Construction			
8. Other Direct Costs			
9. Total Direct Costs (Lines 1-8)			
10. Indirect Costs (choose one only: provisional, pre-determined rate, fixed or 10% MTDC)			
11. Total Costs	\$	2,716,050.00	\$ 2,716,050.00
12. Cost-Share			\$ -

** See attached detailed budget*

8. Payment Method:

Payments under this award will be made through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Payment Management System (PMS). The Payment Management System instructions are available under the PMS website and can be accessed at the following address: <http://www.dpm.psc.gov/>. Recipients should request funds based on immediate disbursement requirements and disburse funds as soon as possible to minimize the Federal cash on hand in accordance with the policies established by the U.S. Treasury Department and mandated by the OMB Circulars.

9. Reporting and Monitoring –

Submitting Reports

All reports (financial and progress) must be uploaded to the grant file in SAMS Domestic, see instructions below. Please include the Agreement number (S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177) in all correspondence. **Failure to comply with the reporting requirements may jeopardize the Recipient's ability to access funds and eligibility for future awards.**

Financial Reports are due (*quarterly*). The due date is always 30 days following the end of the month/or calendar year quarter:

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177

- January – March reports due on April 30
- April- June reports due on July 30
- July-September reports due on October 30
- October – December reports due January 30

Recipients that receive multiple awards must submit a separate set of reports for each award. The Program Office reserves the right to request any additional programmatic and/or financial program information during the award's period of performance.

a. Progress Reports

The Recipient is required to submit annual report including an executive summary, grant history, list of grantees during performance period, evaluation highlights and comprehensive list of short descriptions of sub-grants

Please note that if an award's period of performance begins with 30 calendar days remaining in the quarter, a progress report must be submitted for that quarter.

Recipients must upload to SAMS Domestic:

Narrative report including Federal Award Identifying Number (FAIN or grant number), award period of performance, period covered by report, submission date, report frequency (annually, final) and a detailed description of program progress as described below

Attachment showing progress towards meeting Program Indicators and/or the F Framework indicators

Financial Reports

The Federal Financial Report (FFR or SF-425) is the required form for the financial reports. The two-part report is due quarterly and must be submitted electronically through the Department of Health and Human Services' Payment Management System (PMS) at <http://www.dpm.psc.gov/>

The due date is always 30 days following the end of the calendar year quarter (see Progress Reports)

Financial reports are due for **each quarter** the grant is active, even if only one day remains in the quarter. For the final quarter of a grant, Financial Cash Transaction Report (FCTR) is due, but no Financial Status Report (FSR) is due in PMS; this period can be covered in the final Financial Status Report.

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177

Financial Reporting in PMS:

In PMS, the FFR consists of two forms:

- *First, the Financial Cash Transaction Report (FCTR) must be filed to report expenditures on all grants within a Recipient's PMS account*
- *24 hours later, the Recipient must file a separate Financial Status Report (FSR) for each individual award in PMS. The FSR should be filled out completely, including boxes 10a-10h, and as appropriate: 10i-10k, 11, and 12.*

Recipients must also download a copy of the SF-425 they submitted in PMS and upload the report to Grantsolutions.gov.

For assistance with substantive financial reporting questions please contact the SAMS Domestic Grants Officer directly.

For technical assistance, the ONE-DHHS Help Desk for PMS Support is available Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST (except Federal Holidays).

Phone: (877) 614-5533

Email: State_Dept@psc.hhs.gov

The PMS Help Desk is available to respond to questions regarding navigation through the system menus and processes, and to reset PMS user passwords. You may also submit a ticket on-line and access more services using the Self-Help Web Portal located at <http://www.psc.gov/one-dhh>

b. Final Reports**i. Progress**

The final narrative report must be submitted within 90 days of the end date of this agreement. The report must be marked *Final* and include an in-depth impact assessment and/or project evaluation. The project's summary should include quantitative and qualitative data relating to the objectives and overall outputs and outcomes, e.g., impact. The final narrative should also include the Federal Award Identifying Number (FAIN or grant number), award period of performance, and submission date.

ii. Financial

The Final Financial SF-425 (FFR) shall be submitted within 90 days after the expiration date of this Agreement. This report must disclose cost share and indirect rates, if applicable. If the final Negotiated Indirect Cost Rates (NICRAs) are not yet available, an interim final report must be filed within 90 days of the expiration date, clearly indicating in box 11 and box 12 that the rates are still provisional.

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177

Bureau reserves the right to request any additional programmatic and/or financial program information during the award period.

c. F Framework Indicators

Recipient will include, in each progress report, data on the evaluation indicators from the Foreign Assistance Framework as agreed on between the grantee and the program office.

Include Appropriate F Indicators

DR.4.2-2 Number of civil society organizations (CSOs) receiving USG assistance engaged in advocacy interventions

DR.5.3-1 Number of non-state news outlets assisted by USG

DR.5.3-2 Number of USG-assisted media-sector civil society organizations (CSO) and/or institutions that serve to strengthen the independent media or journalists

This data, reported by quarter and by fiscal year, should be included in each quarterly narrative progress report. Please note that the data reported should be new and unique to prevent double-counting. For example, if the same 15 journalists are being trained during two reporting periods (quarters), the cumulative data would be 15.

Instructions for uploading to SAMS Domestic

Go to SAMS Domestic Portal, search for and open the relevant award. Users should not include the dashes in the search. If searching by the last four digits, the search must start with an asterisk ().*

- 1. Click on the Notice of Award Number*
- 2. Locate and click on the Post-Award Activities Checklist tab at the bottom of the award page*
- 3. If the checklist has not been created, click New and then click Submit. If the checklist has been created, click on the Checklist number*
- 4. Activities are located at the bottom of the page. If the activity has not been created, click New, fill out the form, and then click Submit. If the activity has been created, click on the Activity number*
- 5. Click new to begin uploading documents*
- 6. Click the paper clip icon to locate the file on the computer and attach the file (only one document can be uploaded at a time)*
- 7. Select the file class and file category for the attachment.*
- 8. Click submit to upload the attachment*

*The document has been successfully submitted to the task
To upload additional documents, repeat steps 1-8*

Note: The activity status will not be marked as Completed until the Department of State Reviewer updates the status.

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177

https://mygrants.service-now.com/grants/grantee_kb.do

10. Pre-Award Costs: N/A
11. Substantial Involvement: N/A
12. Program Income: N/A
13. Cost-Sharing : N/A
14. Sub-recipients : N/A
15. Waiver of Acknowledgement of Department of State Support and Branding and Marking Requirements: N/A
16. Additional Bureau/Post Specific Requirements: N/A
17. Additional Foreign Assistance Provisions:

The Recipient is reminded that funds provided under this agreement must be used in a manner fully consistent with U.S. law.

Grantee is required to provide annual written verification of compliance with State Department procedures for foreign assistance for mitigating risk of terrorist financing

16. Specific Conditions N/A
19. Special Provision for Performance in a Designated Combat Area (SPOT): N/A
20. State Department Leahy Amendment Vetting Requirements: N/A
21. Statutory Deviations: N/A

NED Scope of Work – Grantmaking Program for Countering Disinformation and Malign Influence in Central, Southeastern, and Eastern Europe

The National Endowment for Democracy (NED) will use these funds to address the challenge of disinformation and other malign influence and building democratic reliance in Central, Southeastern, and Eastern Europe. The objectives include: 1) Expanding assistance to Central and East European nongovernmental organizations conducting leading work in this field; 2) Building the capacity of less experienced groups in the region; 3) Providing direct assistance to organizations in Central and East Europe that are beginning to operate in this field; and 4) Fostering donor coordination and maximizing U.S. and other international assistance to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of programs and sharing of knowledge and lessons learned.

Program Objectives

- **Objective 1:** To expand the impact of foundational organizations in Central and Eastern Europe that are defending the integrity of the information space and countering malign influence.

(b)(4)

- **Objective 2:** To build the capacity of less experienced groups in the region that are becoming active in these fields.

(b)(4)

- **Objective 3:** To foster new programs addressing the challenges of disinformation and malign influence in Central, Southeastern, and Eastern Europe.

(b)(4)

- **Objective 4:** To encourage coordination by, share knowledge and lessons learned among, and facilitate the effective and efficient implementation of programs strengthening resilience to disinformation and malign foreign influence.

(b)(4)

F Indicators:

DR.4.2-2 Number of civil society organizations (CSOs) receiving USG assistance engaged in advocacy interventions

DR.5.3-1 Number of non-state news outlets assisted by USG

DR.5.3-2 Number of USG-assisted media-sector civil society organizations (CSO) and/or institutions that serve to strengthen the independent media or journalists



**National Endowment
for Democracy**
Supporting freedom around the world

1025 F Street, NW | Suite 800 | Washington, DC 20004-1409
(202) 378-9700 | (202) 378-9407 fax | E-mail info@ned.org | www.ned.org

SUMMARY BUDGET:

Project: Grantmaking Program Supporting
Grant Award No: Society Initiatives in Europe
Grant Period: S-LMAQM-18-GR-XXXX
October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019

	<u>Budget</u>
DIRECT COSTS	(b)(4)
INDIRECT COSTS	
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 2,716,050

Attachment A

National Endowment for Democracy

Proposed Budget

October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2022

		<u>Categories</u>	<u>Central & Eastern Europe</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Award Costs				
Direct Costs				
	Program Grants		(b)(4)	
Indirect Cost		(b)(4)		
		SUBTOTAL	\$2,716,050	\$2,716,050

EUR/ACE FY 2020 Annual Performance Review Project Narrative

Organization:	National Endowment for Democracy
Office:	Europe
Specific Country, Countries, or Region Assisted:	Europe Regional – Disinformation

Project Narrative

1. Alignment with Strategies:

The NSS recognizes that Russia is using subversive measures to undermine transatlantic unity and weaken European institutions and governments and that the Kremlin is intimidating its neighbors with threatening behavior. The JSP cites the challenge of Russia's malign influence in the region. NED's strategy of assisting Central and Southeast European NGOs and independent media outlets that face coercion and malign influence, as well as supporting civil society and independent media that are combating Kremlin disinformation and its "Russian World" narrative, aligns with the JSP's Strategic Objective 1.4 of increasing the capacity and strengthening the resilience of U.S. partners and allies to deter aggression, coercion, and malign influence by state and non-state actors.

(b)(4); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4) ; (b)(5)

(b)(4); (b)(5)

3. F Monitoring Indicators for PPRs:

N/A

Resources

NSS (December 2017)

JSP 2018-2022

FATAA

FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT

(Follow form instructions)

1. Federal Agency and Organizational Element to Which Report is Submitted REB-STATE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS					2. Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned by Federal Agency (To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment) SLMAQM18GR2177				
3. Recipient Organization (Name and complete address including Zip code) NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY 1025 F STREET NW SUITE 800, , WASHINGTON, DC 20004									
4a. DUNS Number 132279084		4b. EIN (b)(4)		5. Recipient Account Number or Identifying Number (To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment) Eurinfo 18		6. Report Type <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Final		7. Basis of Accounting <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual	
8. Project/Grant Period (Month, Day, Year) From: August 28, 2018 To: September 30, 2022						9. Reporting Period End Date (Month, Day, Year) September 30, 2021			
10. Transactions (Use lines a-c for single or combined multiple grant reporting) Federal Cash (To report multiple grants separately, also use FFR Attachment): a. Cash Receipts b. Cash Disbursements c. Cash on Hand (line a minus b) (Use lines d-o for single grant reporting) Federal Expenditures and Unobligated Balance: d. Total Federal funds authorized e. Federal share of expenditures f. Federal share of unliquidated obligations g. Total Federal share (sum of lines e and f) h. Unobligated balance of Federal funds (line d minus g) Recipient Share: i. Total recipient share required j. Recipient share of expenditures k. Remaining recipient share to be provided (line i minus j) Program Income: l. Total Federal share of program income earned m. Program income expended in accordance with the deduction alternative n. Program income expended in accordance with the addition alternative o. Unexpended program income (line l minus line m and line n)								(b)(4)	
11. Indirect Expense		a. Type	b. Rate	c. Period From	Period To	d. Base	e. Amount Charged	f. Federal Share	
					g. Totals:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
12. Remarks: Attach any explanations deemed necessary or information required by Federal sponsoring agency in compliance with governing legislation:									
13. Certification: By signing this report, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the report is true, complete, and accurate, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purposes and intent set forth in the award documents. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)									
a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official (b)(6) Controller						c. Telephone (Area code, number, and extension) (b)(6) d. Email Address (b)(6) @ned.org			
b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official (b)(6)						e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) October 28, 2021			

Standard Form 425

OMB Approval Number: 4040-0014

Expiration Date: 02/28/2022

Paperwork Burden Statement

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FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT

(Additional Page)

Federal Agency & Organization : REB-STATE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Federal Grant ID : SLMAQM18GR2177

Recipient Organization : NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY
1025 F STREET NW SUITE 800, ____, WASHINGTON, DC 20004

DUNS Number : 132279084

DUNS Status when Certified : ACTIVE (as of 10/28/2021)

EIN : 1521344831A3

Reporting Period End Date : September 30, 2021

Status : Report Certified/Pending Agency Approval

Remarks :

Federal Agency Review

Reviewer Name :

Phone # :

Email :

Review Date :

Review Comments :

EUR/ACE FY 2019 Annual Performance Review

Project Narrative

Organization:	National Endowment for Democracy
Office:	Europe
Specific Country, Countries, or Region Assisted:	Central, Southeast and Eastern Europe

Project Narrative

1. Alignment with Strategies:

The 2017 National Security Strategy (NSS) prioritizes support for the dignity of individuals seeking freedom. The Joint Strategic Plan (JSP) FY 2018-22 states that the U.S. will continue to champion long-standing, foundational values of freedom. As a leading democracy assistance foundation, NED is supporting Central, Southeast, and East European organizations that are promoting these fundamental freedoms.

The NSS declares that a strong and free Europe is of vital importance to the U.S. NED's strategy of building resilience and mitigating efforts to undermine civil society and democratic norms and standards in Central Europe aligns with the JSP's Strategic Objective 1.3 of countering instability that threatens U.S. interests in the region "by strengthening citizen-responsive governance, security, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law."

The NSS recognizes that Russia is using subversive measures to undermine transatlantic unity and weaken European institutions and governments and that the Kremlin is intimidating its neighbors with threatening behavior. The JSP cites the challenge of Russia's malign influence in the region. NED's strategy of assisting Central, South, and East European NGOs and media groups that face coercion and malign influence, as well as supporting civil society and independent media that are combating Kremlin disinformation and its "Russian World" narrative, aligns with the JSP's Strategic Objective 1.4 of increasing the capacity and strengthening the resilience of U.S. partners and allies to deter aggression, coercion, and malign influence by state and non-state actors.

Finally, both the NSS and JSP emphasize collaborative efforts and cooperation through sharing responsibilities and burdens. Since 1989, the Endowment has been working in partnership with the DOS to advance freedom and democracy in Central Europe.

(b)(4); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4) ; (b)(5)

(b)(4); (b)(5)

Monitoring and Evaluation

5. Outcome Results:

N/A

6. F Monitoring Indicators for PPRs:

N/A

(b)(4); (b)(5)



PROGRAM PERFORMANCE REPORT

Submitted by:

National Endowment for Democracy

1025 F Street, NW, Suite 800

Washington, DC 20004

Tel: (202) 378-9700

Fax: (202) 378-9407

www.ned.org

Award Number: S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177 (EurInfo 2018)
Project Title: Grantmaking Program for Countering Disinformation and Malign Influence in Central, Southern, and Eastern Europe
Total Amount of Grant: \$2,716,050
Effective Date: August 28, 2018
Expiration Date: September 30, 2022
Reporting Period: August 28, 2018 – September 30, 2019
Date Submitted: October 31, 2019

Submitted to:

(b)(6)

(GOR/PO)

Office of the Coordinator of U.S. Assistance to Europe and Eurasia (EUR/ACE)

U.S. Department of State

Email: (b)(6)@state.gov

Copies to:

(b)(6)

Grants Officer

Email: (b)(6)@state.gov

(b)(6)

DRL/GP

Email: (b)(6)@state.gov

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Endowment for Democracy (NED/Endowment) received \$2,716,050 from the Department of State over a four-year period to address the challenge of combating disinformation and other malign influence and building democratic reliance in Central, Southeastern, and Eastern Europe. NED is utilizing these funds to assist groups on a regional basis, to be chosen in accordance with Endowment criteria.

Europe's ability to resolve its ongoing crises is uncertain. The continent is facing rising challenges to its stability and integrity. Support for traditional political parties, trade unions, and political institutions is falling. A wave of political populism, xenophobia, economic anxiety, and attacks on the rule of law and liberal values has shaken the region. The media space is increasingly captured and polluted, stoking polarization and extremism.

Across the region, civil society groups are under growing pressure. The space for independent media continues to narrow. Populists and autocrats are targeting independent journalists and critical outlets. Political and oligarchic interests control mass media and use traditional and online outlets to retain power by marginalizing independent voices and exerting control over political narratives. Regimes have extended their influence over cyberspace to stifle democratic dissent in new media.

The Russian government is exploiting these challenges by increasing its disinformation and other sharp power efforts to destabilize the region's new democracies, divide the U.S. and Europe, undermine the EU, and block European integration. A free information space is a precondition for democratic development. However, today that space is under assault and shrinking precipitously. In the era of globalization, Russia is manipulating and projecting media power beyond its borders to undermine democrats' ability to govern or advance transitions. Established and nascent democracies are confronting an onslaught of disinformation. The Kremlin has weaponized information and is using state-backed media and malicious websites to influence key issues, exploit crises, and advance its own illiberal model. Other authoritarian actors with interests in the region – China, Iran, Turkey, and the Gulf States – are learning from and emulating the Kremlin's tactics. Though their political impact is marginal for the time being, their economic influence is spreading quickly. Democracies are struggling to cope with an onslaught of disinformation and malign influence from authoritarian rulers and regimes, whose illiberal messages and corrosive capital find receptive audiences, particularly among those citizens who have not felt tangible benefits from reforms. In Europe, there is a lack of sufficient awareness, understanding, and reaction regarding this threat.

Foreign malign influence, particularly disinformation, continues to pose a threat to the region's democratic transitions, European integration, and Trans-Atlantic partnership. Since NED pioneered support for groups in Central Europe to analyze, publicize, and counter disinformation in 2015, the field has expanded in many ways. Today there are many more donors and resources, a broader geographic space to cover, and a greater quantity of purveyors, both domestic and foreign. However, the number of

indigenous groups in the region working to address this challenge has not greatly grown. While there have been some successes at countering foreign malign influence, the nature of the threat is also evolving.

<i>Program Area └Element</i>	<i>NED Program Foci and/or Program included in this Report</i>	<i>No. of Grants</i>	<i>Total Funding</i>
<i>Civil Society └ Civic Participation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Democratic Ideas and Values</i>	(b)(4)	
<i>Civil Society └ Media Freedom and Freedom of Information</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Freedom of Information</i>		
<i>Totals</i>			

II. SUMMARY OF GRANT PROGRAM

(b)(4)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

ATTACHMENT A**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS****The Honorable Andrew H. Card, Jr.***Chair***The Honorable David Skaggs**
Dentons*Vice Chair***Marilyn Carlson Nelson**
Carlson Holdings, Inc.*Secretary***Ambassador Robert H. Tuttle***Treasurer***Carl Gershman**
National Endowment for Democracy*President***Elliott Abrams** (*on leave*)**Anne Applebaum**
London School of Economics**The Honorable Karen Bass**
U.S. House of Representatives**James Boland**
International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers**Ambassador William J. Burns**
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace**Marlene Colucci**
The Business Council**Ambassador Eileen Donohoe**
Global Digital Policy Incubator, CDDRL, Stanford University**Dr. Michele Dunne**
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace**Ambassador Daniel Fried**
Future Europe Initiative & Dinu Patriciu Eurasia Center, The Atlantic Council

Dr. Francis Fukuyama

Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University

Barry Jackson

The Lindsey Group LLC

The Honorable Tim Kaine (*Honorary*)

U.S. Senate

Jayne M. Kurzman, Esq.

Davidson, Dawson & Clark LLP

The Honorable Mel Martinez

JPMorgan Chase

Ambassador Victoria Nuland

Center for a New American Century

Dayton Ogden

Spencer Stuart

Fred Redmond

United Steelworkers

The Honorable Peter J. Roskam

U.S. House of Representatives (Ret)

The Honorable Ileana Ros-Lehtinen

Akim Gump, Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

The Honorable Ben Sasse (*Honorary*)

U.S. Senate

Dr. Nadia Schadlow

Hudson Institute

The Honorable Elise Stefanik

U.S. House of Representatives

Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield

Albright Stonebridge Group

Ambassador Richard Verma

The Asia Group

Ambassador Melanne Verveer

Institute for Women, Peace and Security, Georgetown University

George Weigel²

Ethics & Public Policy Center

Kenneth Wollack

Former President, National Democratic Institute (NDI)

² This Board Member serves as the Board's regional expert for Europe and presents proposals for this region for consideration by the full Board.



**National Endowment
for Democracy**
Supporting freedom around the world

1025 F Street, NW | Suite 800 | Washington, DC 20004-1409
(202) 378-9700 | (202) 378-9407 fax | E-mail info@ned.org | www.ned.org

SUMMARY BUDGET:

Project: Grantmaking Program Supporting
Grant Award No: Society Initiatives in Europe
Grant Period: S-LMAQM-18-GR-XXXX
October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019

	<u>Budget</u>
DIRECT COSTS	(b)(4)
INDIRECT COSTS	
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 2,716,050

Attachment A**National Endowment for Democracy
Proposed Budget***October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2022*

	<u>Categories</u>	<u>Central & Eastern Europe</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Award Costs			
Direct Costs			
	Program Grants	(b)(4)	
Indirect Cost	(b)(4)		
	SUBTOTAL	\$2,716,050	\$2,716,050

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177



U.S. Department of State Award Provisions

Mandatory Award Provisions:

1. Standardized Assistance Instrument Identification Number:
S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177
2. Amount of Award: \$ 2,716,050.00
3. Purpose/Scope of Award:
 - a. Purpose: **National Endowment for Democracy**, (hereinafter referred to as the "Recipient") is hereby awarded a Grant to support "Grantmaking Program Promoting Democracy in Eurasia Region and Georgia." The Recipient shall (The National Endowment for Democracy (NED) will address the challenge of disinformation and other malign influence and building democratic reliance in Central, Southeastern, and Eastern Europe
 - b. The Recipient shall carry out the Agreement in accordance with its proposal dated August 17, 2018, and any revisions to which both parties agree to in writing. The above-mentioned proposal is hereby incorporated by reference and made an integral part of the Agreement.
 - c. For the objectives, timeline, and results of this project, see attached Scope of Work.
4. Grants Officer Contact Information: see attached Roles and Responsibilities
5. Grants Officer Representative (GOR) : see attached Roles and Responsibilities
6. Post-Award Compliance:

Department of State Standard Terms and Conditions for Federal Assistance Awards are incorporated by reference and made part of this Notice of Award. Electronic copies containing the complete text are available at:

<https://www.state.gov/m/a/ope/index.htm>

The Recipient and any sub-recipient, in addition to the assurances and certifications made part of the Notice of Award, must comply with all applicable terms and conditions during the project period.

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177

7. Authorized Budget Summary

All expenditures paid with funds provided by this Agreement must be incurred for authorized activities, which take place during this period, unless otherwise stipulated.

** See attached detailed budget*

8. Payment Method:

Payments under this award will be made through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Payment Management System (PMS). The Payment Management System instructions are available under the PMS website and can be accessed at the following address: <http://www.dpm.psc.gov/>. Recipients should request funds based on immediate disbursement requirements and disburse funds as soon as possible to minimize the Federal cash on hand in accordance with the policies established by the U.S. Treasury Department and mandated by the OMB Circulars.

9. Reporting and Monitoring –

Submitting Reports

All reports (financial and progress) must be uploaded to the grant file in SAMS Domestic, see instructions below. Please include the Agreement number (S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177) in all correspondence. **Failure to comply with the reporting requirements may jeopardize the Recipient's ability to access funds and eligibility for future awards.**

Financial Reports are due (*quarterly*). The due date is always 30 days following the end of the month/or calendar year quarter:

- January – March reports due on April 30
- April- June reports due on July 30
- July-September reports due on October 30
- October – December reports due January 30

Recipients that receive multiple awards must submit a separate set of reports for each award. The Program Office reserves the right to request any additional programmatic and/or financial program information during the award's period of performance.

a. Progress Reports

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177

The Recipient is required to submit annual report including an executive summary, grant history, list of grantees during performance period, evaluation highlights and comprehensive list of short descriptions of sub-grants

Please note that if an award's period of performance begins with 30 calendar days remaining in the quarter, a progress report must be submitted for that quarter.

Recipients must upload to SAMS Domestic:

Narrative report including Federal Award Identifying Number (FAIN or grant number), award period of performance, period covered by report, submission date, report frequency (annually, final) and a detailed description of program progress as described below

Attachment showing progress towards meeting Program Indicators and/or the F Framework indicators

Financial Reports

The Federal Financial Report (FFR or SF-425) is the required form for the financial reports. The two-part report is due quarterly and must be submitted electronically through the Department of Health and Human Services' Payment Management System (PMS) at <http://www.dpm.psc.gov/>

The due date is always 30 days following the end of the calendar year quarter (see Progress Reports)

Financial reports are due for **each quarter** the grant is active, even if only one day remains in the quarter. For the final quarter of a grant, Financial Cash Transaction Report (FCTR) is due, but no Financial Status Report (FSR) is due in PMS; this period can be covered in the final Financial Status Report.

Financial Reporting in PMS:

In PMS, the FFR consists of two forms:

- *First, the Financial Cash Transaction Report (FCTR) must be filed to report expenditures on all grants within a Recipient's PMS account*
- *24 hours later, the Recipient must file a separate Financial Status Report (FSR) for each individual award in PMS. The FSR should be filled out completely, including boxes 10a-10h, and as appropriate: 10i-10k, 11, and 12.*

Recipients must also download a copy of the SF-425 they submitted in PMS and upload the report to Grantsolutions.gov.

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177

For assistance with substantive financial reporting questions please contact the SAMS Domestic Grants Officer directly.

For technical assistance, the ONE-DHHS Help Desk for PMS Support is available Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST (except Federal Holidays).

Phone: (877) 614-5533

Email: State_Dept@psc.hhs.gov

The PMS Help Desk is available to respond to questions regarding navigation through the system menus and processes, and to reset PMS user passwords. You may also submit a ticket on-line and access more services using the Self-Help Web Portal located at <http://www.psc.gov/one-dhh>

b. Final Reports

i. Progress

The final narrative report must be submitted within 90 days of the end date of this agreement. The report must be marked *Final* and include an in-depth impact assessment and/or project evaluation. The project's summary should include quantitative and qualitative data relating to the objectives and overall outputs and outcomes, e.g., impact. The final narrative should also include the Federal Award Identifying Number (FAIN or grant number), award period of performance, and submission date.

ii. Financial

The Final Financial SF-425 (FFR) shall be submitted within 90 days after the expiration date of this Agreement. This report must disclose cost share and indirect rates, if applicable. If the final Negotiated Indirect Cost Rates (NICRAs) are not yet available, an interim final report must be filed within 90 days of the expiration date, clearly indicating in box 11 and box 12 that the rates are still provisional.

Bureau reserves the right to request any additional programmatic and/or financial program information during the award period.

c. F Framework Indicators

Recipient will include, in each progress report, data on the evaluation indicators from the Foreign Assistance Framework as agreed on between the grantee and the program office.

Include Appropriate F Indicators

DR.4.2-2 Number of civil society organizations (CSOs) receiving USG assistance engaged in advocacy interventions

DR.5.3-1 Number of non-state news outlets assisted by USG

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177

DR.5.3-2 Number of USG-assisted media-sector civil society organizations (CSO) and/or institutions that serve to strengthen the independent media or journalists

This data, reported by quarter and by fiscal year, should be included in each quarterly narrative progress report. Please note that the data reported should be new and unique to prevent double-counting. For example, if the same 15 journalists are being trained during two reporting periods (quarters), the cumulative data would be 15.

Instructions for uploading to SAMS Domestic

Go to SAMS Domestic Portal, search for and open the relevant award. Users should not include the dashes in the search. If searching by the last four digits, the search must start with an asterisk ().*

- 1. Click on the Notice of Award Number*
- 2. Locate and click on the Post-Award Activities Checklist tab at the bottom of the award page*
- 3. If the checklist has not been created, click New and then click Submit. If the checklist has been created, click on the Checklist number*
- 4. Activities are located at the bottom of the page. If the activity has not been created, click New, fill out the form, and then click Submit. If the activity has been created, click on the Activity number*
- 5. Click new to begin uploading documents*
- 6. Click the paper clip icon to locate the file on the computer and attach the file (only one document can be uploaded at a time)*
- 7. Select the file class and file category for the attachment.*
- 8. Click submit to upload the attachment*

*The document has been successfully submitted to the task
To upload additional documents, repeat steps 1-8*

Note: The activity status will not be marked as Completed until the Department of State Reviewer updates the status.

https://mygrants.service-now.com/grants/grantee_kb.do

10. Pre-Award Costs: N/A
11. Substantial Involvement: N/A
12. Program Income: N/A
13. Cost-Sharing : N/A
14. Sub-recipients : N/A

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177

15. Waiver of Acknowledgement of Department of State Support and Branding and Marking Requirements: N/A

16. Additional Bureau/Post Specific Requirements: N/A

17. Additional Foreign Assistance Provisions:

The Recipient is reminded that funds provided under this agreement must be used in a manner fully consistent with U.S. law.

Grantee is required to provide annual written verification of compliance with State Department procedures for foreign assistance for mitigating risk of terrorist financing

16. Specific Conditions N/A

19. Special Provision for Performance in a Designated Combat Area (SPOT): N/A

20. State Department Leahy Amendment Vetting Requirements: N/A

21. Statutory Deviations: N/A

Budget Categories	Amount	Amendment	Total
1. Personnel			
2. Fringe Benefits			\$ -
3. Travel			\$ -
4. Equipment			\$ -
5. Supplies			\$ -
6. Contractual			\$ -
7. Construction			\$ -
8. Other Direct Costs	(b)(4)	-	\$ (b)(4)
9. Total Direct Costs (Lines 1-8)		-	\$
10. Indirect Costs (choose one only: provisional, pre-determined rate, fixed or 10% MTDC		-	\$
11. Total Costs	\$ 2,716,050.00	-	\$ 2,716,050.00
12. Cost-Share			\$ -



PROGRAM PERFORMANCE REPORT

Submitted by:

National Endowment for Democracy
1201 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20004
<http://www.ned.org>
Tel: (202) 378-9700

Award Number: S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177 (EurInfo 2018)
Project Title: Grantmaking Program for Countering Disinformation and Malign Influence in Central, Southern, and Eastern Europe
Total Amount of Grant: \$2,716,050
Effective Date: August 28, 2018
Expiration Date: September 30, 2023
Reporting Period: October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022
Date Submitted: October 31, 2022

Submitted to: (b)(6) (GOR/PO)
Office of the Coordinator of U.S. Assistance to Europe and Eurasia (EUR/ACE)
U.S. Department of State
Email: (b)(6)@state.gov

Copies to: (b)(6)
Grants Officer, AQM
Email: (b)(6)@state.gov

(b)(6)
Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Bureau (DRL/GP)
Email: (b)(6)@state.gov

(b)(6)
Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Bureau (DRL/GP)
Email: (b)(6)@state.gov

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Endowment for Democracy (NED) received **\$2,716,050** from the Department of State over a five-year period to address the challenge of combating disinformation and other malign influence and building democratic reliance in Central, Southeastern, and Eastern Europe. NED is utilizing these funds to assist groups on a regional basis, chosen in accordance with the Endowment criteria.

The Russian war in Ukraine has triggered unprecedented level of solidarity with Ukraine across Europe and strengthened civil society networks regionally. At the same time, it has also revealed sharp divisions inside countries and across the continent, exposing anti-Western sentiments, fueled by Russian propaganda. Authoritarian-leaning leaders have not missed the chance to re-assert their power using citizens' growing sense of insecurity, fear of the war, inflation, and energy shortages. Russian disinformation has increased too, exacerbating existing divisions and fueling anti-Western narratives, which is especially pronounced in the Western Balkans, and some newer EU member states, such as Bulgaria and Romania

Foreign malign influence, particularly disinformation, continued to pose a threat to the region's democratic transitions, EU's unity in response to the war, and Transatlantic partnership. In response, NED has continued its support for initiatives that analyze, spotlight and counter foreign malign influence, particularly disinformation and corrosive capital, which is undermining the region's democratic transitions, European integration, and Trans-Atlantic partnership. By employing sharp power, Russia, China and other authoritarian states are attempting to increase their geostrategic influence and undermine democratic norms and standards in Europe. To address these threats, NED has provided assistance to think tanks, media outlets, and civil society groups across the region, fostering collaboration among likeminded groups to increase impact and defend liberal democracy, values and norms, including the integrity of the information space.

<i>Program Area └Element</i>	<i>NED Program Foci and/or Program included in this Report</i>	<i>No. of Awards</i>	<i>Total Funding</i>
<i>Civil Society └ Civic Participation</i>	• <i>Democratic Ideas and Values</i>	(b)(4)	
<i>Civil Society └ Media Freedom and Freedom of Information</i>	• <i>Freedom of Information</i>		
<i>Totals</i>			

II. Summary of Grant Program

Prior to September 30, 2022, the Endowment approved \$2,315,676 in awards from this grant.¹ A balance of \$31,718 remains for additional activities in the Europe region in FY 2023.

NED's Board of Directors (Attachment A) met four times during the reporting period and approved funding from this grant for the 3 projects listed below, all for Europe Regional programs. The following is a list of awards approved at the above-referenced meetings.

(b)(4)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

(b)(4)

III. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact Assia Ivantcheva, Senior Director for Europe Programs at (b)(6)@ned.org or Brian Joseph, Vice President for Programs, at (b)(6)@ned.org.

National Endowment for Democracy
1201 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20004
<http://www.ned.org>
Tel: [\(202\) 378-9700](tel:(202)378-9700)

ATTACHMENT A – The National Endowment for Democracy’s Board of Directors

ATTACHMENT A
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kenneth Wollack Commission on Presidential Debates	<i>Chair</i>
The Honorable David Skaggs Dentons	<i>Co-Vice Chair</i>
The Honorable Karen Bass U.S. House of Representatives	<i>Co-Vice Chair</i>
The Honorable Peter J. Roskam U.S. House of Representatives (Ret)	<i>Co-Vice Chair</i>
Marlene Colucci The Business Council	<i>Secretary</i>
Dr. Michele Dunne Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (CEIP)	<i>Treasurer</i>
Damon Wilson National Endowment for Democracy	<i>President</i>
Elliott Abrams Council on Foreign Relations	
Jessica Adelman Mars Wrigley Confectionery	
Anne Applebaum School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University	
Stuart Applebaum Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union	
Ambassador Liliana Ayalde Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)	
Steve E. Biegun²	

² This Board Member serves as the Board's regional expert for Europe and presents proposals for this region for consideration by the full Board

Former Deputy Secretary of State
Ambassador Reuben E. Brigety, II (ret.)
The University of the South

Roxanne Brown
United Steelworkers (USW)

Scott Carpenter
Jigsaw

Victor Cha
Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

Ambassador Kelley E. Currie

Ambassador Eileen Donohoe
Global Digital Policy Incubator, CDDRL, Stanford University

Jendayi Frazer
Council on Foreign Relations (CFR)

Ambassador Daniel Fried
The Atlantic Council

The Honorable Tim Kaine (*Honorary*)
U.S. Senate

Rachel Kleinfeld
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

The Honorable Mel Martinez
JPMorgan Chase

Dayton Ogden (ret.)
Spencer Stuart

Minxin Pei
Claremont McKenna College

Marc F. Plattner

The Honorable Ben Sasse (*Honorary*)
U.S. Senate

Dr. Nadia Schadlow
Hudson Institute

The Honorable Elise Stefanik
U.S. House of Representatives

Scott D. Taylor
African Studies Program, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University

Ambassador Richard Verma
Global Public Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Mastercard

Ambassador Melanne Verveer
Institute for Women, Peace and Security, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University



PROGRAM PERFORMANCE REPORT

Submitted by:

National Endowment for Democracy
1201 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20004
<http://www.ned.org>
Tel: (202) 378-9700

Award Number: S-LMAQM-18-GR-2177 (EurInfo 2018)
Project Title: Grantmaking Program for Countering Disinformation and Malign Influence in Central, Southern, and Eastern Europe
Total Amount of Grant: \$2,716,050
Effective Date: August 28, 2018
Expiration Date: September 30, 2022
Reporting Period: October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021
Date Submitted: October 29, 2021

Submitted to: (b)(6) (GOR/PO)
Office of the Coordinator of U.S. Assistance to Europe and Eurasia (EUR/ACE)
U.S. Department of State
Email: (b)(6)@state.gov

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Grants Officer, AQM
Email: (b)(6)@state.gov

(b)(6)
Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Bureau (DRL/GP)
Email: (b)(6)@state.gov

(b)(6)
Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Bureau (DRL/GP)
Email: (b)(6)@state.gov

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Endowment for Democracy (NED) received \$2,716,050 from the Department of State over a four-year period to address the challenge of combating disinformation and other malign influence and building democratic reliance in Central, Southeastern, and Eastern Europe. NED is utilizing these funds to assist groups on a regional basis, chosen in accordance with the Endowment criteria.

Throughout the region, citizens express disillusionment with the political establishment and pessimism about their quality of life, which has been exacerbated during the pandemic. Kremlin and other domestic and foreign malign actors are exploiting this discontent through disinformation and other malign influence that exacerbate divisions.

(b)(4)

Program Area ↳ Element	NED Program Foci and/or Program included in this Report	No. of Awards	Total Funding
Civil Society ↳ Media Freedom and Freedom of Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freedom of Information 	(b)(4)	
Totals			

II. SUMMARY OF GRANT PROGRAM

Prior to September 30, 2021, the Endowment approved (b)(4) in awards from this grant.¹ A balance of (b)(4) remains to be awarded for additional activities across Central, Southeastern, and Eastern Europe in FY 2022.

(b)(4)

The NED Board of Directors (Attachment A) met four times during the reporting period and approved funding from this award for 2 projects: 1 in January 2021 and 1 in March 2021. The following is a list of awards approved at the above-referenced meetings.

A. List of Awards

Europe Regional

Media Freedom and Freedom of Information

(b)(4); (b)(5)

B. Evaluation Highlights

(b)(4); (b)(5)

(b)(4); (b)(5)

III. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact Assia Ivantcheva, Senior Director for Europe at [\(b\)\(6\)@ned.org](mailto:(b)(6)@ned.org) or Brian Joseph, Vice President for Programs, at [\(b\)\(6\)@ned.org](mailto:(b)(6)@ned.org).

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ATTACHMENT A**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY
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² This Board Member serves as the Board's regional expert for Central and Southeast Europe and presents proposals for this region for consideration by the full Board

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