

CALL FOR JOURNALISTS AND EDITORS FROM WESTERN BALKANS

ADDITIONAL PLACE ON ONE-MONTH REGIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

The Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN) is pleased to announce that it is seeking a journalist or editor for an additional place on its exclusive one-month regional exchange programme. This call invites journalists and editors from Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, North Macedonia, and Serbia) to apply and take part in the exchange in Montenegro. The programme offers a unique opportunity for participants to familiarize themselves with different newsrooms across the region, enabling them to acquire new skills and expertise in investigative news production while fostering knowledge exchange among their peers.

ABOUT THE ONE-MONTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The One-Month Regional Exchange Programme is a capacity-building opportunity for media, editors and journalists from the Western Balkans to facilitate the production of quality news and an investigative production environment, enabling both parties to engage in knowledge exchange, comprehensive mentoring and cross-border approaches.

BIRN, in partnership with hosting media, has been organising exchange programmes to meet the needs and expectations of both host media and participating editors and journalists. The programme serves as a guideline for the whole exchange, resulting in the production of cross-border stories, enhancing both short-term and long-term regional collaboration between the host media and the participating editors/ journalists, enabling them to investigate stories with effects that surpass national borders.

A number of participants have already successfully completed their exchanges. BIRN is now looking for one additional editor/journalist to join this valuable experience.

WHO IS IT DESIGNED FOR?

The exchange programme is designed for both media and editors/journalists from the Western Balkan countries. It creates opportunities for the host media to share their knowledge with colleagues from other media in the Western Balkan region. It provides an opportunity for editors/journalists to spend one month immersed in a host media distinct from their country of origin while at the same time working together.

The journalist/editor will be selected in accordance with the predefined selection criteria and will have an opportunity to work with the Centar za istraživačko novinarstvo Crne Gore (Centre for Investigative Journalism of Montenegro – CIN CG), which is the host media for this call.

PARTICIPATING EDITORS' AND JOURNALISTS' ROLE

Within this call, **one (1) journalist/editor** will be carefully chosen. The selected candidate is anticipated to:

- Actively participate in the one-month exchange programme, as per the developed exchange programme.
- Collaborate with more senior colleagues from the host media and gain insider knowledge on different editorial policies and journalistic techniques, which can be replicated in the newsroom back home.
- Produce at least two (2) cross-border, in-depth stories together with the host media. The publication of the stories can be during or after the regional exchange programme.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Journalists/editors from five (5) Western Balkan countries are eligible to apply to this call. To apply for the regional exchange programme, journalists/editors are required to meet the following criteria:

1. Be a resident of one of the five Western Balkans countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, North Macedonia and Serbia)¹
2. Have at least three years track record of working in journalism sector.
3. Demonstrate a strong motivation and commitment to participation in the exchange programme.
4. Availability to spend one month in a host media located in Montenegro, distinct from her/his country of residence, in 2025.

BIRN is dedicated to promoting and achieving diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture, so we encourage individuals from minority groups, indigenous groups, and those with disabilities to apply.

LOGISTICS FOR PARTICIPATING EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS

BIRN will cover the following expenses for participant in the regional one-month exchange program:

Expense	Amount
Travel costs	€250
Accommodation costs while participating in the exchange programme	€250
Bursary to cover all costs of living during the exchange programme for one month	€1,121
TOTAL	€ 1,621

¹ Due to the requirements of cross-border collaboration, applications from Montenegro are not valid as Montenegro is the host country.

HOW TO APPLY?

Please share your interest through filling in the [application form](#) in English language by **January 16 (Thursday)**.

If you have questions about the programme and the call, please contact Azra Milić at azra.milic@birnnetwork.org.

This call is part of the project "[Strengthening Quality Journalism in Western Balkans and Türkiye II](#)".



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