



Guidelines

Scholarship GIANFRANCO MARTINI

Deadline: 1st of April 2013

1. Main goal

The Association of Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA) has decided to set up an annual scholarship in memory of its Honorary President, Gianfranco Martini, who passed away in October 2012. Gianfranco Martini was among the initiators of the concept of Local Democracy Agencies and became the first President of ALDA when it was founded in 1999.

Throughout his active life Gianfranco Martini remained passionate about the promotion of local democracy, the engagement of civil society and the encouragement of interethnic dialogue in Europe with a particular focus on the Western Balkans.

2. Specific objectives

Following a widely disseminated call for applications within Europe, ALDA will once a year award a scholarship to a student or researcher proposing a study or work project dealing with the topics local democracy, engagement of civil society and/or interethnic dialogue.

The objective is to receive high-quality academic research and analysis for ALDA's fields of activity in order to develop strategies on how to further promote local democracy, engage civil society and strengthen interethnic dialogue.

3. Applicants

The Call for Application is open to university students and researchers proposing a study work or project dealing with the topics local democracy, engagement of civil society and/or interethnic dialogue. Priority will be given to study works or projects that have a focus on regions where ALDA is active.

4. Scholarship amount

The amount of the scholarship will be decided annually by the ALDA Governing Board in the context of the adoption of the annual draft budget. The amount available for 2013 is 3,000 EUR.

5. Eligibility of actions

The application should include a succinct presentation of maximum 5 pages of the objective of the study or work project with a clear indication of how it will help further the topics of local democracy, engagement of civil society and/or interethnic dialogue and what the scholarship will be used for. Relevant references should also be submitted.

Projects of students should at least be a Master thesis or higher (e.g. PhD dissertation). Applicants for a work project should at least dispose of a Master degree.

6. Criteria for project selection

The applications will be selected by the evaluation committee on the following criteria:

- Originality and innovation of the proposal
- Timeliness and relevance of the research
- Clear definition and formulation of the research project's objectives and how it will be implemented
- Relevance for ALDA's work regarding local democracy, civil society engagement and interethnic dialogue
- Research that builds a link between theory and practice.

The selection process will be made by an evaluation committee nominated by ALDA's governing board.

7. Deadline for application and application process

Applications should include

- a succinct but precise presentation of the project (max. 5 pages),
- a motivation statement for the project,
- a CV,
- a copy of ID,
- a draft budget and if available
- relevant references

and should be sent in electronic version at latest by 1st of April 2013 to:
aldabrussels@aldaintranet.org

The successful candidate will be announced at the annual General Assembly of ALDA which will take place 18-19 April 2013.

The scholar will be expected to present the results of her/his study or project at the ALDA General Assembly the following year. In addition, the results of the scholarship will be widely disseminated.