

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Dear readers,

It is my great pleasure to present to you our annual report for the year 2022. This report is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our team and the grantees, along with the support of our donors, partners and stakeholders. We have achieved significant milestones over the past year and we are excited to share them with you.

This report highlights our progress towards achieving our strategic goals (promoting independent investigative journalism and facilitating networks of journalists in Europe), besides the challenges we faced along the way. It showcases our financial performance (more than 2,500,000 euros granted), our impact on the journalists (490), the media (203 projects), European public opinion, the diverse communities we serve, and the innovations in supporting investigative journalism we have implemented to drive growth and sustainability.

We are proud of our accomplishments this year, but we also recognize that there is still so much work to be done. As we look toward a brighter future, we remain committed to our mission of 'facilitating independent, investigative, cross-border journalism' in order to promote democracy in Europe and abroad, and we will continue to work tirelessly toward achieving our goals.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff, board members, partners, donors and stakeholders for their continued support and commitment to our non-profit organisation.

Your trust and confidence in Journalismfund Europe are of great importance to us, and we look forward to further working and strengthening our relationship with all of you as we progress toward a better world.

Yours sincerely,

**Mehmet Koksal**

*Interim chair, on behalf of the board members*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1. INTRO · ANOTHER RECORD YEAR FOR JOURNALISMFUND.EU</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2. MISSION</b>	<b>7</b>
2.1. OUR MISSION AND VISION	7
2.2. OUR VALUES	7
<b>3. OBJECTIVE I – PROMOTING INVESTIGATIVE INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM IN EUROPE</b>	<b>8</b>
3.1. PUBLICATIONS WITH IMPACT	8
3.2. INCREASING APPLICATIONS FOR SUPPORT	9
3.3. REACH SUMMERY	10
3.4. AWARDS	11
3.5. TRAINING AND MENTORING PROGRAMME	12
<b>4. OBJECTIVE II – FACILITATING NETWORKS OF JOURNALISTS IN EUROPE</b>	<b>16</b>
4.1. GRANTEES AT CONFERENCES	16
4.2. LECTURES / EXTERNAL REPRESENTATION	16
<b>5. ANNEXES</b>	<b>17</b>
5.1. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS	17
5.2. EUROPEAN CROSS-BORDER GRANTS (ECBG) - PROJECT	18
5.3. EUROPEAN CROSS-BORDER LOCAL GRANT PROGRAMME	22
5.4. THE PASCAL DECROOS GRANT PROGRAMME	23
5.5. EXTRA CALL: EMERGENCY FUND FOR LOCAL JOURNALISM (FLANDERS)	28
5.6. FPD LOCAL (FLANDERS)	29
5.7. SCIENCE JOURNALISM	29
5.8. GRANTS FOR YOUNG JOURNALISTS: STAMP MEDIA GRANTS	30
5.9. MONEY TRAIL PROJECT	31
5.10. THE MODERN SLAVERY UNVEILED PROJECT	31
5.11. INVESTIGATIONS GRANTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNALISM	33
5.12. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNALISM	38

# 1. INTRO · ANOTHER RECORD YEAR FOR JOURNALISMFUND.EU

**Almost €2.6 million went to 203 projects by 490 journalists and media from 66 countries. Should we be happy about this?**

## Benefits

As Journalismfund.eu enters its 25th anniversary in the industry, is there any reason to celebrate? It was in 1998 when friends, relatives and colleagues of the late [Pascal Decroos](#) *came up with the idea to honour him* by starting a fund in journalism. Love conquers all and the spirit of documentary filmmaker [Pascal Decroos](#) continues to this day.

Even then, it was the founders' conviction that the free market does not necessarily guarantee in-depth investigative journalism. That same year, this particular form of journalism hardly existed in Belgium and no change was on the horizon. So, journalism could only benefit from independent funding.

The Fund started in 1999 with a subsidy from the [Flemish government](#). (At the time, it was only €184,000, an equivalent to the [Flemish government's](#) budget for advertisements in the Flemish press.) Not knowing exactly how to move forward, the founders took their cue from the [Dutch Fund for In-depth Journalism](#) and the American [Fund for Investigative Journalism](#).

Meanwhile, the Fund is entering its 25th year. Nobody ever imagined that this fund would last this long. In 2008, the board of the organisation decided to expand its reach: from supporting Flemish specialist journalism to supporting cross-border investigative journalism throughout the European continent. After all, most problems are international, power has shifted to international institutions, but journalism – and certainly investigative journalism – remained on the sidelines, so to speak. Journalismfund.eu went European.

In 2022 alone, the fund received 384 applications from 885 journalists and media outlets from 84 countries. Journalismfund.eu was able to support 203 projects this year, accounting for some €2.6 million in grant money. This benefited 490 recipients: 413 journalists (211 women and 202 men) and 77 media companies. In comparison to the two previous years, this is a big step forward.

	2020	2021	2022
<b>APPLIED</b>			
#budget	2,812,488	3,277,733	<b>5,844,745</b>
#applications	290	309	<b>384</b>
#applicants	649	656	<b>885</b>
<b>GRANTED</b>			
#budget	925,294	1,088,463	<b>2,594,152</b>
#applications	153	135	<b>203</b>
#applicants	319	289	<b>490</b>

By 2021, the number of projects supported increased by 50%, the number of beneficiaries by 70% and financial support by 138%. This increase is, of course, primarily due to growing donor support. More and more philanthropic organisations and governments are becoming convinced of the need to support journalism and of Journalismfund.eu's modus operandi. Indeed, it is too risky to donate to journalists directly; it may cause journalists to lose their independence. Financial support may even weaken rather than strengthen journalists' credibility. However, this is not the case with a hard and impenetrable partition, a neutral independent intermediary between the journalist and the donor. Journalismfund.eu occupies that unique position in Europe.

## The greatest value comes from the journalists themselves

There are quite a few hurdles to overcome to apply for and receive a grant for investigative journalism: the language, finding colleagues in other countries, a good topic on which some preliminary research

may already have been done, the application process, a commitment from a media company, the risks, etc. In this respect, the Journalismfund.eu team helps as much as it can and plays an important role in making all this possible behind the scenes. The professionalism of the jurors and mentors and the commitment of the Journalismfund.eu board also lay the foundation for success. **But in any case, the most important factor in this growth is the persistence of journalists who find the courage to conduct this kind of cross-border research.** Their participation makes the difference.

In short, there are still several obstacles to tackle in investigative journalism, which is essential to a democratic system. A functioning democracy requires its citizens to be properly informed so that they can form well-founded opinions. Quality journalism provides information, acts as a watchdog and questions power structures. The better this 'fourth estate' functions, the stronger democracy will be.

To this end, it is essential that there are various quality journalistic channels and platforms to provide that important information. If citizens do not recognise themselves in what is being presented as news and in who is speaking, a gap grows between the information presented and the citizen to be informed. As a result, distrust and populism increase while the quality and democratic content of debate in society diminish.

Therefore, it is also important that citizens have access to high-quality journalism on every domain that shapes society (political, economic, scientific, cultural, social, etc.) and on every level where the influence of those domains is located: local, regional, national and international.

This kind of high-risk journalism does not always run smoothly. Sometimes resources prove insufficient, teams of journalists encounter bad luck or even develop contention among themselves. Frustration often arises because of the lack of sharing of information among government entities, companies and individuals. Often journalists risk [legal trouble](#), harassment and being called names such as 'rotten fish' on social media. Lately, companies have been using [detective agencies](#) to shadow journalists and some governments have illegally installed bugging software on the mobile phones of troublesome journalists. In [Greece](#), the debate is still raging.

Some have even paid for it with their own lives. In the past 20 years, [1,668 journalists have been killed, an average of 80 per year](#). Even though members of the Council of Europe agreed to protect journalism and the safety of journalists in April 2016, following the [recommendations by several journalist organisations](#), nothing has happened so far.

Nobel Peace Prize winner **Maria Ressa** gave an apt description of the situation during [her speech in Oslo](#): 'Democracy has become a woman-to-woman, man-to-man defence of our values. We're at a sliding door moment, where we can continue down the path we're on and descend further into fascism, or we can each choose to fight for a better world. To do that, you have to ask yourself: what are YOU willing to sacrifice for the truth?'

We consider it a great honour that Journalismfund.eu is trusted by so many applicants (885 in 2022). Risk management is also essential in the organisation. The anonymity of the journalists until publication (and sometimes until after publication) and non-disclosure of topics are motivated by security concerns. The way the organisation screens all journalists, the anonymity of the [jury members](#), the [secure application platform](#), the process of awarding grants, the drafting and discussion of contracts and budgets, the four-eyes principle for payments, the [ethical funding policy](#), the [conflict of interest policy](#), [mentorship](#), follow-ups and communication, among others are all set up to minimise the risks, first and foremost, for the journalists and to maximise the quality and impact of the investigations.

Investigative journalism has become more and more established through the publications of the [International Consortium of Investigative Journalists \(ICIJ\)](#). The publication of important documents such as [Offshore Leaks](#), [Panama Papers](#), [Paradise Papers](#), [Pandora Papers](#) and [FinCEN Files](#) placed ICIJ's credibility up front. ICIJ caused quite a stir worldwide and inspired many journalists around the world. Credit to the [Global Investigative Journalism Network \(GIJN\)](#) and several of its members who provided knowledge sharing on investigative journalism in their conferences.

## Historical context

In Europe, we can actually hardly speak of a decline in investigative journalism over the past 10 years. In fact, in many European countries, democracy is still relatively young and critical investigative journalism barely exists, if at all. Without wishing to go too far back in time, for example, Greece had a military regime until

1973. Portugal was freed from a 40-year authoritarian regime in 1974. Spanish dictator General Francisco Franco died in 1975. Most of the Eastern European countries only knew liberal ideology after the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989. Cyprus, Estonia Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia and the Czech Republic only became EU members in 2004, Bulgaria and Romania in 2007, and Croatia in 2013.

Authoritarian regimes do not disappear overnight. Institutions such as governments, the judiciary and the media do not immediately fall into the hands of the most liberal minds. Some time passes for that. One generation? Two generations? Of course, it also takes some time before journalists dare to write critically and independently about the government, especially if the population have never known anything but an authoritarian regime and free speech was non-existent, and if people have a lot of sympathy for the liberators.

Investigative journalism has a long tradition in countries such as the UK, the Netherlands, Scandinavian countries and Germany. But for the rest of Europe, I would go as far as to say – and I express myself carefully – there is still some growth potential. This has nothing to do with the revenue model, but everything to do with the recent past. Slowly and rather laboriously, the idea of (cross-border) investigative journalism is spreading across Europe.

Slowly but surely, investigative journalism is nevertheless finding its way into independent platforms in Europe.

### Positive news

The good news is that with the extra funds, Journalismfund.eu can fund many more collaborations and indirectly help the quiet realisation of a growing number of European networks of investigative journalists. Without that support, those investigations would not have been realised and those small networks would not have been created.

Cross-border cooperation has many advantages. Brining journalists from different countries together increases research capacity. Journalists grow both personally and professionally in such a venture. Problems that crop up can be shared with colleagues, resulting in faster solutions. Journalists are less isolated. Journalistic research achieves a wider reach because it is also usually published in several countries at the same time, bringing net gains in power and impact. A publication in several countries acts as a safeguard against legal attacks. It is more difficult to file a complaint in multiple different countries. Complainants are aware that their attack could very well turn against them.

This kind of cooperation is obviously necessary because issues such as politics, economics, ecology and crime know no borders. Exclusively highlighting one's own region has no impact.

It is important that we can continue to provide this kind of support over a longer period of time. That continuity is crucial. [The European cross-border grant programme](#) has been running continuously since 2009, the Pascal Decroos Fund project since 1999. The donors and Journalismfund.eu, along with the journalists and media, build up experience and a growing network. Donors increasingly recognise that support for one year is welcome, but that real successes can only be achieved if they invest longer term in these cross-border and complex investigations. Building a strong democracy is a daily job. Democracy is not etched in stone.

As of New Year's Eve 2022, [124 journalists were locked up in European prisons](#), according to the **European Federation of Journalists**. In 2022, **13 were murdered**, most of them in Ukraine. In [The Economist's Democracy Index 2021 report](#), we read that 'Democratisation suffered more reversals in 2021, with the percentage of people living in a democracy falling to well below 50% and authoritarian regimes gaining ground.'

'Without facts, you can't have truth. Without truth, you can't have trust. Without trust, we have no shared reality, no democracy, and it becomes impossible to deal with our world's existential problems: climate, coronavirus, the battle for truth,' says Maria Ressa during her [Nobel Lecture](#).

Should we be happy? 'What are YOU willing to sacrifice for the truth?'

**Ides Debruyne**

*Managing-Director*

## 2. MISSION

### 2.1. OUR MISSION AND VISION

We believe that journalism is crucial to fostering living democracies throughout the European continent. We are dedicated to advancing independent and investigative journalism across Europe that serves the public interest, furthers accountability as well as transparency, and contributes to critical thinking and well-informed debate.

We aim to promote and develop professional journalism on the European continent in response to the challenges and opportunities stemming from increased digitalisation, the internationalisation of political, business and criminal power structures, as well as changing revenue models.

Journalismfund.eu vzw is a Brussels-based independent non-profit organisation incorporated by citizens in 1998. **The organisation was established with the purpose of facilitating investigative, cross-border and independent journalism in order to promote democracy on the European continent by connecting donors and journalists without endangering the journalists' independence.**

This is how we work:

1. We facilitate donors so that they can play their role supporting investigative journalism to the maximum extent possible. We therefore report very transparently on our projects.
2. We facilitate journalists in conducting investigative and cross-border journalism; moreover, we safeguard their independence from donors.
3. We help journalists disseminate their stories among citizens.

### 2.2. OUR VALUES

- › **Independent.** We operate independently from any political or economic influences, donors or other interests. We respect the editorial independence of the journalists we work with. Our key innovation was the setup of an independent, anonymous jury to assess applications and allocate funds for journalists.
- › **Transparent.** Our board, staff members, partners and the general public know what we stand for, and how we operate and make decisions. We ask those we work with to be equally transparent. We are aware that transparency in the context of investigative journalism can expose people to risk and are therefore mindful of our requirements.
- › **Collaborative.** Collaboration empowers. It amplifies the impacts of journalists and journalism. Our willingness and ability to collaborate with key stakeholders in our field strengthens our strategies. Collaboration within and between our organisational structures strengthens our operations.
- › **Responsive.** We act on the needs and interests of journalists and donors. We adapt to changing external and internal opportunities and threats. We walk our talk.
- › **Innovative.** We propagate new journalistic methods and skills. We encourage creative thinking and are willing to try new approaches.

## 3. OBJECTIVE I – PROMOTING INVESTIGATIVE INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM IN EUROPE

### 3.1. PUBLICATIONS WITH IMPACT

The first step in raising awareness of human rights violations, climate change, organised crime and large-scale fraud is investigating them. Public opinion **must have access to information**, which is an essential condition for a critical democratic debate. And that's exactly what journalists do: they search, dig and examine. They discover, reveal, expose. They tell their stories to readers, listeners and viewers, aid organisations and policy makers, who can then start doing what they each do best to fight those abuses.

Based on what journalists discover, reveal and expose; readers, listeners, viewers, aid organisations, and policymakers can then start doing what they each do best to fight those abuses. The following examples illustrate how the stories made with the support of [Journalismfund.eu](https://www.journalismfund.eu) and published during 2022 had an impact on the issues they addressed.

#### TAKING COMPANIES TO COURT

Thanks to [this investigation](#), The French Oil Company Perenco S.A. is now facing the Paris Court of Justice. This is the first case in which a French company has been held liable for environmental damage caused abroad. This case, researched by Lea Szulewicz, Dorian Cabrol, Alexandre Brutelle and Baron Nkoy, proves that Perenco S.A. had the means to act but did not take the necessary measures to prevent and stop the pollution linked to the group's oil activities in the DRC. Perenco may now be forced to repair the ecological damage already caused in the DRC to stop the pollution, and prevent future environmental damage. On the other hand, French energy transition minister Agnès Pannier-Runacher was placed at the heart of a discrete inheritance scheme linked to hedge funds based in tax haven countries. Her father, a long-serving Perenco executive, set up a company to donate a €1.2 million investment portfolio to the minister's children.

#### PUTTING INDUSTRIES AND OLIGARCHS UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

A leading company is now under the spotlight of the European Environmental Agency for potential unlicensed extraction. As part of a cross-border project to investigate the peat extraction industries in Ireland and Latvia, the Irish investigative platform Noteworthy has examined the impacts of unlicensed peat extraction across the country. The findings of [that cross-border investigation](#) revealed a system of largely unregulated peat extraction that continues to this day where the Irish State has fallen short on its enforcement role, for instance failing to make any local or national authority responsible for maintaining a register of peat companies or the amount of peat extracted for commercial purposes.

[An investigation](#) of Šarūnas Černiauskas (Lithuania), Irma Bogdanoviciute (Lithuania) and Stanislau Ivashkevich (Belarus) followed the trail of the Belarusian elites. After that, Alexander Zaytsev and Aliaksei Aleksin, two Belarusian businessmen considered to be close to the Alexander Lukashenko regime, were officially included in the EU sanctions package that started on 21 June 2021.

When the sanctions against Aleksin and Zaytsev were imposed, the official sanction implementation decision mirrored the team's stories to a large extent. Companies mentioned in the stories were indicated to be the source of the oligarchs' benefiting from their relationship with the regime, further stressing the importance of the investigative work.

'Sometimes, it takes years for an investigative story to have a clear impact. Sometimes, it never happens. In this case, international sanctions came 8 months after we ran our first story, and this is the first time when my work makes this kind of an impact. In my perspective, investigative journalism isn't about punishing people. It's about getting the truth out to the world - even from regimes as tight as the one in Belarus. And once the truth is out, change will come sooner or later,' team leader Sarunas Cerniauskas underlines.



## PUTTING PRESSURE ON LAWMAKERS

EU lawmakers are now under pressure to act after a [cross border investigation](#) revealed that 70,000 to 90,000 annual asbestos-related deaths occur in Europe — not including the growing number of cancers by exposure at homes, schools, hospitals and offices. The European Parliament asked for a broad asbestos strategy under different headings. The headings include a framework directive binding members to act, new occupational exposure limits (OEL) for workers 100 times lower than the present OEL, a compulsory register of buildings where asbestos is present, and a pan-EU recognition and compensation scheme for asbestos victims.

## GENERATING PROSECUTOR'S INVESTIGATIONS

A French anti-terrorist prosecutor's office [has opened](#) a preliminary investigation into the association SOS Chrétiens d'Orient, regarding complicity in war crimes and crimes against humanity, based on the investigation by journalists Ariane Lavrilleux, Frank Andrews, and Elie Guckert.

In Italy, two months after the broadcast of The Logging Business, [a video investigation](#), the prominent anti-mafia public prosecutor Nicola Gratteri [coordinated a big police operation](#) with arrests on the woody biomass supply chain in Calabria. The CEOs of the 5 Calabrian biomass facilities are now under investigation for fraud for having asked for undue public subsidies and for having burned wood that originated in illegally logged forests. The same supported project led the Italian party M5S to [withdraw its vote](#) for the request for incentives for forestry biomass power plants and to state that 'there are controversial issues regarding biomass.'

## BRINGING INSTANT CHANGE

The research by journalists Eelco van Wieringen (Buro Publieke Werken, Holland), Micael Pereira (Expresso Portugal), and Twan Kroon (researcher, Holland) showed that the age of port wines is often incorrect. Based on that investigation, some port wines were reported to the Food Fraud Network, a partnership of the European food authorities, and in some countries like the Netherlands, some port wines have been [withdrawn](#) for sale. ["Deception with port"](#) research had an immediate impact on its first publication. Something similar happened after [research](#) that asked if the EU's craze for lithium fuels destructive mining operations in Serbia. The Jadar mining project is on hold now.

## 3.2. INCREASING APPLICATIONS FOR SUPPORT

### APPLICATIONS

In 2022 Journalismfund.eu received **384 applications** (from 885 applicants) for 8 grant programmes: European Cross-Border Local, European Cross Border (ECBG), Pascal Decroos Fund, Pascal Decroos Fund Low Countries, Science Journalism grants, Modern Slavery Unveiled Project, investigation grants for Environmental Journalism, Professional Development Grants for Environmental Journalism. For an overview of the goals, scope, grants, stories and impact of the grant programmes, see Annexes 5.2 to 5.12.

The grant applicants were domiciled in 84 different countries, see the table below.

### GRANTEES

In 2022, we supported 203 projects or **490 grantees** (211 female, 202 male). The grantees are domiciled in 56 different countries.

The average age of the grantees is 41. 65% are freelance journalists, 41% male and 43% female. 13% are novices, 71% are experienced journalists (more than 2 years of experience).

	2020	2021	2022		
<b>APPLIED</b>					
#budget	2,812,488	3,277,733	<b>5,844,745</b>	↑	<b>+ 79.53%</b>
#applications	290	309	<b>384</b>	↑	<b>+ 24.27%</b>
#applicants	649	656	<b>885</b>	↑	<b>+ 1.08%</b>
<b>GRANTED</b>					
#budget	925,294	1,088,463	<b>2,594,152</b>	↑	<b>+ 138.37%</b>
#applications	153	135	<b>203</b>	↑	<b>+ 50.37%</b>
#applicants	319	289	<b>490</b>	↑	<b>+ 69.55%</b>

### 3.3. REACH SUMMERY

#### ALL ONLINE COVERAGE 2022

[share.coveragebook.com/b/63599ee8aa69d1da#metrics-summary](https://share.coveragebook.com/b/63599ee8aa69d1da#metrics-summary)



## 360

**Pieces of Coverage**

Total number of online, offline and social clips in this book



## 13.9M

**Estimated Views**

Prediction of lifetime views of coverage, based on audience reach & engagement rate on social



## 725M

**Audience**

Combined total of publication-wide audience figures for all outlets featuring coverage



## 176K

**Engagements**

Combined total of likes, comments and shares on social media platforms



## 58

**Avg. Domain Authority**

A 0-100 measure of the authority of the site coverage appears on. Provided by Moz



## 350

**Online Pieces**

Amount of coverage published on websites, blogs and online outlets

### 3.4. AWARDS

In 2022, the following projects received or were nominated for an award:

#### PASCAL DECROOS FUND



- › Journalists Ruben Brugnera and Marieke Brugnera won 'De Loep', the most prestigious award for investigative journalism in the Netherlands and Flanders (Belgium).
- › The podcast Ouder/Elder by Lander Kennis and Rafael Njotea has been shortlisted for the prestigious Rose d'Or.
- › Tom Naegels won the '[Prijs voor het Belangrijkste Boek van het Jaar](#)' (Award for the Most Important Book of the Year).

#### MONEY TRAIL



- › Amnesty International Luxembourg has awarded its [Amnesty Mediepræis 2022](#) in the category of 'article' to Luc Caregari, who together with Namrata Sharma carried out an investigation revealing shortcomings in the fight against forced labour in Luxembourg.
- › Naipanoi Lepapa became Journalist of the Year with her story on surrogacy in Kenya. Lepapa was among the journalists to receive an award at the 2022 Annual Journalism Excellence Awards (AJEA)

held in Nairobi on Friday, May 6. At the awards organised by the Media Council of Kenya (MCK), Naipanoi was crowned Journalist of the Year in recognition of her investigative articles at the outlet.

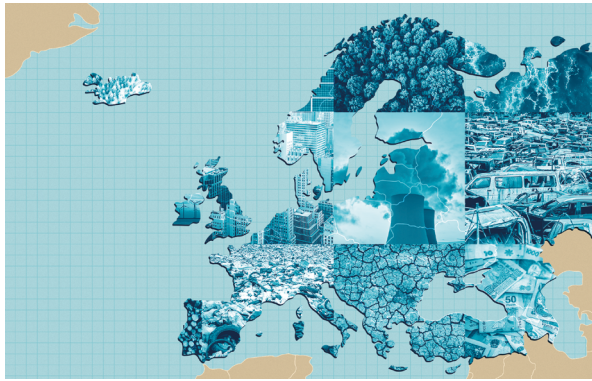
- › Journalist Naipanoi Lepapa was included in the list of Top 100 Kenyans of 2022 for her investigation on the surrogacy industry in Kenya.

#### EUROPEAN CROSS-BORDER GRANTS



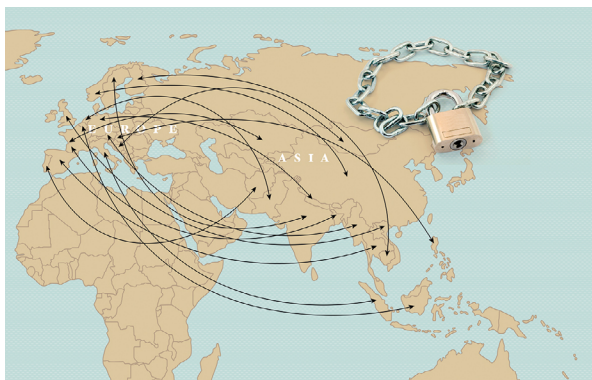
- › Bence Máté, Florian Schewe and Áron Szentpéteri were finalists for the #DIGAwards with 'The Hungarian playbook' in the category Investigative Long.
- › Investigation about destructive mining operations in Serbia was nominated for the Dejan Anastasijević investigative journalism award in Belgrade. Ingrid Gercama, Nemanja Rujević and Natalie Bertrams investigated the EU's craze for lithium causing loss of biodiversity and pollution in Serbia.

## INVESTIGATIONS GRANTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNALISM



> An investigation into Pollution of the Poultry Industry in Ireland won [\*The Business Analyst of the Year Journalism Award\*](#). Journalists Niall Sargent (Noteworthy.ie), Rory Winters, Luke Butterly and Tommy Greene (The Detail), and Ella McSweeney (The Guardian) investigated the environmental impacts of the poultry industry in Ireland and the United Kingdom as it expands in line with state policy.

## MODERN SLAVERY UNVEILED



> An investigation into Indian workers exploited in Italy won the 2022 Global Media Competition on Labour Migration award. Journalists Daniela Sala (Italy), Ankita Anand (India) and Marco Valle (Italy) investigated how, through debt, a network of intermediaries linking India to the Pontine countryside keeps thousands of Indian workers under blackmail and exploited in one of the largest fruit and vegetable districts in Europe.

**All awards and nominations can be found online:**

<https://www.journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/awards>

## 3.5. TRAINING AND MENTORING PROGRAMME

### INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM – POST-ACADEMIC (MECHELEN)

The course targets people with a master's degree in any subject (or with a bachelor's degree in journalism) and provides insight into how a successful, properly substantiated and credible investigative journalism project can be set up. The course consists of three modules: Investigative journalism, International reporting and Portfolio. The course takes 136 hours and takes place on Tuesday and Thursday evenings (throughout the academic year).

The ultimate goal of the course is to teach students how to make news. The students are familiarised with techniques of which mainstream journalists have little or no knowledge. For instance, considerable attention is paid to data analysis and visualisation, searching on the internet, making use of Freedom of Information legislation, archives, etc. Considerable attention is also paid to cross-border collaboration and entrepreneurship.

The guest lecturers are all experts in their field with extensive experience: Evert De Vos (*Groene Amsterdammer*), Henk Van Ess (*Poynter, Bellingcat*), Peter Teffer (*Follow the Money*), Peter Verlinden (former Belgian public broadcaster VRT journalist), Kristof Clerix (investigative journalist for *Knack*), Luuk Sengers (*Story-Based Inquiry*), to name a few. Every year, we also schedule a guest lecture given by a former IRJ student who successfully completed the course and is now working as a journalist.

[www.researchjournalistiek.eu](http://www.researchjournalistiek.eu)

## TRAINING UNDER THE MODERN SLAVERY UNVEILED PROJECT

**Promoting NGO – media partnerships: REPORTING ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING**  
 Date: 20 April 2022 at 3PM CEST / 8PM Hanoi  
 Online via Zoom: Free registration on [Journalismfund.eu](https://journalismfund.eu)  
 Speakers:  
 Suzanne Hoff (La Strada International), Marija Andjelkovic (ASTRA), Sasa Dragojlo (Journalist BIRN), Lam Le (Independent Journalist)

**The Survivor Voice: Interviewing Victims of Human Trafficking**  
 Date: 22 June 2022 at 3PM CEST/ 9PM Manila  
 Online via Zoom: Free registration on [Journalismfund.eu](https://journalismfund.eu)  
 Speakers: Sanne Terlingen (Lost in Europe), Anonymous survivor

**Safety and Security: How to Overcome the Risks When Investigating Human Trafficking**  
 Date: 31 August 2022 at 3PM CEST / 9PM Manila / 9AM Washington D.C.  
 Online via Zoom: Free registration on [Journalismfund.eu](https://journalismfund.eu)  
 Speakers: Annie Kelly (The Guardian), Ian Urbina (The Outlaw Ocean Project)

In the framework of Modern Slavery Unveiled grant programme, training courses were provided on online safety and collaboration with CSOs. Journalism in its essence entails the investigation and production of articles. Journalismfund.eu also deployed a training programme for journalists and civil society organisations. This training programme consists of several online sessions where journalists and Civil Society Organisations are encouraged to upskill in different topics regarding human trafficking, modern slavery and forced labour.

### [Ethics and journalism: Reporting human trafficking responsibly](#)

This webinar discussed ethical guidelines for journalists when reporting on victims and survivors of human trafficking, sexual exploitation, and labour abuse. It also explored the possibility of collaborating with civil society organisations that share the goal of ending modern slavery. Speakers included Aidan White, Charles Autheman, and Wahyu Dhyatmika. More information about this webinar can be found [here](#), and the recording is available [here](#).

### [Promoting NGO – media partnerships: reporting on human trafficking](#)

This webinar discussed the role of journalists and other media representatives in raising awareness of human trafficking, reducing vulnerabilities and holding governments, law enforcement and businesses to account. A major focus was placed on the cooperation of NGOs and (investigative) journalists; the expectations of both parties for such partnerships and recommendations for more efficient partnerships, respecting the independence of journalists. Speakers included Merel Brouwer, Suzanne Hoff, Marija Andjelkovic, Sasa Dragojlo and Lam Le. For this online session we collaborated with La Strada International. More information about this webinar can be found [here](#), and the recording is available [here](#).

### [The Survivor Voice: Interviewing Victims of Human Trafficking](#)

Interviewing a person who has been a victim of human trafficking raises several ethical questions regarding the sensitivity of the topic and the traumatic history of each survivor. As journalists continue to cover stories related to modern slavery, it can be helpful to have a better understanding of how to interview survivors of these type of crimes. This webinar provided tips for interviewing survivors of human trafficking, forced labour and sexual exploitation. A major focus was placed on how to conduct interviews that minimise re-traumatisation and yield evidence of the victim's experience of the crime. It also approached other strategies to effectively interview victims of trauma such as building rapport as the first step when getting

in touch with victims. Speakers included Sanne Terlingen and an anonymous survivor of modern slavery. Thanks to the suggestion of Survivor Alliance (Porticus partner), we contacted a survivor to be part of this online session as a presenter. Her identity was kept confidential and we did not record her intervention for security purposes. Attendees appreciated the inclusion of survivors in the session, and once again we made use of our Porticus network to deliver a successful event. More information about this webinar can be found [here](#), and the recording is available [here](#).

### **[Safety and Security: How to Overcome Risks When Investigating Human Trafficking](#)**

An important training need already identified for this webinar is security, both digital and physical. For investigative journalists and CSOs to do their work and expose cases of human trafficking and abuse, they need to be able to conduct their work in a safe, enabling environment. Through the security training, participants will be empowered to create this environment and safeguard themselves from abuse and fall-out related to their work. Speakers include Annie Kelly and Ian Urbina. For this online session we directly contacted the speakers, and the Outlaw Ocean Project assisted us with some promotion. More information about this webinar can be found [here](#), and the recording is available [here](#).

One week later, as a repercussion of the importance of what has been said during the webinar, the Global Investigative Journalism Network (GIJN) prepared a news article with the tips provided by our speakers, this article has been shared several times on social media (see image below), you can read the news article [here](#) titled 'Best practices for staying safe while investigating human trafficking'.

Finally, Journalismfund.eu's in-person Modern Slavery Unveiled training took place in Manila from the 21 to 25 November, 2022. [Journalism for Nation Building Foundation](#) (JNBF) and [Rappler](#) were the local organisers of the 5-day training for Southeast Asian journalists and civil society organisations on modern slavery reportage. The 30 participants were composed of 24 journalists and 6 CSO representatives. The attendees came from different countries such as Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. The training also involved the participation of 16 trainers who were journalists, Civil Society Representatives and experts on human trafficking.

## TRAINING PROGRAMME EARTH INVESTIGATIONS PROGRAMME



This webinar organised in-house on 24 May 2022, tackled the context in which environmental journalists write an investigative story. The online session held on Zoom brought together 46 environmental journalists as well as members of supported organisations. The online webinar was dedicated to the community of environmental journalists and addressed the global context of the environmental ecosystem and the extent to which a story can have an impact, by identifying the different dynamics and actors that are accountable in terms of climate change. For this, the webinar aimed to look at two different approaches presented by Stephane Horel and Mark Schapiro.

'[Skill Up: Data Journalism and Visualisation](#)'. This training session was led by two veteran data journalists, Helena Bengtsson and Amanda Cox, who demonstrated how to think using different data tools and dive deeper into visualisation. Data journalism can help a journalist tell a complex story through engaging infographics. This training session showcased how to effectively use data journalism techniques to improve an investigative story. For this online session on Zoom, 154 people registered and 53 attended, making the attendance rate 34%. The recording can be watched [here](#).

### 'Using Data to Explain the Magnitude of Climate Change'

This training was set out to introduce the users to environmental data-driven journalism. We discussed broadly how data can be used to write about the environment. Stemming from the Global Climate Change dashboard, the audience was introduced to the data sources and tools that can be used in data journalism, and how to use them to narrate global phenomena. Speakers included Orinaldo Gjergji and Matteo Moretti, environmental data experts. In total 75 people registered and 35 attended, making the attendance rate 47%. The webinar is available online [here](#).

## MENTORING PROGRAMME (UNDER ECB GRANTS, MSU, CBL AND ENV1 GRANTS)



For teams that need support in terms of investigation skills, a mentor can be appointed. We can propose calling on a mentor during a prior dialogue with the team applying for a grant. The mentors are selected based on the focus of the investigation or in view of their competence in a specific skill. Having the help of a mentor can have a significant positive impact on a team and its story. Teams of journalists less experienced in the field of cross-border investigative stories can particularly benefit from help from more experienced colleagues. The jury can also make the award of a grant subject to collaboration with a mentor.

Over the last five years (2018-2022) Journalismfund.eu's pool of mentors had a significant positive influence on the teams of journalists, processes of their investigations and results of the stories.

You can find the list of mentors online: [journalismfund.eu/mentors-overview](https://journalismfund.eu/mentors-overview)

## CAPACITY BUILDING – MENTORING

In 2022 the project coordinators spent approximately 107 hours guiding and coordinating the mentors. During 2022, five teams of European Cross-Border Grants were still working with a mentor for their investigation to be published in 2023. Under the Investigation Grants for Environmental Journalism, 16 teams received a mentor. Two teams of the European Cross-Border Local Grant Programme received a mentor in 2022. Based on the requirements of the teams, Journalismfund.eu expanded its pool of mentors to provide more specific support to journalists.

More info about the mentors: [journalismfund.eu/mentors-overview](https://journalismfund.eu/mentors-overview)

## 4. OBJECTIVE II – FACILITATING NETWORKS OF JOURNALISTS IN EUROPE

### 4.1. GRANTEES AT CONFERENCES

Journalismfund.eu considers it important that journalists are given the opportunity to share experiences and knowledge with colleagues and fellow journalists at conferences. Journalists who have been given a European Cross-Border Grant (ECB) and an Investigation Grant for Environmental Journalism (ENV1), share their experiences at conferences after the publication of their reports and, in doing so, help and inspire their colleagues. We believe that the more successful investigation projects turn out, the more journalists will want to investigate corruption, tax evasion and other financial injustices and the more budget media will want to make available for it.

10 grantees went to the following conferences with the support of Journalismfund.eu: Dig Festival (Modena), African Investigative Journalism Conference (Johannesburg), VVOJ conference (Leiden), European Journalism Symposium (Brussels).

### 4.2. LECTURES / EXTERNAL REPRESENTATION

Over the year, Journalismfund.eu attended several online conferences and networking events to promote our grants and organisation. With its networking activities, Journalismfund.eu tries to convince journalists to start a cross-border investigative journalism project and lower the threshold for this. After two years in which we attended several online events, this year Journalismfund.eu could finally attend in-person events that were very useful to keep fulfilling our mission.

#### **Here is the list of conferences / networking events (online):**

SKUP 2022 Conference (*Tønsberg, Norway*), International Journalism Festival (*Perugia, Italy*), Climate Coverage and War: Reporting on the energy transition as a security priority (*Berlin, Germany*), World Press Freedom Day (*Brussels, Belgium*), Dataharvest 2022 (*Mechelen, Belgium*), General Assembly of the EFJ (*Izmir, Turkey*), 'Journalistic Voices Diversified' (*Brussels, Belgium*), Global Media Forum (*Bonn, Germany*), Belfius Persprijs (*Brussels, Belgium*), #CIJSummer Investigative Journalism Conference 2022 (*London, UK*), European Conference of Science Journalism (*Leiden, the Netherlands*), Festival International de Journalisme (*Couthures-sur-Garonne, France*) - Journalismfund.eu attended Festival International de Journalisme, SSE Riga Summer School (*Riga, Latvia*), DIG Festival (*Modena, Italy*), the virtual workshop on investigative environment reporting for global partners hosted by Mediabridge, NR Conference (*Hamburg, Germany*), International Journalism Week (*Athens, Greece*), European Press Prize Community Event (*Athens, Greece*), the European News Media Forum organised by DGCONNECT (*Brussels, Belgium*), VVOJ conference (*Leiden, the Netherlands*), Assises européennes du journalisme conference (*Brussels, Belgium*), Modern Slavery Unveiled training (*Manila, Philippines*), Democracy and Civic Engagement in Europe (*Vienna, Austria*), ARIJ's 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum (*Amman, Jordan*), Journalismfund.eu presented at the webinar Zusammenarbeit im Lokaljournalismus? Und zwar grenzüberschreitend und investigativ? Das geht. (Online webinar).



## 5. ANNEXES

### 5.1. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS IN EUROS

#### BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Amounts receivable within one year	€ 109,312	€ 93,261	€ 89,402	€ 134,098
Cash at bank	€ 4,624,633	€ 3,532,045	€ 1,390,149	€ 1,384,547
Deferred charges and accrued income	€ 0	€ 0	€ 0	€ 0
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>€ 4,733,945</b>	<b>€ 3,625,306</b>	<b>€ 1,479,551</b>	<b>€ 1,518,645</b>
<b>Fixed (Long-Term) Assets</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	€ 19,791	€ 14,086	€ 16,604	€ 19,441
Total fixed assets	€ 19,791	€ 14,086	€ 16,604	€ 19,441
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>€ 4,753,736</b>	<b>€ 3,639,392</b>	<b>€ 1,496,155</b>	<b>€ 1,538,086</b>

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Amounts payable within one year	€ 75,569	€ 42,680	€ 55,598	€ 57,851
Deferred income	€ 2,661,484	€ 2,228,948	€ 616,819	€ 618,605
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>€ 2,737,053</b>	<b>€ 2,271,628</b>	<b>€ 672,417</b>	<b>€ 676,456</b>
<b>Provisions</b>				
Provisions for liabilities and charges	€ 181,550	€ 96,150	€ 29,000	€ 23,800
Provisions for grants	€ 1,593,367	€ 1,098,307	€ 665,630	€ 735,896
<b>TOTAL PROVISIONS</b>	<b>€ 1,774,917</b>	<b>€ 1,194,457</b>	<b>€ 694,630</b>	<b>€ 759,696</b>
<b>Equity</b>				
Available reserves	€ 4,547	€ 4,547	€ 4,547	€ 4,547
Unavailable reserves – social liabilities	€ 246,498	€ 182,522	€ 144,541	€ 124,500
Accumulated profits (losses)	-€ 9,279	-€ 13,762	-€ 19,980	-€ 27,113
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>€ 241,766</b>	<b>€ 173,307</b>	<b>€ 129,108</b>	<b>€ 101,934</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>€ 4,753,736</b>	<b>€ 3,639,392</b>	<b>€ 1,496,155</b>	<b>€ 1,538,086</b>

**INCOME STATEMENT**

OPERATING INCOME AND CHARGES	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Operating income</b>				
Turnover	€ 11,134	€ 12,290	€ 11,861	€ 50,043
Donations, foundation grants and subsidies	€ 3,576,757	€ 1,622,415	€ 1,439,893	€ 1,485,243
Other operating income	€ 65,098	€ 23,633	€ 137,123	€ 121,851
Financial income	€ 168	€ 29	€ 2	€ 23
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>€ 3,653,157</b>	<b>€ 1,658,367</b>	<b>€ 1,588,879</b>	<b>€ 1,657,160</b>
<b>Operating charges</b>				
Grants paid	€ 2,102,103	€ 573,748	€ 1,028,567	€ 1,221,057
Purchased services and other goods	€ 386,617	€ 160,475	€ 244,068	€ 279,773
Remuneration and social security costs	€ 501,220	€ 363,674	€ 341,334	€ 331,181
Depreciations	€ 7,495	€ 4,400	€ 4,586	€ 5,482
Provisions for grants: Appropriations (uses and write-backs)	€ 580,460	€ 499,827	-€ 65,066	-€ 285,590
Other operating charges	€ 0	€ 0	€ 0	€ 55
Financial charges	€ 6,803	€ 6,979	€ 4,955	€ 7,613
<b>TOTAL OPERATING CHARGES</b>	<b>€ 3,584,698</b>	<b>€ 1,609,103</b>	<b>€ 1,558,444</b>	<b>€ 1,559,570</b>
<b>OPERATING (PROFIT) LOSS</b>	<b>€ 68,459</b>	<b>€ 49,264</b>	<b>€ 30,435</b>	<b>€ 97,589</b>

EXCEPTIONAL INCOME AND CHARGES	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Exceptional charges</b>				
Exceptional charges from office move	€ 0	€ 3,261	€ 105	€ 2,018
<b>TOTAL EXCEPTIONAL CHARGES</b>	<b>€ 0</b>	<b>€ 5,066</b>	<b>€ 3,261</b>	<b>€ 105</b>
<b>GAIN (LOSS) OVER THE PERIOD AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>€ 68,459</b>	<b>€ 44,198</b>	<b>€ 27,174</b>	<b>€ 97,484</b>

TRANSFER TO RESERVES	2022	2021	2020	2019
Transfer to unavailable reserves – social liabilities	€ 63,976	€ 37,981	€ 20,041	€ 60,000
Transfer to accumulated profits (losses)	€ 4,483	€ 6,217	€ 7,133	€ 37,484
<b>TOTAL TRANSFER TO RESERVES</b>	<b>€ 68,459</b>	<b>€ 44,198</b>	<b>€ 27,174</b>	<b>€ 97,484</b>

**5.2. EUROPEAN CROSS-BORDER GRANTS (ECBG) - PROJECT****PURPOSE**

Over the past decade, European Cross-Border grants have stimulated cross-border journalism by making it possible for hundreds of European journalists to undertake in-depth independent investigations. In the past few years, the number of transnational investigations has risen sharply, leading to substantive political, legislative and other changes in Europe.

In 2022, our goal was to maintain a strong journalism community around European Cross-Border grants (grantees, alumni, mentors and advisory group members). We also aimed to attract young talent to the larger decentralised network of investigative journalists across Europe, as well as to increase the quality of cross-border journalism through its practice.

Today independent cross-border investigative journalism is needed more than ever to find solutions to increasingly complex problems like climate change, inequality, pandemics and so on. The fast-growing number of applications shows the increasing demand of independent cross-border investigative journalism, and the growing need for funding this type of resource-intensive reporting. Journalismfund.eu is the only organisation that is funding so many cross-border investigative journalistic projects in Europe (and for such a long period).

With the [European Cross-Border grant programme](#) Journalismfund.eu aims to further contribute to the development of a vital European public sphere by enabling investigations into issues of common interest to European citizens.

The programme, running since 2009, supports professional journalists who have good ideas for cross-border investigations with a focus on European topics. Cross-border teams can apply for a grant to cover **working time and expenses** for their joint investigations. *In addition to a grant, teams can also apply for a mentor to provide assistance with either the focus of the investigation or the need for competences in a specific skill.*

The programme supports teams of professional journalists **from at least two European countries** who have good ideas for a cross-border investigation with a focus on European topics. To be eligible, the journalists should be living in geographical Europe or a Council of Europe country. When relevant to the story, team members from elsewhere can be accepted, too.

## ECBG GRANT OVERVIEW

Journalismfund.eu has a strong belief in cross-border cooperation between European journalists as the best way to tell the major international stories of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The organisation supports teams of journalists from different countries, who usually work on a joint story from their respective countries. This enables them to combine their investigative skills and to publish their work in different countries, which is considered important when addressing the different European target groups and for generating maximum impact.

Grant overview / 2018-2022												
YEAR	#ROUNDS	#APPLI-CATIONS	#GRANTS	AMOUNT APPLIED FOR	GRANTED	AVERAGE GRANT	LARGEST GRANT	% OF MONEY APPLIED FOR GRANTED	% OF APPLI-CATIONS GRANTED	#APPLI-CANTS	#GRANT-EES	AVERAGE GRANT PER PERSON
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>5,056,893</b>	<b>897,185</b>	<b>8,650</b>	<b>15,900</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1,093</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>2,485</b>
2018	2	35	9	368,825	77,625	8,625	14,500	21	26	128	38	2,043
2019	4	75	23	1,113,316	196,192	8,530	15,000	18	31	243	103	1,905
2020	3	92	25	1,338,995	183,238	7,330	11,000	14	27	282	76	2,411
2021	4	93	27	1,160,711	207,250	7,676	15,000	18	29	265	82	2,527
<b>2022</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1,075,046</b>	<b>232,880</b>	<b>11,090</b>	<b>15,900</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>3,756</b>

## OVERVIEW GRANTEES

Our European Cross-Border Grants Programme is very inclusive. We are currently supporting journalists who live in the member states of the European Council (geographical Europe). If relevant for the story, team members from beyond this region can be accepted as well.

As a result, for the reporting period of 2022, 21 projects were supported with 62 grantees. The jury came together 4 times and awarded a total sum of €232,880.

The largest grant received in 2022 was €15,900. The average grant for the reporting period was €3,756 per grantee.

## PROFILE OF THE GRANTEES

In 2022, of the 62 journalists who received a grant, 33 were women and 29 were men. The average age was 37. Forty-three of the grantees were working as freelancers, 19 as employees.

Grantees came from 26 different countries, with the UK (6) as the most represented, followed by Poland, France & Germany (5), Italy, Romania and the Netherlands (4).

More info about the jury and the criteria: [journalismfund.eu/european-cross-border-grants](https://journalismfund.eu/european-cross-border-grants)

## OVERVIEW OF ECB GRANTS PUBLISHED IN 2022

Potential reach: Total approx. audience by month of media where the article was published (based upon SimilarWeb.com)

Online estimated audience: estimated views online of projects (based upon coveragebook.com)

### 1. **Exposed: Who were Russia's spies at NATO HQ?**

AUTHORS: Andrew Rettman, Anton Shekhovtsov

GRANT: €9,000

REACH: 12,946

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/exposed-who-were-russias-spies-nato-hq](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/exposed-who-were-russias-spies-nato-hq)

### 2. **Deception with port**

AUTHORS: Eelco van Wieringen, Micael Pereira, Twan Kroon

GRANT: €12,400

REACH: 87,305

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/deception-port](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/deception-port)

### 3. **Paths of plastic**

AUTHORS: Nicole Graaf, Elida Hoeg, Emre Caylak

GRANT: €9,000

REACH: 136,221

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/paths-plastic](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/paths-plastic)

### 4. **Pesticides at work**

AUTHORS: Nils Mulvad, Lorenzo Bagnoli, Staffan Dahllöf, Katharine Quarmby, Krzysztof Story, Matej Zwitter

GRANT: €8,000

REACH: 536,445

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/pesticides-work](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/pesticides-work)

### 5. **Is the EU's craze for lithium fuelling destructive mining operations in Serbia?**

AUTHORS: Ingrid Gercama, Nemaja Rujević, Nathalie Bertrams

GRANT: €5,000

REACH: 143,740

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/eus-craze-lithium-fueling-destructive-mining-operations-serbia](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/eus-craze-lithium-fueling-destructive-mining-operations-serbia)

### 6. **72 hours that changed Belarus**

AUTHORS: Olga Loginova, Ottavia Spaggiari

GRANT: €6,670

REACH: 117,242

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/72-hours-changed-belarus](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/72-hours-changed-belarus)

### 7. **The Hungarian playbook**

AUTHORS: Bence Máté, Florian Schewe, Áron Szentpéteri

GRANT: €5,300

REACH: 1,091,165

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/hungarian-playbook](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/hungarian-playbook)

- 8. Varna' hazardous seafood exports throughout Europe**  
AUTHORS: Alexandre Brutelle, Adrian Dohotaru  
GRANT: €7,000  
REACH: 30,488  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/varnas-hazardous-seafood-exports-throughout-europe](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/varnas-hazardous-seafood-exports-throughout-europe)
- 9. Togo ports and telecoms**  
AUTHORS: Andrew Weir, Nicolas Vescovacci  
GRANT: €6,000  
REACH: 61,172  
The 14 minute video made in Paris by Blast almost reached 700,000 views on YouTube.  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/togo-ports-and-telecoms](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/togo-ports-and-telecoms)
- 10. Women under attack in the Balkans**  
AUTHORS: Simon Rico, Florentin Cassonnet, Milica Čubrilo-Filipović, Marioin Roussey  
GRANT: €9,750  
REACH: 129,029  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/women-under-attack-balkans](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/women-under-attack-balkans)
- 11. Do we all breathe the same air?**  
AUTHORS: Alexia Eychenne, Michalina Kowol  
GRANT: €6,000  
REACH: 7,793  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/do-we-all-breathe-same-air](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/do-we-all-breathe-same-air)
- 12. The nuclear waste on the shaky ground**  
AUTHORS: Vedrana Simisevic, Elisabetta Tola  
GRANT: €6,000  
REACH: 135,823  
MORE INFO: [www.journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/nuclear-waste-shaky-ground](https://www.journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/nuclear-waste-shaky-ground)
- 13. Belgian and Dutch Jehovah's Witnesses financial rulership revealed**  
AUTHORS: Sofia Van Nuffel, Wil Van der Schans  
GRANT: €5,000  
REACH: 64,152  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/belgian-and-dutch-jehovahs-witnesses-financial-rulership-revealed](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/belgian-and-dutch-jehovahs-witnesses-financial-rulership-revealed)
- 14. Hidden cross-border pollution in Ireland and the United Kingdom**  
AUTHORS: Luke Butterly, Niall Sargent, Rory Winters, Ella McSweeney, Tommy Greene  
GRANT: €8,000  
REACH: 372,585  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/hidden-cross-border-pollution-ireland-and-united-kingdom](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/hidden-cross-border-pollution-ireland-and-united-kingdom)
- 15. The human cost of G4S' watch**  
AUTHORS: Maja Čakarić, Klara Škrinjar  
GRANT: €7,000  
REACH: 989  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/human-cost-g4s-watch](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/human-cost-g4s-watch)
- 16. Being LGBTQI+ in the wartime**  
AUTHORS: Ula Idzikowska, Marek Kowalczyk  
GRANT: €7,500  
REACH: 17,187  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/being-lgbtqi-wartime](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/being-lgbtqi-wartime)

- 17. Are MEP friendship groups and 'pariah' regime visits driving disinformation in the European Parliament?**  
 AUTHORS: Norma Costello, Ibrahim Al Shikh Ali  
 GRANT: €7,000  
 REACH: 7,637  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/are-mep-friendship-groups-and-pariah-regime-visits-driving-disinformation](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/are-mep-friendship-groups-and-pariah-regime-visits-driving-disinformation)
- 18. Across Europe, 'revenge porn' victims are taking on digital abusers**  
 AUTHORS: Mathilde Saliou, Ingri Bergo  
 MENTOR: Crina Boros  
 GRANT: €8,000  
 REACH: 328,577  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/across-europe-revenge-porn-victims-are-taking-digital-abusers](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/across-europe-revenge-porn-victims-are-taking-digital-abusers)
- 19. After the return**  
 AUTHORS: Jessica Bateman, Elisa Perriguer  
 GRANT: €9,000  
 REACH: 47,006  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/after-return](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/after-return)
- 20. The grainkeepers**  
 AUTHORS: Michael Bird, Vlad Odobescu, Paolo Riva, Ana Maria Luca  
 GRANT: €14,200  
 REACH: 760,866  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/grainkeepers](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/grainkeepers)

### 5.3. EUROPEAN CROSS-BORDER LOCAL GRANT PROGRAMME

#### PURPOSE

This grant programme supports local cross-border investigative teams of professional journalists and/or news outlets to bring the locals to the European level as well as to local citizens all over Europe.

Compelling stories can be found everywhere, even at the local level. This grant programme aims to address the shortage of local journalists and award grants to local investigative and in-depth journalistic projects. The key aspect of this programme is cross-border collaboration, which will allow interested local journalists and/or media outlets to explore possible solutions using extensive resources. This project also aims to spur more critical thinking about society's pressing problems, increase the level of debate, and foster civic engagement. The grant can also offer support to preliminary work in the development of new investigative and in-depth projects.

#### STATISTICS

For the Local Cross-Border Journalism grant programme, in 2022 we received 36 applications with 121 applicants. The total amount applied was €625,687.66. Of the 121 applicants, 33 were men, 45 were women and 43 local media outlets.

#### OVERVIEW OF GRANTEES

Our Local Cross-Border Journalism grant programme is very inclusive, with eligibility covering members of the European Union, as well as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Georgia, Ukraine and Tunisia. If relevant for the story, teams from non-EU member states can apply with a team member from one of the eligible countries.

As a result, for the reporting period of 2022, 20 projects were supported with 68 journalists and local media outlet grantees.

The jury met 3 times and awarded a total sum of €280,470.00.

In 2022, of the 68 applicants who received a grant, 21 were men, 25 were women, and 22 were local media outlets. The average age is 37.

## OVERVIEW OF GRANTS PUBLISHED IN 2022

The Local Cross-Border Journalism grant programme had three calls for applications during 2022, so far only two of the granted projects have been published.

### 1. **War through the eyes of children. The Ukrainian-Georgian experience**

AUTHORS: Salome Partsvania, Romaniia Gorbach

GRANT: €2,460

REACH: 12,000

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/war-through-eyes-children-ukrainian-georgian-experience](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/war-through-eyes-children-ukrainian-georgian-experience)

### 2. **The invisible man**

AUTHORS: Stanislau Ivashkevich, Šarūnas Černiauskas

GRANT: €8,800

REACH: 119,000

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/invisible-man](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/invisible-man)

## 5.4. THE PASCAL DECROOS GRANT PROGRAMME

### PURPOSE

The Pascal Decroos Fund is a project of Journalismfund.eu vzw and aims to keep the memory of Pascal Decroos alive and to continue his life's work in the following ways:

- › Promoting high-quality investigative journalism in Flanders and beyond;
- › Creating opportunities for young people to develop journalistic talent in practice;
- › Bringing people from all sections of society together.

### STATISTICS

For the Flemish Pascal Decroos Fund programme, in 2022 Journalismfund.eu received 96 applications from 134 applicants in four application rounds. The jury came together four times and awarded grants to 56 projects (87 grantees).

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
#applied	875,630	658,987	884,911	652,358	478,696	<b>587,108</b>
#financial support	280,050	250,461	274,265	277,685	235,144	<b>325,360</b>
#supp. projects	58	43	61	58	52	<b>56</b>
#grantees	79	60	89	85	75	<b>87</b>
#applications	134	84	149	102	103	<b>96</b>
#applicants	186	118	194	152	147	<b>134</b>

## OVERVIEW OF SUPPORTED PROJECTS

In 2022, 42 projects supported by the Pascal Decroos Fund were published.

### 1. **Chips: the sputtering engine of digitization**

AUTHORS: Tom Cassauwers

GRANT: €4,850

REACH: 248,000

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/chips-sputtering-engine-digitisation](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/chips-sputtering-engine-digitisation)

### 2. **The conspiracy of silence**

AUTHORS: Hilde Geens

GRANT: €2,700

Book: Title: Het complot van de stilte

MORE INFO: [fondspascaldecroos.org/nl/supported-projects/het-complot-van-de-stilte](https://fondspascaldecroos.org/nl/supported-projects/het-complot-van-de-stilte)

### 3. **The Sea of Azov**

AUTHORS: Robbe Vandegehuchte

GRANT: €1,850

REACH: 36,250

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/sea-azov](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/sea-azov)

### 4. **A woman's life**

AUTHORS: Hilde De Windt, Anna Luyten, Cosima Bas

GRANT: €5,200

REACH: 150,000

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/womans-life](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/womans-life)

### 5. **The art of looking away**

AUTHORS: Tomas Vanheste, Tim Luimes

GRANT: €2,325

REACH: 1,355,775

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/art-looking-away](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/art-looking-away)

### 6. **The Russian connection**

AUTHORS: Tom Cochez, Jan Walraven

GRANT: €6,000

REACH: 80,000

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/russian-connection](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/russian-connection)

### 7. **The future of the student housing market: better but unaffordable**

AUTHORS: Charlotte Deprez

GRANT: €1,875

REACH: 173,729

MORE INFO: [fondspascaldecroos.org/nl/supported-projects/de-toekomst-van-de-kotenmarkt-beter-maar-onbetaalbaar](https://fondspascaldecroos.org/nl/supported-projects/de-toekomst-van-de-kotenmarkt-beter-maar-onbetaalbaar)

### 8. **Journalism in times of fake news**

AUTHORS: Luc Pauwels

BOOK: Title: Journalistiek in tijden van fake news

GRANT: €4,000

REACH: 3,000

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/journalism-times-fake-news](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/journalism-times-fake-news)

### 9. **Congo motherland**

AUTHOR: Job Van Nieuwenhove

GRANT: €8,694

REACH: 232,000

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/congo-motherland](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/congo-motherland)



- 10. The dark side of energy transition in Sweden**  
AUTHORS: Ula Idzikowska  
GRANT: €2,500  
REACH: 36,250  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/dark-side-energy-transition-sweden](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/dark-side-energy-transition-sweden)
- 11. Covid-19 in South Africa**  
AUTHORS: Janine Meijer  
GRANT: €8,800  
REACH: 82,000  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/covid-19-south-africa](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/covid-19-south-africa)
- 12. A parked life**  
AUTHOR: Peter Triest  
GRANT: €1,205  
REACH: 1000  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/parked-life](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/parked-life)
- 13. Civil society in Israel and Palestine**  
AUTHOR: Willem De Maeseneer  
GRANT: €2,300  
REACH: 232,000  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/civil-society-israel-and-palestine](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/civil-society-israel-and-palestine)
- 14. The children of Eastern Congo**  
AUTHOR: Katrien Vanderschoot  
BOOK: Title: De kinderen van Oost-Congo  
GRANT: €3,500  
REACH: 60,000  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/children-eastern-congo](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/children-eastern-congo)
- 15. The Flemish Farm-to-Fork strategy**  
AUTHORS: Annick Hus  
GRANT: €2,250  
REACH: 80,000  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/flemish-farm-fork-strategy](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/flemish-farm-fork-strategy)
- 16. What does a country of 200 million people do with its waste?**  
AUTHORS: Damilola Shittu, Peter Oke  
GRANT: €1,000  
REACH: 36,250  
MORE INFO: [fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/what-does-country-200-million-people-do-its-waste](https://fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/what-does-country-200-million-people-do-its-waste)
- 17. Orania**  
AUTHORS: Arno Van Rensbergen, Johannes De Bruycker  
GRANT: €2,770  
REACH: 341,479  
MORE INFO: <https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/orania>
- 18. The Plastic Podcast**  
AUTHORS: Isabelle Vanhoutte  
GRANT: €3,000  
REACH: 5,700  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/plastic-podcast](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/plastic-podcast)
- 19. A meaty market**  
AUTHORS: Daniela De Lorenzo  
GRANT: €3,400  
REACH: 80,000  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/meaty-market](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/meaty-market)

- 20. Will Senegal stand up to extremist violence from outside?**  
AUTHORS: Kris Berwouts  
GRANT: €4,250  
REACH: 1.355,775  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/will-senegal-stand-extremist-violence-outside](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/will-senegal-stand-extremist-violence-outside)
- 21. Refugees in the Netherlands, from the Belgians in 1914 to Afghans and Ukrainians today**  
AUTHORS: Michiel Leen, Ken Lambeets  
GRANT: €2,190  
REACH: 2,800  
MORE INFO: [fondspascaldecroos.org/nl/supported-projects/vluchtelingen-nederland-van-de-belgen-1914-tot-afghanen-en-oekrainers-nu](https://fondspascaldecroos.org/nl/supported-projects/vluchtelingen-nederland-van-de-belgen-1914-tot-afghanen-en-oekrainers-nu)
- 22. Uganda prevents the next pandemic**  
AUTHORS: Pablo Garrigós Cucarella, Dicta Asiimwe  
GRANT: €6,250  
REACH: 1.355,755  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/uganda-prevents-next-pandemic>
- 23. Echo**  
AUTHORS: Ruben Desiere  
GRANT: €5,700  
REACH: 100,000  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/echo-0>
- 24. Land without people**  
AUTHORS: Hannes Blommaert, Jeroen Van Rensbergen, Arno Van Rensbergen  
GRANT: €3,360  
REACH: 232,000  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/land-without-people>
- 25. American dreams**  
AUTHOR: Johannes De Bruycker  
GRANT: €7,000  
REACH: 286,000  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/american-dreams>
- 26. Less police force?**  
AUTHORS: Jade Yorks  
GRANT: €5,250  
REACH: more than 5,700  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/less-police-force>
- 27. How to build a life in a state in decline?**  
AUTHORS: Marek Kowalczyk, Ula Idzikowska  
GRANT: €6,100  
REACH: 5,004,833  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/how-build-life-state-decline>
- 28. The guys from Vila Cruzeiro**  
AUTHORS: Roel Nollet  
GRANT: €5,400  
REACH: 232,000  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/de-guys-vila-cruzeiro>
- 29. In murky waters: GSR, lobbying and deep-sea mining**  
AUTHORS: Raf Custers  
GRANT: €3,500  
REACH: 80,000  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/murky-waters-gsr-lobbying-and-deep-sea-mining>

- 30. Toxic town**  
AUTHORS: Kobe Goderis, Tom Van Assche  
GRANT: €7,500  
REACH: 232,000  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/toxic-town>
- 31. The Chars**  
AUTHOR: Levi Vanderaerden  
GRANT: €5,150  
REACH: 232,000  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/chars>
- 32. Congo, from Kabila to Tshisekedi**  
AUTHOR: Kris Berwouts  
GRANT: €4,000  
REACH: 19,332  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/congo-kabila-tshisekedi>
- 33. A silenced life**  
AUTHORS: Eva Kamanda, Kristof Bohez  
GRANT: €5,000  
BOOK: Een verzwegen leven  
REACH: 2,311,375  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/silenced-life>
- 34. The biggest pipeline of the century**  
AUTHORS: David Soler Crespo, Halima Athumani, Soraya Aybar, Pablo Garrigós Cucarella  
GRANT: €10,000  
REACH: 200,733  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/biggest-pipeline-century>
- 35. On the other side of the bars: the broken families of al-Sisi's Egypt**  
AUTHORS: anonymous  
GRANT: €8,850  
REACH: 195,911  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/other-side-bars-broken-families-al-sisis-egypt>
- 36. The forests of Congo**  
AUTHORS: John Vandaele  
GRANT: €5,500  
REACH: 200,744  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/forests-congo>
- 37. Club Anxiety**  
AUTHOR: Sofie Steenhaut  
GRANT: €3,650  
REACH: 573,000  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/club-anxiety>
- 38. Move she does**  
AUTHOR: Trui Hanoulle  
GRANT: €8,550  
REACH: 9,094,600  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/move-she-does>
- 39. 100 years to stop the sea**  
AUTHOR: Julie Steendam  
GRANT: €8,200  
REACH: 1,296  
MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/100-years-stop-sea>

**40. Art for Das Reich**

AUTHOR: Geert Sels

GRANT: €9,000

REACH: 719,141

MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/nazi-looted-art-belgium-0>**41. Hashtags in the battle for women's bodies in Egypt**

AUTHOR: Johannes Decat

GRANT: €2,250

REACH: 200,744

MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/hashtags-battle-womens-bodies-egypt>**42. Handbook for investigative journalists**

AUTHOR: Luuk Sengers, a.o.

GRANT: €4,300

REACH: 1,500

MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/guide-research-journalists>

## 5.5. EXTRA CALL: EMERGENCY FUND FOR LOCAL JOURNALISM (FLANDERS)

In 2020, many actors in the Belgian media sector were facing problems because of the federal measures taken by the Belgian National Security Council to limit the spread of the coronavirus COVID-19. On 2 June 2020, the Flemish Government made a final decision on the amount of emergency funds to be used to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. The Flemish Government entrusted Journalismfund.eu, through the Pascal Decroos Fund, with the task of distributing grants for local projects by freelance journalists who have little access to other support measures. Twenty-seven projects (for 37 grantees) were awarded a total amount of €139,357. Eighteen of these projects were published in 2021, 4 in 2022, and the remaining 5 projects are to come out in 2023.

### OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS PUBLISHED IN 2022

**1. If the shutter remains closed**

AUTHOR: Marieke Rimaux

GRANT: €1,850

REACH: 6,000 listeners

MORE INFO: [fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/if-shutter-remains-closed](https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/if-shutter-remains-closed)**2. Shortage of sign language interpreters: fight to be heard**

AUTHORS: Lieven Bulckens

GRANT: €10,500

MORE INFO: [fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/shortage-sign-language-interpreters-fight-be-heard](https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/shortage-sign-language-interpreters-fight-be-heard)**3. We have a dream!**

AUTHORS: Frank Van Laeken

GRANT: €18,000

BOOK: We have a dream!

REACH: 637 copies

MORE INFO: [fondspascaldecroos.org/nl/supported-projects/we-have-dream](https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/nl/supported-projects/we-have-dream)**4. Who are the beneficiaries of the Flemish cabinets?**

AUTHOR: Steven Vanden Bussche

GRANT: €3,500

REACH: 5,700

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/who-are-beneficiaries-flemish-cabinets](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/who-are-beneficiaries-flemish-cabinets)

## 5.6. FPD LOCAL (FLANDERS)

After the summer of 2020, our organisation launched a pilot project with the aim to support local journalism, and more specifically local investigative journalism in the Dutch-speaking parts of Europe (Belgium and the Netherlands). The project included the following activities: stimulating local journalists to engage in investigative journalism and learn from colleagues in other countries; stimulating them to compare with other cities in other countries where the problems are the same; encouraging local journalists to better distribute their stories in order to inspire others. As an outcome, the public will be better informed and at the same time new Dutch/Belgian networks of journalists will be created. In the long term, it will broaden the spectrum of local journalists and will strengthen the international network of investigative journalists who inspire each other. This concept of comparison will also inspire citizens and local politicians.

### STATISTICS

	2020	2021	2022
#applied	52,634	30,341	<b>38,434</b>
#financial support	52,676	21,325	<b>24,190</b>
#supp. projects	4	4	<b>4</b>
#grantees	28	9	<b>9</b>
#applications	4	5	<b>5</b>
#applicants			<b>11</b>

PROFILE OF GRANTEES IN 2022	
1	2 starters, 7 seniors
2	Average age: 44
3	6 men, 3 women

### OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS PUBLISHED IN 2022

#### 1. Great Belgian hunger for Zeeland's farmland

AUTHORS: Salsabil Fayed, Bram Logger, Hester den Boer, Steven Vanden Bussche

GRANT: €7,750

REACH: 511,713

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/great-belgian-hunger-zeelands-farmland](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/great-belgian-hunger-zeelands-farmland)

## 5.7. SCIENCE JOURNALISM

### PURPOSE

With this pilot project Journalismfund.eu offers grants for science journalists. It's meant for projects that have great newsworthiness and depth but that cannot be realised in regular media. The projects should be original, innovative and time-consuming and must involve investigative reporting on science and its impact on society.

### STATISTICS

	2021	2022
#applied	95,612	<b>38,139</b>
#financial support	64,612	<b>28,955</b>
#supp. projects	13	<b>5</b>
#grantees	14	<b>8</b>
#applications	18	<b>7</b>
#applicants	20	<b>10</b>

PROFILE GRANTEES	
4	Average age: 46
5	3 starters, 5 seniors
6	3 men, 5 women
7	Nationality: · Belgium: 6 · Netherlands 2

## OVERVIEW OF GRANTS PUBLISHED IN 2022

In 2022, 4 projects were published.

### 1. **Dirt cheap service**

AUTHOR: Tim Vernimmen

GRANT: €3,000

REACH: 20,000

MORE INFO: <https://www.fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/dirt-cheap-service>

### 2. **Melting land**

AUTHOR: Jan De Deken

GRANT: €6,865

REACH: 683,199

MORE INFO: <journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/melting-land>

### 3. **The history of the Belgian sperm bank**

AUTHOR: Tinne Claes

GRANT: €6,000

BOOK - TITLE: Zaad zonder naam (Dutch)

REACH: 948,233

MORE INFO: <journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/history-belgian-sperm-bank>

### 4. **Hard drug consumers find gateway to new shelter**

AUTHOR: Daniela De Lorenzo

GRANT: €5,600

REACH: 80,000

MORE INFO: <journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/hard-drug-consumers-find-gateway-new-shelter>

## 5.8. GRANTS FOR YOUNG JOURNALISTS: STAMP MEDIA GRANTS

### PURPOSE

With this grant programme, StampMedia aims to encourage young people (aged 18 to 26) to carry out a special journalistic project. The subject should relate to the world of young people from Flanders and Brussels in a super-diverse society. The voice of the young people must be prominent in the final journalistic product. The Belgian non-profit organisation StampMedia vzw entrusted Journalismfund.eu vzw, through the Pascal Decroos Fund, with managing its grant programme.

## OVERVIEW OF GRANTS PUBLISHED IN 2022

### 1. **Climate anxiety among young people**

AUTHORS: Simon Dequeker

GRANT: €800

REACH: 4,833

MORE INFO: <fondspascaldecroos.org/en/supported-projects/climate-anxiety-among-young-people>

## 5.9. MONEY TRAIL PROJECT

### PURPOSE

Money Trail was a collaborative project between highly regarded journalism and training organisations – Journalismfund.eu, Finance Uncovered, Free Press Unlimited – and Oxfam Novib. It was supported by the Dutch 'Nationale Postcode Loterij'.

In Money Trail, Journalismfund.eu offers working grants for (teams of) African, Asian and European journalists to investigate cross-border illicit financial flows, tax abuse, money laundering and corruption in Africa, Asia and Europe. Grants are awarded to journalists solely by Journalismfund.eu, with no input or oversight at any stage from the consortium as a whole.

The primary goal of this grant is to expose illicit finance, tax abuse, corruption and money laundering.

### OVERVIEW OF SUPPORTED STORIES PUBLISHED IN 2022

Three investigations were published in 2022. See the overview below.

#### 1. **The exploitation of copper mines in Zambia**

AUTHORS: Zefania Zulu, Ankita Anand

GRANTS: €7,500

REACH: 127,000

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/exploitation-copper-mines-zambia](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/exploitation-copper-mines-zambia)

#### 2. **Banking under the generals**

AUTHORS: For security reasons two journalists from this investigative team want to remain anonymous, but they are known to our organisation.

GRANT: €7,900

REACH: 28,700

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/banking-under-generals](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/banking-under-generals)

#### 3. **What's left of CMC's dam project in Kenya**

AUTHORS: Lorenzo Bagnoli, John Githongo, Dauti Kahura Ndung'u

GRANT: €8,700

REACH: 57,800

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/whats-left-cmcs-dam-project-kenya](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/whats-left-cmcs-dam-project-kenya)

## 5.10. THE MODERN SLAVERY UNVEILED PROJECT

### PURPOSE

This grant programme aims to enable independent journalistic investigations into the exploitation of Asian victims of human trafficking and forced labour in Europe.

Cross-border teams of professional journalists can apply for a grant to cover working time and/or expenses to investigate, document and expose aspects and cases of forced labour, cross-continental trafficking and other issues related to the exploitation of Asian victims in Europe.

In addition to a grant, teams can also apply for a mentor to provide assistance with either the focus of the investigation or the need for competences in a specific skill.

In 2022, the Modern Slavery Unveiled Grant programme received 18 applications, one of which was not eligible. Out of the 17 eligible applications, 9 projects were granted.

Of the 74 applicants, 33 were men and 41 women. Fifteen journalists worked as permanent members of staff and 59 as freelance journalists.

**STATISTICS** (applicants/grantees, nationalities, gender, work status, novice/experienced)

	THIRD ROUND MARCH	FOURTH ROUND SEPTEMBER	TOTAL 2022
# Applications	5	13	<b>18</b>
# Applicants	16	33	<b>49</b>
# Grantees	10	15	<b>25</b>
# Granted projects	3	6	<b>9</b>
Amount granted	€33,600	€69,625	<b>€103,225</b>
Minimum project support	€7,000	€7,500	<b>€7,000</b>
Maximum project support	€14,000	€14,000	<b>€14,000</b>
Amount applied for	€78,850	€144,667	€223,517

**OVERVIEW OF GRANTS PUBLISHED IN 2022**

Modern Slavery Unveiled had two calls during 2022, so far eight of the projects receiving grants since 2021 have been published. One was already shared last year and the other seven can be found below. More new projects are expected to be published in different media outlets from Asia and Europe.

1. **Romania, the new mirage for the Asian workers' « European dream »**

AUTHORS: Marine Leduc, Sen Nguyen, Josy Joseph

GRANT: €9,900

POTENTIAL AUDIENCE REACH: 197,192 readers

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/romania-new-mirage-asian-workers-european-dream](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/romania-new-mirage-asian-workers-european-dream)

2. **Chasing the European dream**

AUTHORS: Bhrikuti Rai, Fabian Federl

GRANT: €9,060

POTENTIAL AUDIENCE REACH: 1,623 readers

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/chasing-european-dream](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/chasing-european-dream)

3. **The trap**

AUTHORS: Sara Perria, Zahra Rahimi and Monica Perosino

GRANT: €9,060

MENTOR: Lindita Çela

AUDIENCE REACH: 42,943 readers

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/trap](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/trap)

4. **Busting Kabootar Baazi in Punjab: A trick or trade for trafficking women from India to Italy**

AUTHORS: Pari Saikia, Cecilia Ferrara, Sona Singh, Nicola Gobbi, Marco Omizzolo, Ananthan Suresh

GRANT: €16,990

MENTOR: Irene Caselli

AUDIENCE REACH: 1,146,069 readers

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/busting-kabootar-baazi-punjab-trick-or-trade-trafficking-women-india-italy](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/busting-kabootar-baazi-punjab-trick-or-trade-trafficking-women-india-italy)

5. **The 'Chicken Factory' of Vodňany and the Czech Embassy in Hanoi**

AUTHOR: Martina Křížková

GRANT: €16,990

AUDIENCE REACH: 6,759 readers

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/chicken-factory-vodnany-and-czech-embassy-hanoi](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/chicken-factory-vodnany-and-czech-embassy-hanoi)



6. **Trapped by the debt: Punjabi workers lured into trafficking and exploited in Italy**  
 AUTHORS: Daniela Sala, Ankita Anand, Marco Valle  
 GRANT: €15,106  
 MENTOR: Lindita Çela  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 132,613 readers  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/trapped-debt-punjabi-workers-lured-trafficking-and-exploited-italy](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/trapped-debt-punjabi-workers-lured-trafficking-and-exploited-italy)  
*This investigation is one of the winners of the 2022 Global Media Competition on Labour Migration – ilo.org (16/12/2022)*
7. **Hands on deck: How exploited migrant workers in the Irish fishing sector are being 'failed' and 'ignored'**  
 AUTHORS: Maria Delaney, Geela Garcia, Louise Lawless  
 GRANT: €7,000  
 MENTOR: Sylke Gruhnwald  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 103,997 readers  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/hands-deck-how-exploited-migrant-workers-irish-fishing-sector-are-being-failed](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/hands-deck-how-exploited-migrant-workers-irish-fishing-sector-are-being-failed)

## 5.11. INVESTIGATIONS GRANTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNALISM

### PURPOSE

This grant programme supports cross-border teams of professional journalists and/or news outlets to conduct investigations into environmental affairs related to continental Europe.

While news media and newsrooms still predominantly operate nationally, most power structures and societal and environmental problems transcend national boundaries. This grant programme is therefore aimed at cross-border teams of investigative journalists and newsrooms to investigate and document illegal, unreported and unregulated abuse of nature that involves European affairs in and outside Europe.

In addition to investigations of environmental issues that transcend borders, this programme can also support and stimulate comparative investigations into local environmental issues and policies between two or more regions or cities.

The grants can also offer support to preliminary work in the development of new investigative projects.

The grant can cover working time and expenses such as logistics, travel, insurance, access to legal support, translations, access to technology and data sets, etc.

In addition to financial support, teams can also apply for an experienced mentor to provide assistance with either the focus of the investigation or the need for competences in a specific skill.

### OVERVIEW AND STATISTICS (APPLICANTS VS. GRANTEES)

In 2022 the Environmental Journalism Grant had a total of 341 applicants from 84 countries.

Approximately 68% of applicants have declared themselves to be freelancers, while only 34 were employed by media companies. Among our applicants in 2022 we had also 73 media organisations.

In 2022 Journalismfund.eu contributed to investigations by 214 journalists, of which 148 were freelancers and 24 employees, while the number of organisations that received our grant last year was 38.

Journalismfund.eu has granted €1,357,802 to 73 different projects, which makes for an average of €18,600 per project. From the presented data we can see that 59% of the projects that apply get awarded an Environmental Journalism Grant, a good sign of how competitive the grant programme is.

## GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE GRANT

2022	ENV1
# applied	2,560,824
# financial support	1,357,802
# supp. projects	73
# grantees	214
# applications	123
# applicants	341

## OVERVIEW OF GRANTS PUBLISHED IN 2022

During 2022, 32 projects supported by Investigation Grants for Environmental Journalism were published.

### 1. **Two Danish power plants pollute Lebanese tourist gems**

AUTHORS: Florian Elabdi, Sandra Blenner Rasmussen, Hala Nouhad Nasreddine

GRANT: €36,770

POTENTIAL REACH: 10,210,859

ESTIMATED ONLINE AUDIENCE: 47,404 readers

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/two-danish-power-plants-pollute-lebanese-tourist-gems](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/two-danish-power-plants-pollute-lebanese-tourist-gems)

### 2. **Lucifer's spell**

AUTHORS: Gian-Paolo Accardo, Elvira Krithari, Janine Louloudi, Maria Alvarez del Vayo, Chloe Emmanouilidis, Marcello Rossi, Davide Mancini

GRANT: €16,220

AUDIENCE REACH: 44,158 readers

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/lucifers-spell](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/lucifers-spell)

### 3. **Peat pressure: Industrial peat extraction in enforcement firing line**

AUTHORS: Niall Sargent, Juris Jurans

GRANT: €7,875

AUDIENCE REACH: 54,971 readers

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/peat-pressure-industrial-peat-extraction-enforcement-firing-line](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/peat-pressure-industrial-peat-extraction-enforcement-firing-line)

### 4. **The dark trace in the water of the cheap meat big business**

AUTHORS: Tom Levitt, Nicola Cutcher, Robin Eveleigh, Ana Tudela, Antonio Delgado, Holly Young

GRANT: €16,800

AUDIENCE REACH: 586,538 readers

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/dark-trace-water-cheap-meat-big-business](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/dark-trace-water-cheap-meat-big-business)

### 5. **The Logging Business**

AUTHORS: Ludovica Jona, Catalin Prisacariu, Filippo Bellantoni

GRANT: €14,500

AUDIENCE REACH: 208,177 readers

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/loggin-business](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/loggin-business)

### 6. **The dam and the drought**

AUTHORS: Andre Vieira, Tobias Asmuth

GRANT: €17,200

AUDIENCE REACH: 38,982 readers

MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/dam-and-drought](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/dam-and-drought)

7. **Insect decline: micro-story of a global disaster**  
 AUTHORS: Sanne Derks, Ricardo J. Rodrigues  
 GRANT: €9,270  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 165,282  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/insect-decline-micro-story-global-disaster](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/insect-decline-micro-story-global-disaster)
  
8. **Clean energy in South East Europe**  
 AUTHORS: Paul Hockenos, Dragan Maksimović, Rüdiger Rossig, Daniela Trpchevska Zafirovska, Vjosa Cerkini, Sanja Kljajic, Elona Elzi  
 GRANT: €8,700  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 90,266  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/clean-energy-south-east-europe-0](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/clean-energy-south-east-europe-0)
  
9. **Can blockchain make our chocolate fairer?**  
 AUTHORS: Sandra Weiss, Florian Kopp, Oliver Ginthör  
 GRANT: €15,000  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 118,007  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/can-blockchain-make-our-chocolate-fairer](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/can-blockchain-make-our-chocolate-fairer)
  
10. **How the gas lobby aims to lock in Europe's fossil fuel addiction**  
 AUTHORS: Phoebe Cooke, Stella Levantesi, Matthew Green, Maura Sanchez  
 GRANT: €49,100  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 12,342  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/how-gas-lobby-aims-lock-europes-fossil-fuel-addiction](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/how-gas-lobby-aims-lock-europes-fossil-fuel-addiction)
  
11. **Second-hand clothes from UK causing pollution in Nigeria and Ghana**  
 AUTHORS: Elfredah Kevin-Alerechi, Gideon Sarpong  
 GRANT: €14,100  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 15,437  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/second-hand-clothes-uk-causing-pollution-nigeria-and-ghana](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/second-hand-clothes-uk-causing-pollution-nigeria-and-ghana)
  
12. **Toxic business: a tribute to progress**  
 AUTHORS: Roxana Jipa, Ayse Turcan  
 GRANT: €15,000  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 4,084  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/toxic-business-tribute-progress](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/toxic-business-tribute-progress)
  
13. **The broken veins of Latin America**  
 AUTHORS: Nicola Zolin, Paloma de Dinechin  
 GRANT: €20,000  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 115,315  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/broken-veins-latin-america](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/broken-veins-latin-america)
  
14. **Russian fake environmental news campaign uncovered**  
 AUTHORS: Laura Sear, Les Steed, Natalia Dobryszcka  
 GRANT: €4,900  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 286,184  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/russian-fake-environmental-news-campaign-uncovered](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/russian-fake-environmental-news-campaign-uncovered)
  
15. **West African fish stocks destroyed to feed the EU's farmed animals**  
 AUTHORS: Richa Syal, Sophie Kevany, Aida Grovestins  
 GRANT: €2,400  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 4,023  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/west-african-fish-stocks-destroyed-feed-eus-farmed-animals](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/west-african-fish-stocks-destroyed-feed-eus-farmed-animals)

- 16. They make a desert and call it profit. How berry exports are draining southern Iberia.**  
 AUTHORS: Marta Vidal, Kira Walker  
 GRANT: €5,800  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 100,300  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/they-make-desert-and-call-it-profit-how-berry-exports-are-draining-southern](https://www.journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/they-make-desert-and-call-it-profit-how-berry-exports-are-draining-southern)
- 17. Killing krill: supermarkets and salmon farms under fire**  
 AUTHORS: Rob Edwards, Francesco de Augustinis  
 GRANT: €9,600  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 168,202  
 MORE INFO: <https://www.journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/killing-krill-supermarkets-and-salmon-farms-under-fire>
- 18. The environmental and social impacts of Europe and Japan's waste-to-energy push in Southeast Asia**  
 AUTHORS: Nithin Coca, Alexandra Buba, Geela Garcia, Nisha Wachpanich  
 GRANT: €5,500  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 6,854  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/environmental-and-social-impacts-europe-and-japans-waste-energy-push-southeast](https://www.journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/environmental-and-social-impacts-europe-and-japans-waste-energy-push-southeast)
- 19. Cinderella Cyclists**  
 AUTHORS: Daiva Repečkaitė, Zoltán Sipos, Barbora Janauerová.  
 GRANT: €11,500  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 55,514  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/cinderella-cyclists](https://www.journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/cinderella-cyclists)
- 20. Invasion into the future. Russian aggression jeopardized the green modernisation of Ukrainian steel industry and the climate goals by EU**  
 AUTHORS: Oleksandr Berdinskykh, Hanna Kibovskaya, Olha Khvorost  
 GRANT: €7,250  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 30,871  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/invasion-future-russian-aggression-jeopardized-green-modernisation-ukrainian](https://www.journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/invasion-future-russian-aggression-jeopardized-green-modernisation-ukrainian)
- 21. Green veins of Europe: ecocorridors and the European Green Deal**  
 AUTHORS: Alex Kemman, Emanuela Barbiroglio, Katharina Nickoleit  
 GRANT: €21,050  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 29,170  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/green-veins-europe-ecocorridors-and-european-green-deal](https://www.journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/green-veins-europe-ecocorridors-and-european-green-deal)
- 22. The Sinking Cities Project**  
 AUTHORS: Rehab Abdalmohsen, Shamsuddin Illius, Lois Kapila, Zuha Siddiqui, Ope Adetayo, Zuza NazaruK  
 GRANT: €20,000  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 1,017,277  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/sinking-cities-project](https://www.journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/sinking-cities-project)
- 23. Pelagic fishes know no national borders**  
 AUTHORS: Agostino Petroni, Regin Winther Poulsen, Maarten Lambrechts  
 GRANT: €19,500  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 343,095  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/pelagic-fishes-know-no-national-borders](https://www.journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/pelagic-fishes-know-no-national-borders)
- 24. The return of wild salmon in Switzerland, an old fish tale?**  
 AUTHORS: Marie-Charlotte Roupie, Lætitia Béraud  
 MENTOR: Amanda Cox  
 GRANT: €5,700  
 AUDIENCE REACH: 1,374 viewers  
 MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/return-wild-salmon-switzerland-old-fish-tale](https://www.journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/return-wild-salmon-switzerland-old-fish-tale)

- 25. EACOP, the megaproject of the oil company Total that threatens East Africa**  
AUTHORS: Pablo Garrigós Cucarella, Halima Athumani, Soraya Aybar, David Soler Crespo  
MENTOR: Amanda Cox  
GRANT: €16,600  
AUDIENCE REACH: 123,832 readers  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/eacop-megaproject-oil-company-total-threatens-east-africa](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/eacop-megaproject-oil-company-total-threatens-east-africa)
- 26. Perenco's black oil in the DRC**  
AUTHORS: Lea Szulewicz, Dorian Cabrol, Alexandre Brutelle, Baron Nkoy  
GRANT: €12,350  
AUDIENCE REACH: 5,706  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/perencos-black-oil-drc](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/perencos-black-oil-drc)
- 27. The TuNur solar exportation project: an unjust green energy project**  
AUTHORS: Aïda Delpuech, Arianna Poletti  
GRANT: €9,950  
AUDIENCE REACH: 50,790  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/tunur-solar-exportation-project-unjust-green-energy-project](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/tunur-solar-exportation-project-unjust-green-energy-project)
- 28. The Migrant farm workers on the frontline of Europe's climate crisis**  
AUTHORS: Ismail Einashe, Kate Stanworth, Rosa Meneses, Geesje van Haren  
GRANT: €9,950  
AUDIENCE REACH: 313,000,000  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/migrant-farm-workers-frontline-europes-climate-crisis](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/migrant-farm-workers-frontline-europes-climate-crisis)
- 29. Asbestos: the lethal legacy**  
AUTHORS: Edoardo Anziano, Lorenzo Bagnoli, Brecht Castel, Jenni Elisabeth Christensen, Staffan Dahllöf, Anuška Delić, Rasit Elibol, Emma Fjordbak, Lotte Lambrecht, Emilia García Morales, Nils Mulvad, Ante Pavić, Katharine Quarmbly, Marcos García Rey, Krzysztof Story, Beatriz Jiménez Tejero, Matej Zwitter  
GRANT: €21,500  
AUDIENCE REACH: 5,025,012  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/asbestos-lethal-legacy](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/asbestos-lethal-legacy)
- 30. Frog Smugglers in Slovakia: the illegal trade with endangered animals worth millions**  
AUTHORS: Tomáš Madleňák, Andrea Rehmsmeier  
GRANT: €15,400  
AUDIENCE REACH: 5,061,738  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/frog-smugglers-slovakia-illegal-trade-endangered-animals-worth-millions](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/frog-smugglers-slovakia-illegal-trade-endangered-animals-worth-millions)
- 31. Noise pollution in Western Balkans: Loud, but underestimated environmental issue**  
AUTHORS: Ilda Kurti, Alem Bajramović, Filip Mirilović  
GRANT: €3,200  
AUDIENCE REACH: 522,000  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/noise-pollution-western-balkans-loud-underestimated-environmental-issue](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/noise-pollution-western-balkans-loud-underestimated-environmental-issue)
- 32. Into the wasteland**  
AUTHORS: Lucy Taylor, Dan Ashby, Jakub Górnicki, Ewa Dunal, Zuzanna Olejniczak  
GRANT: €10,200  
AUDIENCE REACH: 61,000,000  
MORE INFO: [journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/wasteland](https://journalismfund.eu/supported-projects/wasteland)

## 5.12. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNALISM

### PURPOSE

The services grants programme aims to support activities and services for environmental investigative journalism. It supports and incites initiatives generated by organisations in the field, and seeks to promote collective development and support services for environmental investigative journalism, by providing funding to project ideas from organisations and institutions for training and professional development programmes, i.e. skills-focused professional training or fellowship programmes targeted at enabling investigative journalists to upskill with regards to reporting on environment-related issues. This is part of a larger programme: [The Earth Investigations Programme](#) supported by Arcadia.

### STATISTICS ENV2 GRANTS (APPLICANTS VERSUS GRANTEES)

Because of the specificity of this grant programme, the grantees can only be organisations and therefore we do not have a gender, age or professional level breakdown as we have in other grants. Journalismfund.eu's jury awarded grants to 17 projects out of 44 applications.

Journalismfund.eu distributed €241,270 to 15 supported projects, organised by 17 grantees, in the first year of the programme. A success rate of only 34% puts this grant among our most competitive programmes.

### OVERVIEW OF GRANT DATA

2022	ENV2
# applied	1,048,329
# financial support	241,270
# supp. projects	15
# grantees	17
# applications	42
# applicants	44

### OVERVIEW OF GRANTS FINALISED IN 2022

#### 1. Sources, Security and Storytelling: online course series for investigative journalists reporting on climate change in the Western Balkans

The project provided localised versions – for Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro as primary target countries – of an existing three-part series of self-paced online learning courses on environmental reporting. Localisation meant both the adaptation of the existing content to the local language and the use of local examples and case studies, highlighting local experts, and using visuals that would resonate with local audiences.

The course is available on Thomson's Online Learning Platform JournalismNow.

The course was launched on 28 July and by 14 September had already gathered 286 registrations, which proves there is an interest in training materials in the local language in the WB region. Because of language proximity, this course can also be used by media professionals in Croatia.

Organisation: Thomson Media gGmbH is a non-profit organisation based in Berlin, Germany devoted to truthful and unbiased journalism as a way of promoting civil society and fostering a balanced public discourse. It is the German partner of the Thomson Foundation, the longest established media development

organisation in the world. The foundation has a 60-year track record of training journalists, media professionals and media organisations on a range of thematic areas and technical skills in more than 50 countries. It is independent and non-political.

**Grant:** €18,250

**Online:**

- > [www.thomsonfoundation.org](http://www.thomsonfoundation.org)
- > [\*The environment crisis doesn't make news in Serbia\*](#)

## 2. Increasing the role of media in highlighting environmental issues due to the Russian Invasion

This project aimed to increase awareness among the public and decision-makers in Ukraine and Europe about ecological problems emerging as a result of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Through an online discussion and a small grants programme, the Internews Ukraine (IUA) team facilitated the coverage of warfare ecology issues by Ukrainian journalists, including investigative journalists. As a result of this programme, 48 news items were produced and published, drawing much-needed attention to ecological issues in Ukraine during the war and creating a base for future investigations of the effects of Russia's invasion on the environment in Ukraine.

The online discussion for regional media outlets saw the participation of 60 journalists and media representatives. Most of them came from the regions of Ukraine most affected by the war. The online discussion agenda included four panels covering issues such as: environmental threats and consequences of hostilities on Ukrainian territories, challenges for nature protection in wartime conditions, and recording of Russia's ecological crimes. The video recording of this event already has 74 views on YouTube.

In order to make use of the knowledge obtained during the online discussions, the IUA team implemented the small grants competition for media outlets. Within this programme, 16 media outlets produced and published 48 media pieces on warfare ecology issues in Ukraine and the negative impact of the Russian invasion on the environment. Among the popular topics covered by the Program's participants were the following: effects of missile attacks on the environment, pollution of rivers and underground waters, ecological disaster in the city of Mariupol after it was destroyed by the Russian occupiers, nuclear danger due to the capture of Chernobyl and Zaporizhzhia nuclear power stations, declining biodiversity and flora, the situation of Ukrainian nature parks and reserves in the occupied territories.

The article 'Drop by drop: how contaminated water kills' by Larysa Romaniuk (the Gre4ka.info website) became popular and caused a discussion on social media. In this material, the citizens of Kropyvnytskyi found out how drinking water from local wells and springs harms their health. Many readers, primarily mothers of children, contacted the editorial office to obtain more in-depth information. These women also told journalists that in the maternity hospital, they were asked to sign a special document that obliges staff only to give filtered water to mothers of new-born because of the water contamination in Kropyvnytskyi wells and springs.

**Grant:** €20,000

**Organisation:** Internews Ukraine is one of the biggest agencies in Ukraine's non-governmental sector. Established in 1996, it has been working tirelessly to implement projects that strengthen the professional capacities of media organisations, increase media literacy, and support social journalism, new media and media rights. One of the key directions of the organisation's work is in the sphere of communications, specifically implementation of informational campaigns on social issues, media production, PR and communications support, training and consulting. IUA's mission lies in strengthening European values in Ukraine by developing its media sector.

**Online:**

- > [Project website](#)
- > [Online discussion participants list](#)
- > [Small grants winners](#)
- > [Drop by drop: how contaminated water kills](#)
- > [На території одного з п'яти регіональних ландшафтних парків Миколаївщини тривають бойові дії](#)
- > [Video](#)
- > [Why are dolphins dying in the Black Sea and how long will we have to wait to restore their population](#)

**3. #WildEye Europe training and professional support programme**

A team of five data journalists engaged in a tailor-made five-month training programme on how to use data tools in investigative journalism and environmental storytelling. The training was delivered in four modules and one final e-learning event:

**Module 1:** Using data to enhance environmental journalism

**Module 2:** Using the law to access environmental crime data

**Module 3:** Tools of the trade

**Module 4:** Building a Community of Practice

Shared Learning Event: Investigating environmental crime in Europe

The final event, which was the only one open to the wider audience, had more than 70 people registered and 33 attendees, of which more than 90% identified as journalists or media outlet representatives.

Over the course of the programme, the participants collected a total of 206 new data points, as well as updates to cases already published on the #WildEye Europe map. The majority of incidents took place between 2018 and 2022, and mainly focused on seizures (68%), followed by convictions (12%), arrests (11%) and court cases (9%).

**Grant:** €25,000

Organisation: Oxpeckers Investigative Environmental Journalism was founded on 18 July 2013. The unit has a proven track record in managing multinational journalistic collaborations. Its aims include building capacity for and improving the impact of environmental journalism, inter alia by building networks of data and investigative journalists interested in exposing environmental crimes. Journalistic teams working with Oxpeckers have conducted in-depth, award-winning, transnational investigations. Oxpeckers' approach is innovative, accurate, strategic and linked to broader social and economic issues.

Since its inception Oxpeckers has pioneered environmental reporting in the digital era by combining traditional investigative journalism techniques with data-driven forensic analysis and best-of-breed mapping visualisations. Complex stories are told visually using dynamic infographics, animated maps and data visualisations that augment more traditional story packages. Journalistic collaborations headed by Oxpeckers have changed lives, policies and laws. Several of the unit's benchmark projects have been replicated in other parts of the world, and have received global recognition. Oxpeckers has built comprehensive data sets of environmental crimes in Europe, Asia and Africa. We are using these in pioneering data-driven reporting, tracking and training projects aimed at building capacity among journalists in these regions, and providing them with professional support.

**Online:**

- > [Tools of the trade: Data journalism \(training video\)](#)
- > [Using the law to access wildlife & environmental crime data in the UK \(training video\)](#)
- > [Investigating environmental crime in Europe \(webinar\)](#)
- > [How to use the #WildEye Mapping Tool \(training video\)](#)
- > [#WildEye Europe: Using the law to access wildlife & environmental crime data \(training documentation\)](#)





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