

To EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate for Culture, Creativity and Sport

10 Creative Europe Programme – Unit D2 J 70 2/015

1049 Brussels, Belgium

E-mail: EAC-ECOC@ec.europa.eu

OFFICIAL LETTER: AN INITIATIVE FOR CANDIDATURE-ECOC SKOPJE 2028

INITIATIVE FOR UPCOMING SELECTION PROCEDURE – ECOC SKOPJE 2028

Dear Madams/Dear Sirs,

With this letter of intention we are announcing our upcoming candidature ECOC Skopje 2028 for the selection procedure before 28 August 2023.

Thank you in advance for your further attention and collaboration.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Danela Arsovska – Mayor of the City of Skopje

(signature/seal)



City of Skopje

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Skopje, 23.08.2023



ANNEX 2

DECLARATION OF HONOUR BY THE APPLICANT CITY

The undersigned [*insert name of the signatory of this form*]:
representing the following legal person:

full official name: **City of Skopje**

official legal form: **Local self-government**

full official address: **Bul. "Ilinden" br.82, 1000 Skopje**

VAT registration number: **MK4030004561156**

- declares that the applicant city is **not** in one of the following situations (*if yes, please indicate in annex to this declaration which situation and the name(s) of the concerned person with a brief explanation*):
- (a) is bankrupt, subject to insolvency or winding-up procedures, its assets are being administered by a liquidator or by a court, it is in an arrangement with creditors, its business activities are suspended, or it is in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for under EU or national laws or regulations;
 - (b) it has been established by a final judgment or a final administrative decision that the applicant city is in breach of its obligations relating to the payment of taxes or social security contributions in accordance with the applicable law;
 - (c) it has been established by a final judgment or a final administrative decision that the applicant city is guilty of grave professional misconduct by having violated applicable laws or regulations or ethical standards of the profession to which the person/entity belongs, or by having engaged in any wrongful intent or gross negligence, including, in particular, any of the following:
 - a) fraudulently or negligently misrepresenting information required for the verification of the absence of grounds for exclusion or the fulfilment of eligibility or selection criteria or in the performance of a contract, a grant agreement or a grant decision;
 - b) entering into agreement with other persons/entities with the aim of distorting contest.
 - c) violating intellectual property rights;
 - d) attempting to influence the decision-making process of the Commission during the award procedure;
 - e) attempting to obtain confidential information that may confer upon it undue advantages in the award procedure;
 - (d) it has been established by a final judgment that the applicant city is guilty of any of the



following:

- (i) fraud, within the meaning of Article 3 of Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Article 1 of the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests, drawn up by the Council Act of 26 July 1995; corruption, as defined in Article 4(2) of Directive (EU) 2017/1371 or Article 3 of the Convention on the fight against corruption involving officials of the European Communities or officials of Member States of the European Union, drawn up by the Council Act of 26 May 1997, or conduct referred to in Article 2(1) of Council Framework Decision 2003/568/JHA, or corruption as defined in the applicable law;
 - (ii) conduct related to a criminal organisation, as referred to in Article 2 of Council Framework Decision 2008/841/JHA;
 - (iii) money laundering or terrorist financing within the meaning of Article 1(3), (4) and (5) of Directive (EU) 2015/849 of the European Parliament and of the Council;
 - (iv) terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities, as defined in Articles 1 and 3 of Council Framework Decision 2002/475/JHA, respectively, or inciting, aiding, abetting or attempting to commit such offences, as referred to in Article 4 of that Decision;
 - (v) child labour or other offences concerning trafficking in human beings as referred to in Article 2 of Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council;
 - (e) the applicant city has shown significant deficiencies in complying with main obligations in the performance of a contract, a grant agreement or a grant decision financed by the Union's budget, which has led to its early termination or to the application of liquidated damages or other contractual penalties, or which has been discovered following checks, audits or investigations by an authorising officer, OLAF or the Court of Auditors;
 - (f) it has been established by a final judgment or final administrative decision that the applicant city has committed an irregularity within the meaning of Article 1(2) of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95;
 - (g) It has been established by a final judgement or final administrative decision that the applicant city has created an entity in a different jurisdiction with the intent to circumvent fiscal, social or any other legal obligations of mandatory application in the jurisdiction of its registered office, central administration or principal place of business;
 - (h) it has been established by a final judgement or final administrative decision that the applicant city has been created with the intent referred to in point (g);
- declares¹² that, for the situations referred to in points (c) to (h) above, in the absence of a final judgement or a final administrative decision, the applicant city is:
- i. subject to facts established in the context of audits or investigations carried out by the European Public Prosecutor's Office, the Court of Auditors or internal auditor, or any other check, audit or control performed under the responsibility of an authorising

¹² The declaration under this point is voluntary and it cannot have adverse legal effect on the person until the conditions of Article 141(1)(a) FR are met.



- officer of an EU institution, of a European office or of an EU agency or body;
- ii. subject to non-final judgments or non-final administrative decisions which may include disciplinary measures taken by the competent supervisory body responsible for the verification of the application of standards of professional ethics;
 - iii. subject to facts referred to in decisions of entities or persons being entrusted with EU budget implementation tasks;
 - iv. subject to information transmitted by Member States implementing Union funds;
 - v. subject to decisions of the Commission relating to the infringement of Union competition law or of a national competent authority relating to the infringement of Union or national competition law;
 - vi. informed, by any means that it is subject to an investigation by the European Anti-Fraud office (OLAF): either because it has been given the opportunity to comment on facts concerning it by OLAF, or it has been subject to on-the-spot checks by OLAF in the course of an investigation, or it has been notified of the opening, the closure or of any circumstance related to an investigation of the OLAF concerning it.
- declares that the applicant city:
- has no conflict of interests in connection with the prize; a conflict of interests could arise in particular as a result of economic interests, political or national affinity, family, emotional life or any other shared interest;
 - will inform the Commission, without delay, of any situation considered a conflict of interests or which could give rise to a conflict of interests;
 - has not granted and will not grant, has not sought and will not seek, has not attempted and will not attempt to obtain, and has not accepted and will not accept any advantage, financial or in kind, to or from any party whatsoever, where such advantage constitutes an illegal practice or involves corruption, either directly or indirectly, inasmuch as it is an incentive or reward relating to the award of the prize;
 - provided accurate, sincere and complete information within the context of this prize award procedure.
- declares that the applicant city is fully eligible in accordance with the criteria set out in the specific call for submission of applications.
- acknowledges that according to Article 131 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 ('the Financial Regulation'), applicants found guilty of misrepresentation may be subject to administrative and financial penalties under certain conditions.



REMEDIAL MEASURES

If the person declares one of the situations of exclusion listed above, it may indicate remedial measures it has taken to remedy the exclusion situation, in order to allow the authorising officer to determine whether such measures are sufficient to demonstrate its reliability. This may include e.g. technical, organisational and personnel measures to prevent further occurrence, compensation of damage or payment of fines or of any taxes or social security contributions. The relevant documentary evidence which illustrates the remedial measures taken must be provided in annex to this declaration. This does not apply for situations referred in point (d) of this declaration.

EVIDENCE UPON REQUEST

The Commission may request any person subject to this declaration to provide information on any natural or legal person that is member of an administrative, management or supervisory body or that have powers of representation, decision or control, including legal and natural persons within the ownership and control structure and beneficial owners, as well as on a natural persons who are essential for the award or for the implementation of the action or work programme subject to the grant application, and appropriate evidence that none of those persons are in one of the exclusion situations referred to in (c) to (f).

The Commission may request any person subject to this declaration to provide the appropriate evidence concerning the person itself and the natural or legal persons which assume unlimited liability for the debts of the person.

- If selected to be awarded a prize, the applicant city accepts the conditions as laid down in the call for submission of applications.
- **The person must immediately inform the Commission of any changes in the situations as declared.**
- **The applicant city may be subject to rejection from this procedure and to administrative sanctions (exclusion) if any of the declarations or information provided as a condition for participating in this procedure prove to be false.**

Last name, first name: **Arsovska Danela**

Title or position in the city: **Mayor of the City of Skopje**

Signature [and official stamp] of the applicant:



Date: 23.08.2023



The declaration is to be signed with:

- ***Electronic signature (recommended option):***

In case you have the possibility to sign the declaration using a qualified electronic signature (QES), please have it signed electronically by your authorised representative(s). Please note that only the qualified electronic signature (QES) within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 (eIDAS Regulation) will be accepted.

Before sending back your electronically signed document, please check the signature and validity of the certificate with one of the following tools:

- *DSS Demonstration validation tool available at <https://ec.europa.eu/cefdigital/DSS/webapp-demo/validation> can help you check the validity of a certificate by indicating the number and type of valid signatures in a document.*
- *EU Trusted List Browser can be consulted in order to check whether the electronic signature provider and the trust service it provides are part of European Union Trusted List: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/tl-browser/#>*

To make sure you use a QES compliant to eIDAS Regulation, you need to check that both the service provider and the qualified certificate generation service used are included in the EU Trusted List Browser.

- ***Handwritten signature:***

In case you do not have the possibility to sign the declaration using a qualified electronic signature (QES), please fill it in electronically, then print it and have it signed and dated by your authorised representative(s) using a hand-written signature.

Your reply to the call for submission of applications will involve the recording and processing of personal data (such as your name, address and CV), which will be processed pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39). Unless indicated otherwise, your replies to the questions in this form and any personal data requested are required to assess your application in accordance with the specifications of the call for submission of applications and will be processed solely for that purpose by Unit D2 – Creative Europe. Details concerning the processing of your personal data are available on the privacy statement at the page:

http://ec.europa.eu/dataprotectionofficer/privacystatement_publicprocurement_en.pdf.



Your personal data may be registered in the Early Detection and Exclusion System (EDES) by the Accounting Officer of the Commission, should you be in one of the situations mentioned in:

- Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 ('the Financial Regulation'), (for more information see the Privacy Statement on http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/legal_entities/legal_entities_en.cfm), or
- the Commission Regulation 2008/1302 of 17.12.2008 on the Central Exclusion Database (for more information see the Privacy Statement on http://ec.europa.eu/budget/explained/management/protecting/protect_en.cfm#BDCE)