

PASOS Members

Macedonia (Republic of)

Center for Research and Policy Making (CRPM), Skopje

<http://www.crpm.org.mk>

International Centre for European Culture Euro Balkan Institute (Euro-Balkan), Skopje

<http://www.euba.org.mk>

Moldova

Institute for Development and Social Initiatives (IDIS) "Viitorul", Chisinau

<http://www.viitorul.moldova.org>

Institute for Public Policy (IPP), Chisinau

<http://www.ipp.md>

Poland

Institute of Public Affairs, Warsaw

<http://www.isp.org.pl>

Romania

Center for Rural Assistance (CRA), Timisoara

<http://www.rural-center.org>

Institute for Public Policy (IPP), Bucharest

<http://www.ipp.ro>

Romanian Center for Economic Policies (CEROPE), Bucharest

<http://www.cerope.ro>

Russia

Center for Legal Support to Local Government (LSLG), Moscow

<http://www.lslg.ru/en>

Strategia - St. Petersburg Center for Humanities and Political Studies, St Petersburg

<http://strategy-spb.ru>

Serbia and Montenegro

Jefferson Institute, Belgrade

<http://www.jeffersoninst.org>

Slovakia

Institute for Public Affairs (IVO), Bratislava

<http://www.ivo.sk>

Slovenia

Peace Institute - Institute for Contemporary Social and Political Studies, Ljubljana

<http://www.mirovni-institut.si>

Ukraine

International Centre for Policy Studies (ICPS), Kiev

<http://www.icps.kiev.ua>



Policy Association for an Open Society



Policy Association for an Open Society

PASOS (Policy Association for an Open Society) promotes and protects open society values, including democracy, rule of law, good governance, respect for and promotion of human rights, and economic and social development, by supporting entities that foster public participation in public benefit matters.



For further information about the Policy Centres Development Fund, please contact:

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Policy
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www.pasos.org

INVESTING IN TRANSITION

an initiative to ensure the lessons of transition are understood, shared, and applied

A Cross-Border Skills Partnership and Project Development Fund

The enlargement of the EU to include eight former communist countries in May 2004 has created a historic opportunity to extend to countries at an earlier stage of transition the accumulated knowledge and experience of the transition process through policy expertise, knowledge transfer, twinning, training and co-operation on cross-border projects. The experience of policy centres from Central and Eastern Europe, as civil society organisations working for democracy, the rule of law and a market economy in their own countries over the past 16 years, is invaluable for other emerging democracies – in South-Eastern Europe, the Western NIS, Caucasus and Central Asia.

It is essential that the lessons of transition so far are analysed, and that the research and policy development carried out in Central and Eastern Europe are continued and applied, as accession to the EU does not signal the end of the need for rigorous policy analysis and civil society engagement in a policy dialogue with governments, public administration and the private sector.

From sharing the lessons (both successes and failures) of the EU accession process and harmonisation with EU legislation through cross-border co-operation and exchange, and through independent policy advice and training, and joint projects, network partnering is vital. Furthermore, the need to create sustainable policy centres is an acute one when civil society groups are facing more restrictions, and media freedoms are being eroded, in Russia, Belarus and Uzbekistan, and when democratic progress so often continues to be thwarted by embedded corrupt networks.

PASOS (Policy Association for an Open Society), a network of 26 independent public policy centres in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, is committed to working to ensure that the lessons of transition are analysed and understood, then shared and applied. To achieve this objective, with the initial support of LGI (the Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative of Open Society Institute-Budapest) in 2006, PASOS is inviting other prospective partners to support this initiative – the Policy Centres Development Fund.

Policy
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Development
Fund

A PASOS initiative to strengthen independent think-tanks in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Strengthening public policy centres

Since 1999, first under the Public Policy Centres Initiative and now via PASOS, LGI has been assisting in the institutional development and joint programmes of policy centres in the CEE, SEE and NIS regions. Much has been accomplished, and a number of these centres have taken on roles as providers of institutional expertise and support to newer centres. Co-operation among the centres has increased dramatically, allowing them to address many issues that require a regional approach (e.g. migration, cross-border co-operation, post-conflict reconstruction, evaluation of democratic assistance funding, EU enlargement). In addition to strengthened impact through international co-operation, these joint projects have also led to the transfer of skills and best practices among the participating centres.

As many public policy centres continue to need assistance to develop their internal capacities and make possible their collaboration on joint regional projects, LGI and PASOS are launching the **Policy Centres Development Fund** to support independent policy centres in the region.

The fund will be a joint investment and undertaking of a number of donors, interested in joining together to support the advancement of policy analysis and reform in the region. Both bilateral donors, foundations and the corporate sector are invited to support this initiative.

Support for professional development and for international projects

PASOS members and other policy centres meeting the criteria of PASOS membership will be able to apply for two categories of funding:

Professional and Institutional Development

- training and capacity-building in proposal writing, research skills, and policy writing
- project management, project evaluation, and financial management
- advocacy
- mentoring, fellowships, and twinning
- institutional strengthening.

Joint Project Development - grants to enable policy centres to prepare well-researched proposals, through funding:

- preparatory research
- project development meetings for regional initiatives between two or more centres
- international co-operation between the policy communities in different countries.

The Fund will also support **Professional Development Training** and **Joint Project Development meetings** organised by the PASOS Secretariat, designed to strengthen the professionalism of policy centres and to foster joint project development. Co-ordination in this way will bring economies of scale by enabling effective networking and meetings on a number of different projects at the same event.

LGI has pledged US\$ 100,000 for 2006, the first year of the Fund.

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PASOS Members

a network of independent think-tanks in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Albania

Institute for Contemporary Studies (ISB), Tirana

<http://www.ics-al.org>

Azerbaijan

Economic Research Center (ERC), Baku

<http://www.erc-az.org>

Bulgaria

Center for Economic Development (CED), Sofia

<http://www.ced.bg>

European Institute (EI), Sofia

<http://www.europe.bg>

International Centre for Minority Studies and Intercultural Relations (IMIR), Sofia *

<http://www.imir-bg.org>

(* Associate member)

Czech Republic

EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy, Prague

<http://www.europeum.org>

Estonia

PRAXIS Center for Policy Studies (PRAXIS), Tallinn

<http://www.praxis.ee>

Georgia

Institute for Policy Studies (IPS), Tbilisi

<http://www.ips.ge>

Hungary

Center for Educational Policy Analysis (CEPA), Budapest

<http://www.sulinova.hu>

Center for Policy Studies at the Central European University (CPS - CEU), Budapest

<http://www.ceu.hu/cps>

Local Government Initiative Development Limited (LGID), Budapest

<http://www.lgidev.com>

Kazakhstan

Public Policy Research Center (PPRC), Almaty

<http://www.pprc.kz>

Latvia

Centre for Public Policy PROVIDUS, Riga

<http://www.policy.lv>

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