

Call for Storyteller for the Pilot Initiative on *Framing Science in Albania's Historical Context*

Project-/mandate name: 1404.02.1.0 PERFORM
Country: Albania

Positions: 1 Local Storyteller

Contract Duration 1 September – 30 November 2018

1. Background

PERFORM – Performing and Responsive Social Sciences, is a project of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, aimed at improving the contribution of social science research to socio-economic and political processes of change in Western Balkan countries. The project focuses on three outcome areas: (i) strengthened social science communities; (ii) systemic linkages with political reform processes, civil society organizations, private sector and media; (iii) and favourable framework conditions and financial mechanisms.

In line with its goals, PERFORM is interested in gaining a thorough overview and building a narrative of the role of science and research in the development of Albania's society in its historical context. This aims to contribute to the creation of a shared understanding and public debate/dialogue on the relevance of science in the country's transitional processes.

In comparison to other former communist countries in Europe, Albania has had a slow deliberative start on the need to open up the Former State Security Service files (i.e. Sigurimi files). To date, it is estimated that there are more than 120,000 files, 250,000 records and millions of pages of documents inherited from the former communist regime. In 2015, the Parliament adopted the first [law on the right to information on the documents of the Former State Security of the Socialist People's Republic of Albania](#). The law's mission is to provide public access to Sigurimi files and preserve the record of oppression in order to educate the public and support the democratic values of justice, truth, reconciliation, and responsibility for future generations. The implementation of this law has led to the establishment, a year later, of the Authority on Access to Information on the Former State Security Service.

Considering that historical memory and remembrance constitute a complex process, there is still a need for a broad and inclusive, informed and objective discourse on the role of science and history in Albania's processes of social transformation. It will contribute to strengthening the public debate on national memory policies, providing for different approaches and ensuring for genuine historical evidence.

In this framework, PERFORM is seeking to contract an experienced local storyteller to engage in the design and preparation of short stories and audio-visual pieces on the role of science in society's development during the early years of establishment of the communist regime in Albania (1945-1954), so as to contribute to a wider inclusion of different segments of the society in the public reflection process on historical memory.

2. Scope of the collaboration

The collaboration aims to provide language friendly and easily accessible written stories and audio-visual materials on the role of science in society's development in the early years of establishment of the communist regime in Albania (1945-1954), to support an all-inclusive, evidence-informed public reflection process on national historical memory.

3. Objectives of the collaboration

The engagement has the following objectives:

1. Elaborate a narrative on the role and public perception of science during the early years of establishment of the communist regime. Based on research papers produced by a team of researchers:
 - 1.1. Develop a clear and comprehensive overview on the effects that the eradication of traditional intellectual elites and ideologisation of the new ones brought about in the intellectual thinking during communism in Albania;
 - 1.2. Convey the impact that the evolution of intellectual thinking during the communist regime has on intellectual thinking in present-day Albania;
2. Contribute to the strengthening of an all-inclusive public debate/dialogue on the construction of historical memory.

In the fulfilment of the objectives of the call for applications, the Expert shall coordinate with research team members and the designated PERFORM Programme Officer.

4. Expected results (or Outputs)

On the basis of the already conducted archival research work, the Expert is expected to:

- a. Develop the content of the interactive e-communication platform accessible to the general public;
- b. Design and prepare short stories and creative audio-visual pieces (videos, infographics, photography, interviews, etc.) on the following (but not exclusive) topics:
 - i. Personal and scientific profile of 10 Albanian scientists;
 - ii. Aims of the communist regime in the field of scientific research;
 - iii. Communist regime relations with the intellectual elite;
 - iv. Involvement of intellectuals in communist decision-making process;
 - v. Problems/challenges faced by intellectuals in their daily work.

5. Requirements for applicants

Local Storyteller	
Education:	Graduate Degree in the field of multimedia, communication and/or journalism.
Experience and competences:	Previous relevant experience in video–editing (preferably short videos); Fluent user of digital technologies (multimedia); Previous experience with camera and shootings, and a good command of Adobe Premiere Programme; Previous experience in script writing; Previous experience on topics that deal with the past, particularly with the communist regime, is considered an asset; Experience in oral history projects is considered an asset; Experience with internationally funded projects and ‘translation’ of research work in widely accessible language; Excellent analytical and writing skills; Proven team player.
Language requirements:	Full professional fluency in English.

6. Timeframe of the assignment

This assignment will cover the period of 1 September 2018 – 30 November 2018.

7. Application process

7.1. Required documents

1. Cover letter/Expression of interest outlining clearly how you meet the requirements of the position;
2. Full professional curriculum vitae;
3. Sample of previous work that clearly demonstrate the candidate’s skills for the assignment.

Please submit your application in English to the following email address:

PERFORM-Albania@helvetas.org

The deadline for submission is 26 June 2018.