



EFB - Job vacancy
- Program for bridging divides -

The European Fund for the Balkans, which is currently developing its strategy for the next five years, is a joint initiative of European foundations (Erste Foundation, Robert Bosch Foundation and King Baudouin Foundation) that envisions, runs and supports programmes aimed at strengthening democracy, fostering European integration and affirming the role of the Western Balkans in addressing Europe's emerging challenges. With a strong focus on building regional solidarity in all its activities, EFB became a well recognised actor of regional cooperation since 2008.

With its program for bridging divides (working title), the EFB strives to support local, national and regional initiatives and actors who work on transcending ethnic boundaries and reducing tensions between communities and groups across the Balkans. The program is intended to counteract political polarization and to advocate for constructive dialogue where fronts between people, communities and institutions have hardened. The EFB supports a cooperative partnership and demand-driven approach.

The EFB is looking for an eligible candidate who has the professional competence to:

- develop the above-mentioned program in a participatory process involving actors and institutions from the region already engaged in the field with the above-mentioned topics and across the region.
- accompany actors and initiatives who:
 - help overcome ethnic boundaries, counteract political polarization, and contribute to social cohesion.
 - create safe spaces in which representatives of different groups and convictions are welcome and can constructively discuss their different perspectives.
 - advocate for reducing tensions and mutual acceptance.

We are looking for a candidate who:

- has at least seven years of relevant experience in the field of peacebuilding, preferably in a managerial role. This includes:
 - stimulating, supporting, and facilitating dialog formats that help overcome ethnic and political boundaries and/or
 - dealing with the past and reconciliation work and/or
 - peace education and



- regional approaches in the Balkans
- experience in budget planning and controlling.
- has at least five years of relevant experience in bringing actors with different (and possibly completely opposite, up to extreme) positions into a constructive exchange in a complex and changing environment.
- comprehends different perspectives, derived from professional or personal experience, and acknowledges the legitimacy of different views.
- has an interest in looking for common ground between allegedly incompatible views and can approach conflicts in a solution-oriented and constructive manner (also personal conflicts).

This is a full-time local position only applicable for candidates from the Balkans (Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Albania) to enrich our diverse team in Belgrade. English is working language at EFB; therefore, fluency is a must.

Please send us your CV on max. 2 pages and your ideas to set up the program described above in not more than 500 words. Anything longer will be disqualified.

When writing down your ideas on the program, please address the following questions:

- What should a funding program covering the whole region include that, in a demand-driven manner, supports actors on the local, national, and regional level who focus on bridging divides and counteract polarization?
- What risks do you see in setting up such a program?

The start of the position is planned for the 1st December 2024. Interviews will presumably take place between 4th and 14th November 2024.

Please send your applications to Saša Marković: sasa.markovic@balkanfund.org until 18 October 2024.