OPEN CALL ANALYSIS

CULTURAL HORIZONS: ARTISTIC MOBILITY 2026

Stipends of UAH 130,000 to 280,000 for Ukrainian artists and cultural professionals on professional mobility

EUnita strategic translation

This is a personal stipend, not a project grant. The Ukrainian Cultural Foundation (UCF) runs it inside the EU-funded Creative Europe project Cultural Horizons, together with Cultural Vistas gGmbH. One Ukrainian citizen aged 18 or more, working in the cultural and creative sectors, can receive UAH 130,000 to 280,000 to pay for a professional trip, residency, course, research stay or event in Ukraine or an EU country. The person must name the professional result, bring a written confirmation from a host or organiser, sign the application with an electronic digital signature and report with evidence after the trip. Three experts score each application out of 100; funding follows the ranking within UAH 10,509,400. Romanian citizens and organisations cannot apply; Romanian hosts can matter as destinations.

CULTURAL HORIZONS ANALYSIS

Fit assessment | Sources | What it funds | Boundaries | Budget & competition | Eligibility | Money | Evaluation | Timeline | Risks

Deadline: 28 December 2026, 18:00 Kyiv time (18:00 in Romania)

Call budget: UAH 10,509,400 | Stipend per person: UAH 130,000 to 280,000 | Projects end by 15 August 2027

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Analysis date: 22 November 2026

*This analysis interprets the official call documentation for applicants. It is not legal advice. The official texts are the Guidelines for Applicants for Call (LOT) 4 Artistic Mobility (Ukrainian original, and its English translation marked for reference only; approved by Order No. 129 of 13 October 2026), the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation call page, the Foundation's procedure for competitive selection and the Funding & Tenders Portal records, checked on 22 November 2026 (documents unchanged since the 20 November download); where this analysis and an official text differ, the official text prevails, and the Ukrainian original prevails over its translation. Labels used: **Confirmed** (stated in an official source), **EUnita interpretation** (a reading or recommendation by EUnita), **Derived estimate** (arithmetic by EUnita on official figures).*

1. Decision summary: is this call for you?

Call (LOT) 4 “Artistic Mobility” of the Cultural Horizons programme pays a stipend to one Ukrainian artist or cultural professional for a professional mobility with a defined result. The stipend is UAH 130,000 to 280,000 and the call budget is UAH 10,509,400; the Guidelines print euro equivalents (EUR 2,500 to 5,500 and EUR 220,000) without a rate or date; the amounts are fixed in hryvnia and cannot be increased in UAH after submission (footnote 4). Applications close on 28 December 2026, 18:00 Kyiv time (18:00 in Romania).

Item	Confirmed position	Source
Call	Cultural Horizons, Call (LOT) 4 “Artistic Mobility”. Portal topic CREA-CULT-2025-COOP-UA-2 (call CREA-CULT-2025-COOP-UA); project grant agreement 101237681	Guidelines §I; Portal record
Run by	The Ukrainian Cultural Foundation (project coordinator, Kyiv), in partnership with Cultural Vistas gGmbH (Berlin)	Guidelines §I; Portal record
Funded by	The European Union, Creative Europe Programme, through EACEA; the EU contribution to the project is EUR 1,995,678.83 (90%)	Guidelines §VIII, §IX; Portal record
Type of funding	A stipend (grant) to an individual, under a Stipend (Grant) Agreement with the Foundation	Guidelines §III, §XI
Who	Individuals who are Ukrainian citizens, at least 18, working in the cultural and creative sectors	Guidelines §III
Romania	Romanian citizens and organisations cannot apply. Mobility in EU countries, Romania included, is eligible	Guidelines §III
Deadline	28 December 2026, 18:00 Kyiv time; electronic submission with an electronic digital signature	Guidelines §II, §IV

Good fit

- ✓ Ukrainian artists, cultural managers and researchers with a confirmed residency, internship, course, research stay or professional event
- ✓ Applicants who can name one professional outcome and the evidence they will report
- ✓ People with a working electronic digital signature, a tax ID and the Ukrainian documents the package needs
- ✓ Applicants who can meet the border and military-registration rules for the planned trip
- ✓ Professionals in audio, audiovisual or visual arts, heritage, creative industries, literature or performing arts

Not a fit

- ✗ Romanian and other non-Ukrainian citizens
- ✗ Organisations, companies and NGOs: only individuals apply
- ✗ Holiday trips, visits as a spectator, and online courses taken alone
- ✗ Applicants with debts to the Foundation or the state, open enforcement proceedings, court proceedings with the Foundation, an unspent criminal record or sanctions
- ✗ Projects that need more than UAH 280,000 or last beyond 15 August 2027

EUnita verdict (interpretation)

EUnita interpretation: a good fit for a Ukrainian professional who already has a host or programme and can assemble the Ukrainian documents before 28 December 2026. The stipend is modest and fixed, no co-funding is allowed, and one missing mandatory document ends the application. For Romanian readers the call is a destination opportunity: a Romanian host or organiser can give a Ukrainian applicant the written confirmation the package needs, but cannot apply itself.

2. Source verification and document status

Confirmed: all facts come from documents of the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation and from the Funding & Tenders Portal, checked on 22 November 2026 (documents unchanged since the 20 November download). The Guidelines exist in Ukrainian and in an English translation marked “for reference only”; the Ukrainian original is followed where they differ.

Document	Version and date	Used for
Guidelines for Applicants, English translation	Order No. 129 of 13 October 2026; 32 pages	Rules, calendar, documents
Guidelines for Applicants, Ukrainian original (link on the call page)	Order No. 129 of 13 October 2026; 31 pages	Text that prevails
Call page of the Foundation	Read 20 November 2026	Summary; deadline
Foundation’s Procedure for competitive selection (Ukrainian)	Approved 10 November 2025; 22 pages	Applicant exclusions, limits
Funding & Tenders Portal records	Call entry and project 101237681	Funder, coordinator

Where the official documents differ

- **Deadline hour.** The Guidelines say 18:00 “Kyiv time zone”; the call page and the Foundation’s news item say 18:00 EEST; the Portal shows 17:00 UTC. In December Kyiv uses UTC+2, the same as Romania, so the Guidelines mean 18:00 in Romania. The Guidelines are followed.
- **Dates on the call page.** “Technical eligibility check: until 20.09.2026” and “Expert evaluation: until 19.01.2026” precede the call; the Guidelines give 5 to 19 January 2027 and 5 January to 8 February 2027.
- **Format.** The Ukrainian original allows in-person or mixed participation; remote only inside a mixed format. The English translation and the call page say in-person, remote or hybrid.
- **Place.** The Ukrainian original excludes temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine; the English text does not.
- **Sectors.** The Ukrainian original lists seven (including audiovisual art); the English text and the call page six without audiovisual; the news item six without literature.

3. What the call funds

Confirmed: the aim is to support the professional mobility of Ukrainian artists and cultural and creative professionals, to work, study, do research and take part in exchange and educational programmes in the EU and in Ukraine (Guidelines §III). The main output is the mobility itself, aimed at a professional result the applicant sets. EU priorities for the LOT are digital transformation, sustainable development and inclusion and gender equality.

- **Forms:** educational mobility (courses, summer schools, workshops); internships and practical placements; residencies and creative mobility, including joint creative or co-production work; research mobility (archives, field research, specialised resources); professional networking (study visits, mentoring, exchange programmes); event-based mobility (conferences, festivals, biennials, fairs, showcases) where the applicant takes an active part or has a clear professional purpose. Several forms may be combined if they share one objective.
- **Place:** within Ukraine (the Ukrainian original excludes temporarily occupied territories), in EU countries, or both.
- **Format:** in-person or mixed under the Ukrainian original, with remote activity only as part of a mixed format that includes direct professional interaction.

- **Sectors:** audio art, audiovisual art, visual art, cultural heritage, cultural and creative industries (cross-sectoral projects), literature, performing and scenic arts (Ukrainian original).

Confirmed: the mobility must be relevant to the applicant's professional activity, have a clear objective and expected outcome, offer professional development or exchange, and provide for use of the outcome afterwards. The outcome is evidenced in the final report, for example by a certificate for training, a host letter for an internship, confirmation and materials for a residency, a report for research, or the programme and confirmation for an event (§III, §IX).

Confirmed: a stipend does not give permission to leave Ukraine. "The Foundation does not authorise stipend recipients' departure from Ukraine"; men aged 18 to 60 must meet legal requirements, including military registration documents (§III).

4. Boundaries: avoid the wrong door

- **Not eligible:** tourist or private trips; attending events solely as a spectator, listener or visitor; independent online courses, recorded lectures and open educational resources (§III).
- **Not for organisations:** the applicant is "a natural person" (§XI); legal entities, NGOs and companies cannot apply.
- **Not for non-Ukrainian citizens,** including Romanian citizens (§III; Foundation procedure, Section 5).
- **No profit and no double funding:** the same costs cannot be financed by another donor, and the project may not generate profit (§VIII).

Confirmed: the other calls of Cultural Horizons (Innovative Cultural Products, European Local Culture, Artistic Debuts, Residencies) are listed on the Portal with deadlines between 14 August and 1 November 2026, so they are closed on 20 November 2026.

5. Budget, competition and expected number of grants

Item	Confirmed position	Source
Call budget	UAH 10,509,400 (the Guidelines' euro equivalent: EUR 220,000); may increase or decrease with InforEuro exchange rates or a reallocation between programmes	Guidelines §III, footnote 3
Stipend	Minimum UAH 130,000 (EUR 2,500), cannot be reduced; maximum UAH 280,000 (EUR 5,500), cannot be increased (euro figures as printed in the Guidelines)	Guidelines §III
Derived estimate	UAH 10,509,400 / 280,000 = 37.5 and / 130,000 = 80.8: about 37 to 80 stipends if the budget were fully used	Arithmetic on §III
Applications	Not published	Not found in the sources read

Confirmed: funding follows the ranking, within the budget of the call (§VI, §VII). The Guidelines print the euro figures without an exchange rate or a date. Derived estimate: the printed euro and hryvnia amounts imply three different rates (47.8, 52.0 and 50.9 hryvnia per euro). The Guidelines fix the amounts in hryvnia (UAH 130,000 and 280,000; they cannot be increased in UAH after submission, footnote 4) and print EUR 2,500 and EUR 5,500 as equivalents without a rate or date. No success rate or number of applications is published, so none is estimated.

6. What has been funded before

Confirmed: the Funding & Tenders Portal shows one announcement of this LOT, opening on 26 October 2026. EUnita interpretation: it is therefore the first. No figures on earlier awards, applications or success rates were found in the documents read.

7. Who should apply, and with which ideas

EUnita interpretation: the call suits a working professional with a concrete destination or programme already in hand. The Guidelines list artists, cultural practitioners, cultural managers, researchers and other cultural and creative professionals (§III).

- **A residency or lab abroad** with an invitation and dates, for an artist who wants to develop a work or a co-production.
- **A research stay** in an archive, museum or library, with access confirmed by the host (§III).
- **A professional course or summer school** with direct contact with teachers and peers, since stand-alone online learning does not count.
- **A festival, biennial or fair** where the applicant has an active role or a clear professional purpose.

EUnita interpretation: Romanian cultural organisations, festivals, residencies and universities can matter as hosts. The package needs a confirmation from “an organiser, host institution, programme, or other responsible party”, and mobility in EU countries is eligible. The stipend is paid to the Ukrainian applicant, not to the host. Whether fees owed to a host (course, residency or participation fees) can be budgeted as “other expenses” is not stated in the Guidelines; an applicant should ask programa.COHO@ucf.in.ua.

8. Eligibility checklist

✓	A natural person who is a Ukrainian citizen, at least 18, engaged in professional activity in the relevant cultural and creative sectors (§III).
✓	A defined professional outcome and objective, with a host or organiser confirmation of the planned activity and period (§III).
✓	Mobility in Ukraine and/or EU countries, with an in-person component (Ukrainian original).
✓	Application in Ukrainian through the personal account, signed with an electronic digital signature, before the deadline (§IV, §V).
✓	All mandatory documents: proposal, budget (Excel), passport or ID copy, tax ID, IDP certificate if applicable, criminal-record extract, host confirmation (§III).
✗	Excluded by the Foundation’s Procedure (section 5.2), among others: sanctioned persons and persons who support or deny the armed aggression against Ukraine (5.2.6); an unspent criminal record (5.2.5); a debt to the Foundation, to budgets of all levels or to the Pension Fund, or other financial debt, including loans past their payment term (5.2.8); open enforcement proceedings for financial recovery (5.2.9); court proceedings with the Foundation, past or present (5.2.10); breaches of copyright, of the integrity declaration, of deadlines, of contract terms or of reporting in the previous grant season (5.2.11); an agreement ended unilaterally by the Foundation for material breach (5.2.12); non-Ukrainian citizens.
✗	More than one application package per programme in the announcement; the Foundation supports at most three projects per applicant across all its programmes (procedure 5.4.1).
?	Ukrainian citizens living abroad: the Guidelines do not say whether residence in Ukraine is required; the passport copy must show the registered place of residence.
?	Whether a particular debt or proceeding falls under items 5.2.8 to 5.2.12: the Procedure is available in Ukrainian only. An applicant should ask programa.COHO@ucf.in.ua, which clarifies the call documents.

9. How the money works

Confirmed: the budget “provides for only one source of revenue: funds from the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation” (§IV). The budget is filled in the Foundation’s Excel template, which has instructions in one tab (§III); the Foundation’s documents page lists a separate stipend budget form, and the applicant uses the form that the application account offers. The payment schedule, any advance and the tax treatment of the stipend are not stated in the documents read; the Stipend (Grant) Agreement is a separate text.

Eligible costs (§IV)

- Travel (tickets); accommodation; consumables (stationery, paper, paints, canvas); equipment, tools and inventory; other expenses needed for the mobility.
- Equipment, tools or supplies up to UAH 20,000 (excluding VAT) per unit; they stay in the recipient’s possession and are not sold or leased.
- Class limits: transport no higher than second class; rail no higher than a compartment carriage; air in economy class only; accommodation inside Ukraine within Cabinet Resolution No. 98 of 2 February 2011.
- Travel and accommodation only for the stipend recipient. Goods and services only from legal entities or individual entrepreneurs.

Confirmed ineligible: costs unrelated to the project; intermediary services; profit-making projects; double funding; application-preparation costs; items above UAH 20,000 per unit; taxi fares; obtaining a foreign passport; exchange-rate losses; deals with related parties; food and catering; intangible assets (§IV). After signing, item amounts may not change by more than 10% of the stipend without approval, the total may not rise, and new items need approval (§IV, §VIII). Payments abroad follow National Bank of Ukraine martial-law limits (§IV).

Confirmed: only costs actually incurred from the signing of the Stipend (Grant) Agreement until the final report, and no later than the completion date in the Agreement, are eligible (§IV). The calendar plans negotiations until 23 March 2027, signing no later than 20 April 2027 and implementation not before 1 March 2027 (§II). EUnita interpretation: plan the trip for the period after signing; a trip made, or a fee paid, before signing is not covered.

Reporting

Confirmed: the final report package must be received by the Foundation no later than the end of the implementation period (the Guidelines’ example: 15 August 2027): a narrative report with evidence of the mobility, and a financial report with payment documents and a full bank statement. Pages are numbered, bound and signed; a hard copy goes by courier to 28-30 Ivana Mazepy St., Kyiv, 01010 (Foundation’s working hours: Monday to Thursday 9:00-18:00, Friday 9:00-16:45), and an electronic copy through the personal account. Records are kept at least five years (§IX). Derived estimate: 15 August 2027 is a Sunday and the Guidelines give working hours only for Monday to Friday, so the last practical day for delivery is Friday 13 August 2027.

Confirmed obligations: show the EU co-funding disclaimer and the Foundation’s, the EU’s and the programme’s logos on materials; get the Foundation’s approval of communication materials at press@ucf.in.ua before release; invite its representatives to public events at least five days ahead; present the results publicly. Failure is a material breach and can bar the recipient from the next year’s competition (§VIII).

10. Evaluation

Confirmed: the selection has six steps: technical selection; expert evaluation; approval by the Foundation's Directorate (and its Supervisory Board for projects above 150 minimum wages); negotiation; signing of the agreement (§V).

- **Technical selection:** the package must be submitted on time through the personal account, be complete, fit the priorities of the LOT, have a consistent budget without ineligible costs, be in Ukrainian with certified translations, and come from an applicant who meets Section 5 of the procedure. One failed criterion ends the application. An appeal is possible within five working days, only through the personal account, and cannot add documents (§V).
- **Expert evaluation:** each application is scored in parallel by three experts of the expert council, up to 100 points each, so 300 points at most. Scores and comments appear in the personal account (§VI).
- **Ranking and decision:** funding follows the ranking within the budget; the Directorate decides which projects go to negotiation. The experts' decision is final, except in conflict-of-interest cases (§VI, §VII).
- **Negotiation:** the Foundation may send remarks; answering them in full is a condition for signing (§VII).

Confirmed: applicants may not contact experts during evaluation (§VI). The criteria and weights are in the Methodology of Expert Evaluation, which the Guidelines name but which was not found on the pages read. A minimum score and a tie-break rule are not stated.

11. Application package and timeline

1. Create or open a personal account on the Foundation's website, choose the programme Cultural Horizons, the LOT "Artistic Mobility" and the project type, then use the "Apply" button (§IV).
2. Complete the form in stages with the "Save" button; upload the budget and the mandatory documents (§IV).
3. Sign with the electronic digital signature and submit. A submitted package cannot be changed; a confirmation e-mail with the project number follows (§IV).

Confirmed mandatory documents: the proposal; the Excel budget; a passport copy (pages 1 and 2, other pages with entries, and the page with the registered place of residence) or both sides of an ID card with a register extract; the tax ID certificate; the internally displaced person certificate, where applicable; the full criminal-record extract; and the confirmation of the planned professional activity, with a certified Ukrainian translation if it is in another language (§III, §XIII). At negotiation the Foundation asks for more: bank certificates, certificates of no overdue liabilities and no enforcement proceedings, an intellectual-property statement and a consent to personal-data processing (§VII, §XIV).

Date (Kyiv time)	Step	Status in the documents
26 October 2026	Call opens; information campaign with online consultations to 28 December	Fixed
28 December 2026, 18:00 (18:00 in Romania)	Applications close	Fixed
4 January 2027	Register of received application packages	Planned
5 to 19 January 2027	Technical selection; result in the personal account on 19 January; register by 25 January	Planned

Date (Kyiv time)	Step	Status in the documents
5 January to 8 February 2027	Expert evaluation; scores by 15 February; ranking by 16 February	Planned
17 February to 23 March 2027	Directorate approval and negotiation	Planned
By 20 April 2027	Agreements signed; register of winners	Planned
From signing (implementation not before 1 March 2027) to 15 August 2027	Implementation and final report	Planned

Confirmed: dates may change in the event of force majeure such as power outages or security threats (§II). Who can still use this deadline: a Ukrainian citizen aged 18 or more, in one of the listed sectors, who can complete the package, with a working electronic digital signature and a host confirmation, before 28 December 2026. Next come the register of received packages on 4 January 2027 and the technical result on 19 January 2027 (both planned). The Foundation gives clarifications on the call documents at programa.COHO@ucf.in.ua but not individual advice on whether to apply or how to design a project (§XII).

12. Risks and red flags

1. **Citizenship.** Only Ukrainian citizens can apply. Romanian citizens and organisations cannot, whatever the host arrangement.
2. **Deadline hour.** The Guidelines, the call page and the Portal give three different hours. EUnita interpretation: treat 17:00 Kyiv time (17:00 in Romania) on 28 December 2026 as the safe limit. The Guidelines say 18:00 Kyiv time; the call page says 18:00 EEST, which would be 17:00 Kyiv time in December because EEST is UTC+3 and Kyiv uses UTC+2; the Portal shows 17:00 UTC, which is 19:00 Kyiv time.
3. **No later fix.** A submitted application cannot be changed, a missing mandatory document cannot be added and an appeal cannot add one (§IV, §V).
4. **Costs before signing.** Only costs incurred between the signing of the agreement and the final report are eligible (§IV); a trip made or a fee paid earlier is not covered.
5. **Travel is not assured.** The stipend is no permission to cross the border; the Foundation is not liable for a trip that cannot be made (§III).
6. **Hard-copy final report.** The final report package goes by courier to Kyiv and must be received by the Foundation no later than the end of the implementation period (the Guidelines' example: 15 August 2027) (§IX). Derived estimate: 15 August 2027 is a Sunday and the Guidelines give working hours only for Monday to Friday, so the last practical day for delivery is Friday 13 August 2027.
7. **Unpublished terms.** The payment schedule, the tax treatment, the evaluation criteria and the Agreement are not in the documents read.

13. EUnita recommendations

1. Confirm the gates first: Ukrainian citizenship, age, sector, no debts to the Foundation or the state, no enforcement proceedings, no court proceedings with the Foundation, no unspent criminal record.
2. Secure the host or organiser confirmation first, with exact activity and dates; order the certified Ukrainian translation if needed.

3. Test the electronic digital signature now and order the criminal-record and register extracts without waiting.
4. Define one professional outcome and the evidence for it: certificate, host letter, programme or report.
5. Build the budget only from eligible lines within the class limits, with each item inside the stipend and no food, catering or taxi fares; plan the trip after the agreement is signed; follow the Ukrainian original on format and place.
6. Submit before 17:00 Kyiv time (17:00 in Romania) on 28 December 2026, the earliest of the three readings of the deadline, and keep the confirmation e-mail with the project number.
7. For Romanian organisations: offer a clear written confirmation template to Ukrainian professionals you can host, with dates and the nature of the activity.

Unresolved points

- The payment schedule, any advance and the tax treatment of the stipend are not stated; the Stipend (Grant) Agreement was not read.
- The Methodology of Expert Evaluation, the minimum score and the tie-break rule are not in the documents read.
- The number of stipends and applications, and the dates of information days, are not published.
- Whether Ukrainian citizens living abroad can use the call is not stated.
- Whether fees owed to a host can be budgeted as “other expenses” is not stated; whether a particular debt falls under the Procedure’s exclusions is not settled by the documents. An applicant can ask programa.COHO@ucf.in.ua, which clarifies the call documents.

Sources

- Guidelines for Applicants, Call (LOT) 4 Artistic Mobility, English translation (for reference only): https://ucf.in.ua/storage/docs/23102026/ENG%20Guideliles%20LOT4%20Artistic%20Mobility_02b360fef2afa24d31d659f208f67c85f75dbef4.pdf (downloaded 20 Nov 2026)
- Call page, Ukrainian Cultural Foundation: https://ucf.in.ua/en/m_lots/6ad9d802de987634770e33c2 (read 20 Nov 2026)
- Cultural Horizons programme website: https://horizons.ucf.in.ua/en/ (read 20 Nov 2026)
- Funding & Tenders Portal: Cultural Horizons competitive-call entries: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/competitive-calls-cs/47365875 (data read 20 Nov 2026)
- Funding & Tenders Portal: project 101237681, Cultural Horizons: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/43251814/101237681/CREA2027 (data read 20 Nov 2026)
- Ukrainian Cultural Foundation, competition documents page (budget forms): https://ucf.in.ua/en/docs/220 (checked 22 Nov 2026)

Checked 22 November 2026. Official updates prevail.