

Consultancy: Advocacy support and Follow-Up to Context Analyses

External assignment for the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation

1. Background

The Swedish organisation *the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation (Kvinna till Kvinna)* supports women in regions affected by war and conflict to increase women's power and influence. Today we cooperate with more than 150 women's organisations in the Western Balkan region, the South Caucasus, the Middle East and Africa. We collaborate with women's organisations that play an active part in peace and transition processes as well as promoting women's rights and gender equality.

The **mandate** of *Kvinna till Kvinna* is to:

- Empower women in war and conflict-affected regions by enhancing their self-esteem, their mental and physical well-being and their participation in the creation of a democratic society.
- Promote studies and research concerning the effects of war and armed conflict on women.
- Provide information about the effects of war and to raise public opinion in favour of peaceful conflict resolution using non-military methods.

Kvinna till Kvinna shall operate without attaching importance to religious, political, national, or ethnic affiliation.

Regular updated context analyses and advocacy support to the Western Balkan programme 2021-2026

Kvinna till Kvinna is currently implementing a regional programme in the Western Balkans. The purpose of the programme is to contribute to increased focus on gender equality and women's rights in the pre-accession processes. This is done by supporting women's civil society organisations (WCSOs) in conducting evidence-based advocacy towards key EU stakeholders (Council of the EU, Member States, European Commission and the European External Action Services). The second short-term outcome is that Kvinna till Kvinna and WCSOs have an increased engagement on thematic issues and an increased participation of WCSOs in EU pre-accession processes. The third and final short-term outcome is that WCSOs carry out effective evidence-based advocacy towards respective national governments regarding the protection and respect for women's rights within the EU-accession processes.

This programme builds on a previous programme (2015-2020). Within the programme, Kvinna till Kvinna cooperates with 13+ women's rights organisations

in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia.

In the past few years Kvinna till Kvinna has commissioned a context analysis of the Western Balkan region and countries on bi-annual basis focusing on regional overview and elaboration of different countries' EU-accession processes, the role of key EU Member States and other non-EU stakeholders, as well as programmatic recommendations for Kvinna till Kvinna. However, within a rapidly changing region it is deemed beneficial for the program implementation that the context analysis be updated more frequently and on regular basis. The regular context analyses will serve as orientation and basis for the detailed planning and implementation of the programme, with regard to advocacy and communication.

2. Outcome and deliverables:

The consultant/s should provide:

- A) A regularly (twice per year) updated context analysis for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia, from a perspective of EU accession, including consequences of the global pandemic, key reforms, relations between the Western Balkan governments and EU (including key member states) and other international actors (including key countries). The role of civil society should also be elaborated on.

The analysis should consist of max 10 pages and contain:

- a. A regional overview according to the above
 - b. National elaborations for all six EU accession countries in the Balkan region
 - c. Recommendations for Kvinna till Kvinna and partner organisations; advocacy entry points and focus areas, potential risks and opportunities connected to EU-level advocacy for women's rights.
 - d. An annex on specific challenges facing BiH, given its complexities.
- B) Presentations (live or online) of the updated context analyses, to Kvinna till Kvinna staff, partners, Embassies in the region and other stakeholders, as agreed. At least four presentations/year should be provided. The presentations will be recorded and stored for internal use of Kvinna till Kvinna and partners.
- C) Provide inputs to Op-Eds in Brussels-based newspapers/political magazines. At least two Op-Eds/year should be drafted, in close cooperation with Kvinna till Kvinna staff and consultants. The consultant/s input should be based on the context analyses, and be connected to

relevant events/occasions and similar. Final selection of topics will be done by Kvinna till Kvinna.

- D) Ad hoc support: for example, information on specific actors, input to talking points or advocacy briefs, participation in an external panel discussion etc. Four ad hoc support items provided/year.

4. Methodology

Kvinna till Kvinna proposes a desk study for the context analyses, combined with other methods if relevant or necessary. Detailed planning and priorities of the assignment will be discussed with *Kvinna till Kvinna*.

5. Time frame

The duration of the assignment is from December 2021 - December 2023, with 25 days/year on average; 50 days in total.

6. Skills required

It is desirable that the consultant/s have:

- a) Thorough knowledge and understanding of EU and global politics that influence the Western Balkan EU accession and developments;
- b) Thorough knowledge of the Western Balkan region, both with regard to regional issues and domestic politics;
- c) Diplomatic experience, preferably from the Western Balkan region;
- d) Documented analytical skills including from context analyses;
- e) Documented texts being published in policy journals or academic publications;
- f) Experience from working with civil society is considered an asset;
- g) Excellent written English

7. Cost Frame

The total cost of the consultancy shall be specified as fees per day, excluding VAT. Contracted consultant/s cannot further subcontract the assignment. The assignment is expected to take up to 50 full working days.

8. Contact person at *Kvinna till Kvinna*

The consultant will report directly to Regional Manager, Ristin Thomasson, ristin.thomasson@kvinnatillkvinna.se Any questions regarding the ToR can also be directed here.

9. Application

Please submit your expression of interest no later than 9 January 2022 by clicking the apply button. Please note that we only accept applications through our career site. The application shall include a letter of motivation and a CV. We will handle all applications post deadline for submission.