

The Federal Agency for Civic Education and the Robert Bosch Stiftung are awarding 20 scholarships to young professionals from Bulgaria, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Hungary and the Baltic States, working in civic education.

The Robert Bosch Stiftung

Established in 1964, the Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH is one of the major German foundations associated with a private company. It represents the philanthropic and social endeavors of Robert Bosch (1861–1942) and fulfils his legacy in a contemporary manner. The Robert Bosch Stiftung works predominantly in the fields of International Relations, Health and Education.

The Federal Agency for Civic Education/bpb

is a federal agency and entity within the Federal Ministry of the Interior. Founded in 1953, the task of the Federal Agency for Civic Education is to promote political understanding through civic education measures, to strengthen democratic awareness and to boost willingness to become actively involved in political work.

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Civic Education in Action!

An exchange programme for
young professionals from
Central and South-East Europe



Civic Education in Action!

The aim of civic education is to inform and educate citizens and thus strengthen democracy. It promotes awareness of democratic values and supports the development of an active civil society. It enables citizens to critically view political and social topics and to become actively involved themselves. These abilities are needed just as much in the member states of the »old EU« as they are in the countries in Central and Eastern Europe. This is why civic education in 21st-century Europe can no longer be exclusively understood on a national level. The »Civic Education in Action« programme takes up this idea and supports the exchange and networking of civic education in Europe.

The participants

spend 10 weeks as interns at a German civic education organisation. They work there with their German colleagues, establishing ties for future cross-border cooperation. During the guest term, the scholarship holders develop a project on the social or political situation in their home country. They implement this project together with their host organisation within the scope of the Civic Education Campaign Days, the most important campaign for civic education in Germany.

Participants' profile

- :: Professional experience either in a full time job or as a freelancer in civic education
- :: Life centred in Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia
- :: Citizenship of the aforesated programme countries
- :: 25 to 30 years of age, in exceptional cases, up to 35 years of age
- :: Above-average commitment and independence
- :: Good German language skills
- :: University degree or comparable qualifications

Host organisations

are situated all over Germany. They are recognised by the Federal Agency for Civic Education (bpb) and wish to establish or strengthen ties with Central and South-East Europe. Organisations which also fulfil the requirements for recognition by bpb can also take part in the programme. The host organisations appoint a contact partner for the professionals who supports the interns during the development and performance of the project on the political or social situation in the intern's home country.

Support

The scholarship holder receives a weekly scholarship. Travel expenses to Germany and to the seminars are also covered, as are the costs for health, accident and liability insurance. An additional allowance is available for interns with family.

Application details

The programme begins at the end of September with the introductory seminar in Germany. The internship will be in two blocks to be agreed to by the interns and the host organisations. Current application dates for participants and host organisations, detailed announcement and further information about the programme can be found at www.bpb.de/in-aktion.

Selection procedure

In June, an independent jury will select 20 scholarship holders. The host organisations will be selected on the basis of the interns' profiles. A programme coordinator in Bonn offers advice to interns and host organisations.