

come together

open call: training program for aspiring journalists and editors

The Come Together project is launching its first training program for aspiring journalists and editors. This 30-hour program is crafted to **address the current challenges and disparities within the media industry and to reshape the landscape of newsrooms**, with a particular emphasis on **promoting inclusiveness and representation by fostering diversity, expanding collaboration networks and equipping underrepresented groups with essential professional skills**. The primary objective of the program is **to reshape the landscape of newsrooms by fostering diversity, expanding collaboration networks, and equipping underrepresented groups with essential professional skills**. By doing so, the initiative aims to **ensure a more comprehensive and accurate portrayal of the world in media**.

The program is directed at **aspiring journalists and less-represented journalists/editors in the newsrooms**. **Participation is free of charge**, and there are **25 available spots for this cycle which will take place online**. Beyond the training course, participants have the opportunity to propose and work on their journalistic and editorial projects. Selected projects will receive financial support and mentoring, allowing participants to contribute meaningful media pieces with guidance from experienced editors.

The first edition of this program is organized by Gerador, a Portuguese platform for journalism, culture, and education, and will take place between March and May 2024. The second edition, organized by Kurziv - Platform for matters of culture, media, and society from Croatia, will have its open call in September 2024.

The Come Together project is co-funded by the European Commission through the Creative Europe program.

Please refer to the information below for details on how to apply.

what are the objectives of this program?

- Foster diversity within newsrooms and expand the network of collaborators for media organizations.
- Enhance the professional skills of aspiring journalists and editors who are underrepresented in the field.
- Create a platform for collaborative educational programs, bringing together young and aspiring journalists from diverse communities to strengthen trust in media among various audiences.

who is eligible?

- Aspiring and entry-level journalists from any age group;
- Applicants that are legal residents in the countries within the Creative Europe framework (encompassing EU member states, Overseas Countries and Territories, Outermost Regions of the European Union, and non-EU Participating Countries as specified in this list)¹;
- Priority can be given to people from groups that are underrepresented in the media.

¹ *After the selection, proof of residency in the countries within the Creative Europe framework may be requested.*

program overview

The program consists of three distinct modules, encompassing a total of 15 online classes. Each class is designed to last 2 hours, culminating in a learning experience totaling 30 hours.

module	sub-modules	class dates	trainer
<p>1. Independent Journalism: from theoretical foundations to practical application This module is designed to equip participants with the knowledge and skills essential for independent journalism and the creation of innovative community media.</p>	None	March 04, 11, 18, 25	Ricardo Cabral Fernandes
<p>2. Development of specialized journalistic skills This module is dedicated to refining participants' skills in data journalism and investigative journalism, which are instrumental in ensuring the credibility, impact, and relevance of journalism in today's dynamic and information-rich landscape.</p>	<p>2.1. Data journalism Participants will explore the essentials of data journalism, including data collection, cleaning, analysis, and visualization. Emphasis will be placed on the ethical considerations involved in handling data in journalism.</p>	April 01, 03, 08, 10	Rui Barros
	<p>2.2. Investigative journalism This segment guides participants through the complexities of investigative journalism, covering areas such as story identification, advanced research techniques, effective interviewing, and the crafting of compelling investigative narratives.</p>	April 15, 17, 22, 24	Filipe Teles
<p>3. Community in focus These workshops will contribute to sensitising future journalists for reporting on vulnerable social groups and improve their professional capacities in dealing with topics that are usually out of the focus of mainstream media.</p>	<p>3.1. Ethnic-racial filters in the media Understanding how ethnic and racial communities are portrayed in the media; exploring the impact of stereotypes and biases; developing strategies for fair and accurate representation.</p>	April 30	Paula Cardoso
	<p>3.2. Media representation of people with disabilities Examining media representation of individuals with disabilities; addressing common misconceptions and stereotypes; promoting inclusive storytelling and accessibility in media.</p>	May 02	Dora Alexandre
	<p>3.3. Media representation of the LGBTQ+ community Analyzing the historical context of LGBTQ+ representation; exploring the challenges faced by the LGBTQ+ community in media portrayal; developing strategies for promoting authentic and positive representation.</p>	May 09	tba

details regarding classes

Sessions are scheduled to take place via Zoom on the specified dates mentioned above, from 7PM to 9PM (CET). However, please be aware that dates and times might be subject to change. The working language of the lectures will be English.

Please note that there is a possibility of recording classes for internal use, but we will seek the participants' permission before doing so.

application timeline

January 16: Launch of Open Call

January 25: Online Q&A session

February 4: Application deadline

February 5-19: Panel review and evaluation of applications to shortlist finalists

February 19-23: Selected candidates are notified

online Q&A session

Join us on January 25, at 18:00 CET for an open Q&A session, providing potential candidates with the opportunity to seek clarification on any questions regarding the application process or the training program itself. Access the session through [this link](#).

selection committee

The selection committee will be composed by the editorial board members and project managers of the Come Together project:

Agnieszka Wiśniewska (Krytyka Polityczna)

Catherine André (VoxEurop)

Clara Amante (Gerador)

Hannelore Roth (rekto:verso)

Ivana Pejić (Kurziv)

Matija Mrakovčić (Kurziv)

Réka Kinga Papp (Eurozine)

Tiago Sigorelho (Gerador)

Tihana Bertek (K-zona)

assessment criteria

Applications will be evaluated according to these criteria:

criteria	%
1. Alignment with the goals of the open-call To what extent does the application demonstrate a clear understanding of and alignment with the goals and objectives of the open call?	20
2. Motivation How well does the application convey the motivation for joining the project, dedication to quality journalism and commitment to participate in the sessions?	25
3. Diversity and Inclusivity Does the application illustrate inclination towards production and distribution of media content that emphasize diversity and inclusiveness? Is the applicant member of the communities underrepresented in the media?	15
4. Relevance of Curriculum Vitae Does the applicant's CV demonstrate a clear interest in the field of journalism? Does this program have the potential to enhance the applicant's CV significantly?	10
5. Quality of submitted work samples To what extent do the submitted work samples showcase proficiency in written communication, storytelling, and the aptitude to convey ideas effectively in the chosen format?	15

what we offer

- **Comprehensive training:** Participants in the Come Together Training Program can expect a well-structured curriculum spread across three modules, totaling 15 classes and 30 hours of learning. Our expert trainers will guide you through essential topics, providing a robust foundation for your journey in journalism.
- **Inclusive and diverse content:** Our program is meticulously designed to address current challenges and disparities within the journalism industry.
- **Collaboration and Networking:** The program aims to establish a collaborative community among participants. We look forward to your active involvement in building connections with fellow journalists and editors, fostering a supportive network that extends beyond the training period.
- **Free of charge participation.**
- **A certificate of completion** will be awarded to those who attend and successfully fulfill the training objectives.
- **Fellowship program (see below):** Beyond the training course, participants have the opportunity to propose and work on their journalistic and editorial projects. Selected projects will receive financial support and mentoring, allowing participants to contribute meaningful media pieces with guidance from experienced editors.

what we expect

- **Active participation:** We anticipate selected participants to actively engage in all scheduled sessions of the training program.

- Commitment to objectives: Participants should align with the overarching goals of the Come Together project. As the success of the initiative relies on the dedication and contribution of each participant, we encourage you to actively support the project's mission in promoting inclusivity, diversity, and professional excellence in journalism.
- Application of learnings: We expect participants to apply the acquired knowledge and skills beyond the training sessions. The goal is to see the impact of the program reflected in your journalistic work and contributions to the media landscape.
- Fulfillment of commitments: For participants selected for the Fellowship Program (see below), we anticipate a commitment to the development and execution of your journalistic and/or editorial projects.

how to apply

All applicants must submit the following documents via the online application form, which can be filled out [HERE](#) until February 4.

fellowship program

After this training course, participants will be invited to propose their own journalistic and/or editorial project. Five projects will be selected in this cycle. Selected journalists and/or editors will be given the opportunity to research a selected topic in a three-month period, and produce a media piece with mentoring support from an editor and other media professionals of consortium members. Each project will be supported with 1500 euros to fund their work.

The pieces that will be produced as part of the program will be translated and published in the media outlets of the consortium members. After finishing the program, participants will have the networking opportunity with other journalists and editors at Come Together Day during the Eurozine conference at the end of 2024.

More information will be released throughout the course of the training program.

about the project “Come Together”

This training program is part of the project “Come Together”, co-founded by the European Commission through the Creative Europe programme. The project is founded on the principles of partnership and peer-to-peer learning among individuals within community media organizations situated in six different countries. The initiative aims to unearth and leverage the existing wisdom residing within these organizations to foster innovative approaches. As a result, a community of practice will be established, fostering collaboration, knowledge exchange, and partnership to fulfill their primary goal of enhancing community media organizations on a sustainable basis. The consortium is composed of: [Eurozine](#), [Gerador](#), [Krytyka Polityczna](#), [Kurziv](#), [Rekto:Verso](#), [VoxEurop](#) and [VoxFeminae](#).

data protection

All personal data provided by applicants will be processed solely for the purpose of this application and will be shared solely with the members of the Come Together project. These data will be retained for the necessary period for the evaluation. Some data, such as the candidate's name, application date, and information potentially contained during the work process and in the final publications, will be kept indefinitely, solely for statistical management and maintenance of historical records, unless there is express consent allowing the data to be retained for other purposes. Applicants may, at any time, withdraw their consent for the processing of their personal data, in accordance with applicable legislation, without prejudice to

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the validity of the processing previously carried out based on the previously given consent. Since the personal data of applicants are necessary for the management of the application, if applicants do not consent to the processing of their personal data, it will not be possible to complete the application. Gerador can be contacted at geral@gerador.eu for any issues related to the processing of personal data.

additional notes

Participation in this initiative signifies full agreement with all aspects of this regulation. Applicants bear responsibility for the originality of their submitted works, affirming authorship and taking accountability for potential claims from third parties regarding related rights. Each team participant is responsible for determining ownership of the presented and developed works. The organization does not guarantee nor assume responsibility in the event of any unauthorized use or reproduction of submitted work by third parties. Acceptance of results and all decisions made by the organization and the jury is implied by participation in this initiative. The organization reserves the right to modify any aspect of this regulation without prior notice, with changes communicated accordingly. Unregulated matters or differing interpretations of this regulation will be decided by the consortium.

If you have any questions regarding the application process, please send an email to academia@gerador.eu.

apply here