



Claim Your Space (CYS) is a rapid response mechanism available through Global Focus. The purpose of CYS is to provide rapid financial support to civil society actors and human rights defenders at risk due to civic space restrictions. Applications can be submitted through an encrypted online application form here: www.globaltfokus.dk/pulje/claim-your-space.

The mechanism is a response to the global shrinking civic space; freedoms of assembly, association, and expression. CYS emergency assistance is available to individuals, organisations, movements, and groups in selected countries (Sub-Saharan African Countries, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, and Palestine), who are partners of Danish civil society organizations. CYS provides both rapid emergency support and support for establishing joint responses to shrinking civic space.

Application Criteria:

The funding criteria for partners to receive support from CYS are:

- can be any civil society actor (individual, organisation, movement, group of activists) who has either been:
 - Collaborating with a Danish civil society organisation with a proven track record, or
 - Funded by a Danish embassy.
- must have experienced civic space restrictions, such as threats, attacks, extra bureaucratic hurdles, legal barriers, defamation, harassment, stigmatization, discrimination, exclusion, marginalization, displacement etc. due to their work, and must be able to demonstrate and document these restrictive measures.
- must be active within the geographical scope of CYS (Sub-Saharan African Countries, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, and Palestine)
- must be able to state the amount needed from CYS as well as the timeframe for the planned activities.

The Two Tracks of Claim Your Space:

Track 1: Emergency assistance funds to individuals and groups under threat

Funding is granted to individuals and groups under threat to enable them to survive and/or continue operating. Grants may cover expenses aimed mitigating immediate threats to civil society actors and activities may include rehabilitation, evacuation, legal support, psycho-social support, bail, etc. Grants are provided up to EUR 5,000 but amounts above may be granted if necessary. The timeframe for the activities should not exceed 3-6 months.

Track 2: Grants to local CSO alliances to collectively counter civic space restrictions

Funding is granted to alliances of local civil society groups working together to address a situation of closing civic space that is occurring or is about to occur in their country. Project activities must be planned and implemented collectively by an alliance of local partner organizations with the aim of creating sustainable responses to civic space restrictions. Grants cover expenses aimed at countering civic space restrictions, such as alliance building, advocacy campaigns, and capacity building for local civil society actors. Grants fall within the range of EUR 15,000 - 20,000. The timeframe should not exceed 12 months.

Applying:

Applications for both tracks can be submitted using a secure online application on the following link: www.globaltfokus.dk/pulje/claim-your-space. The online CYS application form is encrypted to avoid any surveillance or threats of repercussions to applicants. Applications may also be submitted by email to cys@globaltfokus.dk and can be submitted in written form, by video, or audio. Applications can be submitted in any language but if possible, official UN languages are preferred to ensure faster processing of applications. A budget detailing the required amount must be submitted and can be submitted in any currency but if possible, EUR or DKK is preferred to ensure faster processing.

Applications should be submitted by the applicant but can also be submitted in collaboration with a Danish CSO partner in cases where the applicant has security concerns or is otherwise unable to submit the application.

Please make sure you have read the criteria for application thoroughly prior to applying to ensure that you qualify for the funding (note that application criteria for the two tracks differ) and that you have provided sufficient information in order to receive the grant that you are applying for. This will ensure our ability to process your application as quickly as possible.

After submitting your application you will be contacted by a Global Focus staff member. Please make sure that the method of contact that you provide through your application is secure, so that you feel comfortable with us reaching out to you through this channel.

Claim your Space is part of an international network of rapid response mechanisms. If you do not qualify for CYS, we will guide you to other rapid response mechanisms that operate on the basis of other criteria for applications.

For any questions regarding CYS, please contact us on the following email: cys@globaltfokus.dk

