

Call for Applications: Strategic Litigation Meeting “One Year After the GDPR”

Background

The Digital Freedom Fund supports strategic litigation to advance digital rights in Europe. DFF provides financial support and seeks to catalyse collaboration between digital rights activists to enable people to exercise their human rights in digital and networked spaces.

Along with providing financial support for strategic litigation cases in Council of Europe countries, the Digital Freedom Fund also seeks to facilitate collaboration between digital rights actors, with a view to building a stronger community and stronger legal cases to protect and promote digital rights.

In 2019, we aim to support two thematically-focused litigation meetings to facilitate information- and skill-sharing for litigation on specific digital rights issues. We are currently seeking applications from organisations to host the first of these meetings in the context of the one-year anniversary of the entry into force of the General Data Protection Regulation in late spring (May or June) 2019.

Characteristics of the meeting

The meeting should:

- Preferably take place within a Council of Europe country;
- Include 20-30 participants from the fields of digital rights, human rights or strategic litigation;
- Facilitate knowledge-exchange, skill sharing, mapping, debate, community-building and/or capacity building amongst litigators with respect to the key issues in question.

Thematic focus

Potential themes that could be addressed at the meeting include, but are not limited to:

- Leveraging Article 80 GDPR to bring strategic litigation through collective actions;
- Taking cases to clarify the scope of the prohibition on “automated individual decision-making” under the GDPR;
- Using litigation to secure data broker compliance with the GDPR;
- Litigating to push back against the EU Copyright Directive; or
- Legally challenging the use of zero-rating as a violation of network neutrality.

The meeting should adopt a practice-based approach to help participants tangibly enhance their digital rights litigation. For reference, a similar approach has been adopted in the strategic litigation retreats which DFF co-hosted with the SHARE Foundation in 2018. Read more in this [blog entry](#) about the first retreat in Montenegro.

Activities and budget

Applicants should have the capacity to:

- Design and implement a programme for a strategic litigation meeting in line with the characteristics and thematic focus areas set out above;
- Arrange **logistics and facilitation** for the event including participant travel, visas, accommodation and catering;
- Manage a transparent process for **participant selection**;
- Design and implement a communications plan in order **to share learnings** and other relevant information from the event with the broader community and public;
- Adequately manage a **budget** of approximately EUR 30,000 - 40,000.
- Carry out **narrative and financial reporting** in a thorough and timely fashion.

How to apply:

Concept notes with budgets should be sent to [grants\[at\]digitalfreedomfund\[dot\]org](mailto:grants@digitalfreedomfund.org) by **30 November 2018**.

Concept notes should be no longer than **three pages** in length and should include:

- The thematic focus and context of the event;
- The concrete objectives of the event;
- An overview of the curriculum and/or facilitative method to be employed;
- The proposed location of the event (city, State);
- The proposed profile of participants;
- A brief timeline of preparation for the event.

Budgets should include:

- Travel and accommodation costs;
- Venue rental and associated materials;
- Catering costs, per-diems and/or incidental costs;
- Facilitation and/or other human resources as necessary;
- Additional 3% contingency and 7% overhead costs.



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