

Date: 30/10/2023

# Partner search form

For Creative Europe project applications

Call	Support to European Cooperation Projects 2024
Strand or category	Small Scale Cooperation Projects Medium Scale Cooperation Projects

## Cultural operator - who are you?

Asociația PROTESZT Egyesület
Romania
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non-governmental, non-profit organisation
PROTESZT is a medium scale NGO that implements local, regional and European level cultural projects in cooperation with other NGOs and cultural stakeholders from the DanubeCriş-Mureş-Tisa (DKTM) Euroregion.
880369867
PROTESZT is a non-profit association, founded in 2014 in Timisoara/Romania, which implements artistic, cultural and educational, sports and humanitarian projects. So far, PROTESZT's activity has supported Csiky Gergely Hungarian State Theatre in Timisoara (Romania), mostly the events for opening and closing the theatre season, award ceremonies for best actors, a babysitting program for children of spectators, the Euroregional Theatre Festival in Timisoara – TESZT and the Actor's World Championships both held each year in Timisoara. Moreover, PROTESZT organised painting and handmade workshops and participated in local events such as Hungarian Cultural Days or Plai Festival. Currently, our association is in charge of fundraising for the reconstruction of the former Arta cinema house, which will be transformed in a modern theatre building for the use of Csiky Gergely Hungarian State Theatre in Timisoara.  During the following period, PROTESZT plans to implement projects focused on local and regional community, mainly initiatives promoting solidarity, interethnic communication, and excellence in the area of European culture.  Furthermore, in the near future, PROTESZT would like to enlarge its European scale activity with joining or initiating projects focused on theatre, contemporary performing (dance, music and acting) and visual arts, educational programs on culture, preserving cultural heritage, development of creative industry and organization of various cultural events and festivals on different scale. In the long run PROTESZT aims to

ethnically, financially or socially disadvantaged people, creating bridges and finding ways to ease the differences between groups.

#### Actor's World Championships

Since 2017 Actor's World Championships (AWC) is the only event in our region which brings together artists, theatre employees and independents actors from many theatres in different countries, competing in sports or performing for the local audience in the name of Olympic values and reaching the best possible performance.

AWC are organized yearly together with the Csiky Gergely Hungarian State Theatre with the aim to provide a less formal platform for meetings between theatre professionals in order to spark future collaborations. The participation of employees from local and partner theatres (such as the National, the German, the Hungarian theatre, as well as the local Opera) gives the community an opportunity to see the artists performing in sports and arts and serves as a good chance to socialize with their favourite artists.

The date of this event is usually linked to the beginning of a new theatre season in September. AWC gathers around 200 employees from theatres in the area, joining sports and cultural activities, which are free for the local audience. Our main partners for the event are the West University and the Polytechnic University from Timişoara, local authorities and several local sports clubs and NGOs alongside of theatres from the Danube-Criş-Mureş-Tisa (DKTM) Euroregion. The 2023 edition had participants from Romania, Hungary, Serbia and Ukraine.

Our goal for the following period is to enlarge this unique event by collaborating with NGOs and theatres from all over Europe and inviting them to Timişoara for the Actor's World Championships. Apart from the sports component of the event, AWC also includes concerts and performances by participating artists, as well as round-table events as a place to discuss potential collaborations for theatre projects. The informal and relaxed environment allows opportunities for networking and sharing good practices.

#### The restoration of Arta Cinema House in Timișoara

The Arta Cinema and its summer garden are among Timisoara's oldest cinema halls, the official opening dating back to 1926. The space lost is cultural function after it was abandoned by the Romanian Authority for Film Distribution and Exploitation in 1990 so that, with the passing of each year, it became impossible to use. In 2018, Timisoara City Council gave the Arta Cinema and it summer garden to the Csiky Gergely Hungarian State Theatre for administration during the following 25 years and PROTESZT undertook efforts to gather funding for the first stage of the rehabilitation, which is now

completed. The rehabilitation of this building is a costly and lengthy process and efforts are made both in Romania and Hungary to identify and access funding opportunities. In the meantime, the courtyard is being used for open-air performances and other activites in order to reinsert this building in the city's cultural life. Concerts, performances, workshops, even lights installations organised by PROTESZT and other cultural initiatives were hosted by Arta in later years in order to re-acquaint the local audience with this longneglected space. As the rehabilitation of the building itself is very complex, we wish to continue creating cultural programs which are suitable for the courtyard's open-air space. Arta could become a leading cultural center for the historical Iosefin neighbourhood, so we are interested in projects related to architectonic heritage and reinsertion of former neighbourhood cultural poles in the city's cultural patrimony.

#### Euroregional Theatre Festival Timișoara - TESZT

The Euroregional Theatre Festival in Timisoara - TESZT, has been organized annually since 2008 by Csiky Gergely Hungarian State Theatre. The event is international and is meant to promote the knowledge of multiculturalism and to inform the public about the latest theatre of dramaturgy in the region. We consider that, 15 years later, the festival has become one of the most important cultural events of the region, while the program consists of theatre performances, as well as concerts, exhibitions, workshops and other OFF events. The Festival works as a platform for cultural exchanges and as an invitation to dialogue with the artists and other specialists in the area.

The past few years proved that this meeting works as a great forum for everybody who is willing to think together about regional theatrical efforts. We believe that, because it is at the meeting point of the Romanian, Hungarian and Serbian border, TESZT could also be a meeting place for cultures, and that by fulfilling this role, it helps bringing regional creators closer. The goal of the festival is to introduce the cultures of different nations to each other and create the grounds for the presentation of their own values and all the new ones, which were born during the gathering of these countries. We think it is important that TESZT can be not only a cultural but also an artistic meeting point for different art forms, a place for experiments and research, for dialogue between the public and artists, where the young generation is treated as partner. We find it essential to stimulate, encourage and educate the young. Based on our experiences, we consider that the rethinking and delineation of our main goals is quite necessary in the process of enlarging the program of the festival.

PROTESZT supports the organisation of the festival by providing additional technical support and cofounding a part of the festival program, usually the educational component consisting of workshops.

	Technical support  As the PROTESZT association collaborates with professionals in event organisation, we can contact and create technical teams for events such as concerts, happenings, light mappings, conferences, theatre or opera shows etc. PROTESZT collaborators have successfully contributed to festivals such as Hungarian Cultural Days in Timișoara, The Euroregional Theatre Festival in Timișoara – TESZT, events for commemorating the 1989 Revolution, Ceau Cinema – Pocket Festival, Francophone Month, Hungarian Film Festival each held in Timișoara etc.
Role of the organisation in the project	Since its establishment, PROTESZT association was both project holder and partner organisation for several local and regional initiatives in the field of our expertise.
Previous EU grants received	-

# **Proposed Creative Europe project – to which project are you looking for partners?**

Sector or field	We are open for joining European initiatives, which focuses on theatre, contemporary performing and visual arts (dance, music and acting), educational programs on culture, preserving cultural heritage, development of creative industry and organization of various cultural events and festivals. We are interested in projects aiming to encourage the development of new artistic ideas, boundary-pushing approaches in the cultural and creative industries. In addition, we are open for ideas regarding the facilitation of cross-border opportunities for artists in European creative sectors.
Description or summary of the proposed project	We would like to seek partnerships for our three main activities, which are the Actor's World Championships, the Euroregional Theatre Festival Timisoara – TESZT and reintroducing the former Arta cinema in the city's cultural life. See description above.  In addition, we are open for ideas regarding facilitation of cross-border opportunities in creative sectors in Europe.
Partners currently involved in the project	-

### Partners searched – which type of partner are you looking for?

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From country or region	We are open to collaborate with all the eligible countries for Creative Europe programme.
Preferred field of expertise	Theatre, contemporary performing and visual arts (dance, music and acting), educational programs on culture, preserving cultural heritage, development of creative industry, organization of various cultural events and festivals etc.
Please get in contact no later than	As soon as possible in order to have time to develop the project idea before the deadline.

# Projects searched – are you interested in participating in other EU projects as a partner?

Yes / no	Yes
Which kind of projects are you looking for?	ProTESZT is interested in joining European initiatives, which focuse on theatre, contemporary performing and visual arts (dance, music and acting), educational programs on culture, preserving cultural heritage, development of creative industry and organization of various cultural events and festivals. We are interested in projects aiming to encourage the development of new artistic ideas, boundary-pushing approaches in the cultural and creative industries. Furthermore, we are open for ideas regarding the facilitation of cross-border opportunities for artists in European creative sectors.  In the long run PROTESZT aims to become a promoter of young artists and multidisciplinary art forms, initiating programs that uses art as a way to help ethnically, financially or socially disadvantaged people, creating bridges and finding ways to ease the differences between groups.

#### **Publication of partner search**

This partner search can be published?*	Yes
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