

About EED

European and independent

The European Endowment for Democracy was established to promote the values of freedom and democracy. As a joint effort of the Member States and European Union institutions, the EED was established as an independent private law foundation with its seat in Brussels.

As of July 2013, the EED is fully operational and is now ready to receive requests for support from civil society organisations, movements and individual activists acting in favour of a pluralistic multiparty system regardless of their size or formal status.

Fostering - not exporting - democracy and freedom

The EED seeks to advance and encourage “deep and sustainable democracy” in transition countries and in societies struggling for democratisation, with initial, although not exclusive focus, on the European Neighbourhood. Democracy and freedom cannot be imported or imposed from the outside. National ownership is indispensable to ignite the engine of change and ensure a sustainable and inclusive democratisation process. The EED stands ready to assist democratic change in the spirit of solidarity and partnership.

Supporting the unsupported

The EED will assist: civil society organisations, movements and individual activists and will also provide assistance to young leaders, women rights organisations, independent media and journalists. The EED will seek to provide support to groups and activists that cannot be supported by existing EU instruments or other donor programmes and will as such aim to be complementary to other donor programmes and to act as a gap filler

Complementarity and added value

The EED will operate in the most flexible and effective manner reflecting the situation, the specific context and the needs of its beneficiaries. It will engage in regular consultations with relevant actors in order to avoid duplication and ensure synergy, complementarity and added-value, to EU instruments, and Member States bilateral activities among others. The EED shall draw on the experience of democratic transitions in the Member States of the EU.

Geographic mandate

The EED currently covers the following countries/territories: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Jordan, Libya, Lebanon, Moldova, Morocco, the occupied Palestinian territories, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine.

EED support

The online *Request for support* form was launched in August 2013. The EED will receive and assess requests for support in an ongoing manner. Thus there will be no deadlines, and ideas will be accepted at any time. The support provided by the EED can vary in size and duration. However, average grants will normally range between 10,000 and 150,000 euros.