

**UNHCR**United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés**CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST No. 2	
Project title and identification:	Project Location:
<i>Prevention of statelessness in Croatia</i>	CROATIA
Brief background of the Project:	
<p>gUNHCR Croatia will strive to prevent and reduce statelessness following recent legislative changes in Croatia including accession in 2011 to the 1961 UN Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the principles outlined in the Zagreb Declaration of October 2011.</p> <p>The number of stateless persons in Croatia is relatively manageable, yet despite the low numbers, the complexity of this problem makes it difficult for the authorities to resolve the issues related to this population. The majority of the stateless/at risk population belongs to the Roma minority who are marginalized in all aspects of their lives. According to the 2011 census, there are 16.975 Roma (less than 1%) in the country. The stateless population in Croatia cannot be precisely determined due to the lack of a comprehensive mechanism to identify statelessness. UNHCR estimated 2,873 persons under its statelessness mandate, based on the data received from the Ministry of Interior (MoI) and citizenship census data, as follows: 23 stateless persons (MoI) and 2,850 of undetermined citizenship (census).</p> <p>Stateless persons may find their access to essential and basic human rights - education, employment, housing and health services, severely hampered due to their lack of personal documentation. The Government's provision of free legal assistance is insufficient. There are a limited number of outreach activities and generally a low level of knowledge and awareness among the authorities in charge.</p> <p>The Roma population in Croatia is at risk of statelessness for a combination of reasons ranging from eligibility requirements to administrative practices and from high administrative fees to unreasonable procedural delays. Cumbersome procedures for issuance of civil status documents, lack of civil registration, lack of possibility to register their residence are some of the major causes of these problems. Some progress has been reported in the form of the adoption of the National Strategy for Roma Inclusion 2013-2020. It includes a separate section on status, non-discrimination and legal aid issues. The principal goal of the Government under the resolution of status issues aims for 100% regulated status in accordance with the legal framework by 2020.</p> <p>Many Roma cannot benefit from Free Legal Aid Act or face serious obstacles to access free legal aid for a number of reasons, including requirements they are not able to meet. Through a legal assistance project, UNHCR assists Roma to obtain identity papers and personal documents that are vital to access social, health, education and employment services.</p> <p><i>Through this Call for Expression of Interest, UNHCR Croatia is inviting present or prospective partners that wish to participate in UNHCR operation in Croatia and contribute complementary resources (human resources, funds, knowledge, etc.) to achieve common objectives to prevent and resolve instances of statelessness in Croatia.</i></p>	
Goal/Objectives:	
<p>Goal: Identification of statelessness improved</p> <p>In 2017 UNHCR Croatia and its partners will:</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the role of UNHCR as the mandated and competent agency to prevent or reduce instances of statelessness among the marginalized communities; Continue the mapping exercise to establish real number of stateless persons. Support the Government in implementing the National Action Plan for Roma and conclusions of 2011 Zagreb Declaration. Conduct comprehensive analysis of citizenship legislation in Croatia. Advocate for establishment of formal procedure for the determination of statelessness in Croatia Raise awareness and encourage Roma community to fully cooperate and assume ownership in proceedings for resolving their status; Support the Government in legislative changes including provisions necessary to establish the statelessness determination procedures as well as to implement measures to reduce occurrences of statelessness; Support the national authorities and NGOs to resolve the status issues of persons of concern; Advocate for the Zagreb Declaration principles to be implemented. Promote #IBelong campaign 		
Intended Population of Concern:		
Stateless persons		
Project Period:		
1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017		
Submission Deadline:		Date Decision Results to be Communicated to Applicants:
16 September 2016		30 October 2016
Selection Criteria		
Choose relevant criteria	Criteria Description	Assigned Weighting (optional)
X	Sector expertise and experience: the required specific skills, sector specialists, knowledge and human resources.	20%
X	Project management: ability to deliver project objectives, accountability mechanisms and sound financial management, taking into account the audit results of the previous UNHCR-funded projects, past performance and the external audit of partners' financial statements, where applicable.	10%
X	Local experience and presence: ongoing programme in the area of operation; local knowledge; engaging refugees and other persons of concern; trust from local communities; local presence; partner policy on community relations; complaint mechanisms for persons of concern; self-organized groups of persons of concern; and other factors that would facilitate access to and better understanding of the persons of concern and that would reduce administrative difficulties.	15%
X	Contribution of resources: evidenced and documented contribution of resources to the Project in cash or in-kind (e.g. human resources, supplies and/or equipment) by the partner that are presently available (or potentially mobilized by the partner) in order to supplement UNHCR resources.	15%
X	Cost effectiveness: level of direct costs and administrative costs imposed on the Project in relation to project deliverables.	30%
X	Experience working with UNHCR: global and/or local partnerships including knowledge of UNHCR policies, practices and programmes, including an understanding of and ability to work within UNHCR's funding limitations and associated inherent risks. Partners that have three consecutive qualified audit opinions for UNHCR-funded projects may not be considered.	10%
	Other: as required by the UNHCR Office for any specific project (specify)	
Please submit the following documents to the below indicated contacts. Please feel free to choose one or more		

objectives based on your expertise, experience and interest.

- ANNEX A: **PARTNER DECLARATION** – available at <http://www.unhcr.hr/>
- ANNEX D: **CONCEPT NOTE** - available at <http://www.unhcr.hr/>
- Copy of **Registration/Licence**
- Copy of previous **audit report**
- Details of **separate bank account**
- Confirmation of registration under the **UNHCR Partner Portal**

By email: submit your documents to hrvza@unhcr.org or

By post: in a sealed envelope to:

UNHCR Croatia

Radnicka cesta 41, 10000 Zagreb

***For queries:** please contact Lada Blagaic, Associate Admin/Programme Officer
at blagaic@unhcr.org or +385 1 3713 441*

Issuing UNHCR Office

Contact Address

Signature, Head of Office

Full name and title, Head of Office

Name of UNHCR Office

Date

UNHCR Representation in Croatia

Radnicka cesta 41/VII, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Giuseppe Di Caro, Representative

UNHCR Zagreb

August 2016