

COVID-19 Update: NED is continuing to operate during this worldwide health emergency, and to make grants in support of democracy. However, our office is closed to the public and all in-person events and meetings have been postponed, cancelled or are occurring virtually.

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BELARUS 2019

Broadening Understanding of Security Issues

Freedom of Information

\$17,000

To increase access to quality information and analysis on security issues. The program will produce and make available related analytical materials. In addition, it will monitor and analyze the security environment in regions impacted by neighboring countries. The project will engage with media outlets, hold events on regional security issues, and organize a conference on malign influence.

Developing Civil Society in the Gomel Region

NGO Strengthening

\$28,400

To increase local and regional civic engagement. The program will hold coordination meetings to identify local problems and develop advocacy strategies to address them. It will also bring together experts, civic activists, and citizens through town hall meetings to press local authorities to resolve key local issues. The project will also produce and disseminate informational bulletins.

Expanding Freedom of Information

Freedom of Information

\$40,000

To expand freedom of information. The program will maintain and expand an online depository of publications not readily accessible in the country, including works on politics, civil society, history, human rights, and independent culture. It will also add to its broad collection of archived periodicals. Additionally, the program will promote the library's content via social media and public events.

Fostering Freedom of the Media

Freedom of Information

\$43,000

To defend and support independent journalists and media. The project will monitor freedom of information, document and disseminate information about violations, and assist journalists and media outlets. To raise awareness of its monitoring findings, the project will convene a series of meetings as well as publish and disseminate a regular newsletter and a report on press freedom issues.

Fostering Freedom of the Media

Freedom of Information

Supplement: \$10,400

To protect and support independent media. The project will monitor freedom of information. It will document and publish information about violations, and assist media outlets. The project will organize meetings, disseminate an electronic newsletter, and publish a report on the state of media freedom. Ahead of elections, it will monitor, assess and report on the fairness of national and regional media coverage.

Fostering Independent Public Discourse and Democratic Values

Democratic Ideas and Values

\$40,000

To promote public debate on democratic ideas and values. The program will convene public meetings featuring moderated talks by leading domestic, regional, and international pro-democracy intellectuals and cultural figures on current events and issues. Discussions with participants will follow the talks. The program will record and transcribe the contents of the public meetings, as well as of their resulting discussions, and publish them online.

Fostering Youth Activism

NGO Strengthening

\$22,000

To foster youth civic engagement. The program will offer trainings on civic activism for regional youth. It will also raise the skills of representatives of local NGOs in fundraising and social media marketing, communication, and media outreach skills. The program will promote civic activities through a website, social media pages, newsletter, and other public outreach tools.

Increasing Capacity of Civil Society in Belarus

NGO Strengthening

\$50,000

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