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## **Invitation for Applications: Establishment of Fact-Checking and Media & Information Literacy (MIL) Student Clubs in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**

The Media Council of Mongolia (MCM) is inviting applications from individuals and organizations to join us in a significant initiative as part of the ‘Voices for Change: CSOs Join Forces to Advocate for Accountability, Transparency, and Public Awareness’ project. We are seeking proposals to establish Media & Information Literacy (MIL) and Fact-Checking Clubs at two universities, with plans to launch these clubs within the coming months and have them operative until summer 2026.

### **Background**

Media and Information Literacy (MIL) encompasses the essential knowledge and skills required for accessing, analyzing, and critically reflecting on public information. It enhances the ability to effectively express opinions through various media channels and platforms. In view of the global proliferation of AI-driven fake news and state-sponsored disinformation campaigns, fact-checking has become even more relevant - for media outlets as well as for media consumers.

As part of this initiative, we invite applicants to establish and guide fact-checking and media and information literacy (MIL) student clubs at two universities in Ulaanbaatar. These clubs aim to enhance students' abilities to critically evaluate information, combat misinformation, and increase active social participation. Faculty members can organize club activities and support the awareness-raising and personal growth of students benefitting from the clubs. This project will contribute to developing a new generation of responsible citizens by fostering collaboration between universities, civil society organizations, and media professionals.

**Grant Opportunity for Selected Clubs/Universities (separate from this activity):** After/ the establishment of the clubs, selected Clubs/Universities will be invited to apply for grants to support the operation of the clubs. These grants will provide funding for various needs, including curriculum development, creation of training materials, procurement of learning resources and IT equipment, as well as the necessary human resources to ensure the successful management of the clubs.

### **The key objectives of this action are:**

- Establish and equip two MIL/Fact-Checking clubs at universities in Ulaanbaatar;
- Provide at least 30 students per club with the skills to critically analyze media and information sources;
- Support collaboration between students, educators, political representatives and professional fact-checkers;
- Encourage engagement in policy-making and governance through informed participation;
- Support universities in integrating external expertise into MIL education.

**The agreement will cover the following services:**

1. Club Establishment & Facilitation
  - Identifying and selecting two universities for club establishment.
  - Defining club structures, membership criteria, and operational guidelines.
  - Providing necessary resources and infrastructure support.
2. Capacity Building & Training
  - Organizing regular workshops, training sessions, and discussions.
  - Engaging professional fact-checkers, media experts, and policymakers.
  - Developing MIL-focused training modules and resources.
3. Mentorship & Guidance
  - Assigning educators as club mentors and facilitators.
  - Encouraging peer learning and knowledge-sharing among students.
4. Monitoring & Documentation
  - Recording club activities, outcomes, and impact assessments.
  - Publishing findings, success stories, and best practices.

**The applicant should possess the following qualifications and expertise (Requirements):**

- Experience in MIL/Fact-Checking Initiatives – Documented work experience related to MIL and Fact-Checking. Having implemented projects or developed ideas in this field is a strong advantage.
- Expertise in Freedom of the Press & Expression – Demonstrated knowledge and experience in working on issues related to press freedom, freedom of expression, and media rights.
- Experience in working with Youth & Students – Proven ability to engage with and work alongside young people, particularly university students, in advocacy, education, or capacity-building initiatives.
- Strong Communication & Interpersonal Skills – Ability to effectively engage with project teams, participants, and stakeholders to foster collaboration and engagement.
- Proficiency in Administrative & Event Documentation – Capability to manage event-related documentation, reports, and logistical tasks efficiently.

**Duration and time frame:** 2025 March - 2026 August

**Submission of offers:** Interested applicants should submit a proposal in **one consolidated PDF file**, including the following:

- Work plan outlining the proposed approach and timeline;
- CV (for individuals) or organizational profile showcasing experience with similar projects or activities;
- Budget plan detailing estimated costs and resource allocation;
- Samples of previous similar projects or activities (if applicable).

**Offers (in Mongolian and English) should be submitted as a pdf by April 1, 2025 via e-mail**

To: Media Council of Mongolia, “Voices for Change” project

Attn.: Fact-checking and MIL Clubs

Email: [suvda@mediacouncil.mn](mailto:suvda@mediacouncil.mn)

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**The ‘Voices for Change’ project** is implemented by the Media Council of Mongolia (MCM) in



cooperation with DW Akademie (DWA) and is funded by the European Union. The project's aim is to foster accountability of Mongolian CSOs, as leverage to strengthen the civil sector's independence and capacity to contribute to good governance and social cohesion. The objective of the project is to empower civil society organizations to effectively and credibly represent the interests of Mongolia's civil society. Additionally, the project aims to encourage civil society organizations, media professionals, and educators to develop innovative digital communication methods that actively engage youth in policy discussions and advocacy efforts.

**The Media Council of Mongolia (MCM)** was established in early 2015 as a result of successful collaboration among journalists, media houses, industry representatives, journalist associations, and professional media organizations. As the independent regulator for print, broadcast, and online journalistic media in Mongolia, MCM upholds the highest standards of journalism by monitoring and enforcing the Mongolian Media Ethics Codes. At the core of MCM's mission is the commitment to supporting media freedom by helping media houses and journalists adhere to professional and ethical standards, ensuring they serve the public interest. In doing so, we receive and resolve complaints from Mongolian citizens who believe the Codes of Media Ethics have violated, free of charge and impartially. We also implement a variety of projects and programs that contribute to the strengthening of press freedom, independent and ethical media, and accountable and transparent civil society organizations.

**DW Akademie** is Deutsche Welle's center for international media development, journalism training and knowledge transfer. Our projects strengthen the human right to freedom of expression and unhindered access to information. DW Akademie empowers people worldwide to make independent decisions based on reliable facts and constructive dialogue. DW Akademie is a strategic partner of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. We also receive funding from the Federal Foreign Office and the European Union and are active in about 70 developing countries and emerging economies.