

Frequently Asked Questions – Internews Journalist Security Fellowship in Central and Southeastern Europe

1. Who is eligible to participate in the fellowship?

Any individual working with (or interested in working with) journalist communities and based in Albania, Bulgaria, or Croatia is eligible to apply. Fellows do not need to be experts in digital security or journalism but should have an interest in both. We are particularly interested in recruiting underrepresented communities (such as applicants who identify as women, as LGBTQI+, or as members of ethnic minorities). Find example profiles of potential fellows [here](#).

2. What language will the fellowship be conducted in?

All fellowship programming will be conducted in English; however, local engagements organized by fellows may be offered in local languages as needed. Content developed during the fellowship, such as training or awareness raising materials, may also be developed in relevant languages. Some funding for the localization (and translation) of relevant digital security tools and resources will be made available by Internews.

3. How will fellows be selected?

A four-person technical panel, including members Internews and representatives from local media organizations, will conduct a review of all fellowship applications. Applicants will be scored on three criteria: clear motivation to pursue the project, their participation's benefit for the wider journalist community, and interest in digital security topics. As required, applicants may be asked to participate in a brief phone interview with members of the review panel.

4. Is the fellowship paid?

The fellowship includes a participant stipend of \$4,000 USD. Internews will also provide additional funding for fellows to organize their own regional digital security trainings and knowledge sharing sessions.

5. How long is the fellowship?

The fellowship will last approximately twelve months and is expected to begin in April 2022. Select fellows will be invited to extend the fellowship for an additional six months to test out cutting-edge digital training techniques, including virtual reality and scenario-based teaching.

6. What topics will the fellowship review?

The fellowship will review various digital security concepts that are relevant to journalist workflows, such as secure file sharing, secure (encrypted) communication methods, secure browsing, and more!

7. How much time should I expect to spend participating in fellowship activities each month?

While level of engagement may vary from month to month, on average we expect fellows to participate in an average 25 hours of programming per month through activities such as mentorship sessions, independent study curriculum, and cohort meet-ups.

8. How is the fellowship adapting to COVID-19 restrictions?

Internews is carefully monitoring the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. While we hope to hold in-person fellowship-related trainings and convenings, we will not do so until deemed safe by local public health authorities. In the meantime, Internews is prepared to conduct meaningful virtual programming for fellowship participants.