

ProtectDefenders.eu is the European Union Human Rights Defenders mechanism, established to protect defenders at high risk and support their work in the most difficult situations worldwide. It is led by a Consortium of 12 NGOs active in the field of Human Rights.



Since its launch, ProtectDefenders.eu has provided support to more than 10,000 defenders and organisations every year.



Are you at risk or under threat?

Call our hotline now: +353 (0) 1 21 00 489
Our multilingual protection officers are available 24/7

If you need emergency support, we can communicate securely and flexibly

Learn more

about our funding programmes for defenders, grassroots organisations and communities on our website

www.protectdefenders.eu

Join our community on social media

facebook.com/protectdefenders.eu
twitter.com/ProtectHRD_EU

Contact us

contact@protectdefenders.eu



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TOGETHER WITH HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS WORLDWIDE



PROTECT DEFENDERS.EU

International civil society implementing the EU Human Rights Defenders mechanism



If you stand up for fundamental rights, you are a human rights defender

Regardless of whether you are a journalist, a farmer, a teacher, a committed citizen, a student, or a lawyer, regardless of your age, your background, your sexual orientation, your gender identity and expression, and of your sexuality, regardless of whether you defend the rights of a minority, the environment, democracy, the rights of your land or your community, or any other rights, you have the right not to be persecuted, attacked, or threatened.

You have the right to no retaliation against you, your community, or your family. You have the right to be protected, empowered, enabled, and accompanied. You have the right to defend rights.

If you are at risk as a result of your human rights work, ProtectDefenders.eu is here to support you.

We protect your right to defend rights.

ProtectDefenders.eu delivers hands-on assistance to human rights defenders and communities under threat. Our programmes are flexible and tailored and can be combined to provide comprehensive solutions for your protection needs.

Our programmes and staff are trained to respond to the specific needs of women human rights defenders, as well as LGTBI, in all their diversity, through differentiated, flexible, and jointly defined protection strategies.

We seek to support and reach out to those defenders who are more isolated and less connected, and those who are particularly targeted.

Emergency support

We deliver grants for urgent protection measures. As each case is different, so are the grants (medical, legal, or family support; digital, physical, or office protection; urgent relocation, etc.)

Temporary relocation

ProtectDefenders.eu enables temporary relocations away from risk, with the support of host entities from all over the world that provide personalised support for human rights defenders (and their families, where necessary).

Support for local organisations and groups

We support your organisation or community to help advance your work to defend human rights, through small grants aimed at developing innovative projects or consolidating your capacities.

Shelter initiatives

We promote the creation and reinforcement of shelters for the temporary relocation of human rights defenders and their families, through funding and technical support.

We also coordinate the European Union Temporary Relocation Platform (EUTRP), which brings together entities from across the globe to exchange expertise in the field of defender relocation.

Training, capacity development, and accompaniment

We work with organisations and defenders to develop their skills and capacity to pursue their human rights work more safely, and we provide long-term support to communities defending rights in the most oppressive contexts.

Field monitoring and advocacy

We monitor the situation of at-risk defenders on-site and carry out advocacy work to trigger adequate responses to their cases. Together, we call for an environment conducive to the defence of rights.

Check out our website for our global Index of Alerts and attacks against HRDs.

