

Supported by the Mary Raftery Journalism Fund and The Tony Ryan Trust

Background

The Refugee Crisis Media Fund is supported by the Tony Ryan Trust and the Mary Raftery Journalism Fund. The Fund was established to provide support to journalists who wish to investigate the refugee crisis in Europe, and the impact of the arrival and integration of refugees in Ireland.

The Mary Raftery Journalism Fund is supported by the family and friends of the late journalist Mary Raftery. It is administered by DHR Communications.

Who Can Apply?

- Media organisations or teams of media professionals can apply for funding. Teams which include media professionals from regions where refugees have migrated from will be particularly welcome.
- Multi-media, team-based collaborations (print, broadcast, online, photography, video, social media, etc.) and joint applications will be particularly welcome.
- Applications will be accepted for print, broadcast and / or online projects. Projects that will be published / broadcast across multiple platforms will be particularly welcome.
- Three awards may be made, ranging from €10,000 - €20,000 in total. The amount of each award is at the discretion of the independent judging panel.

Terms & Conditions

- The proposed media project must be new, i.e. it must not have been broadcast or published in any format previously.
- The project must focus on the refugee crisis and place emphasis on the experiences of those directly affected by the crisis.
- Applicants are also asked to include perspectives from overseas and also on the local story, e.g. impact of the arrival (past and present) and integration of refugees in Ireland.
- Non- traditional and creative outputs will be considered.
- Applications must be made using the PDF application form only. Handwritten or uncompleted forms or applications that exceed the word count will not be accepted. The application form is available to download from the website: www.maryrafteryfund.ie/apply.
- Applicants are required to demonstrate that they have undertaken some preliminary work regarding the treatment of their proposed story (e.g. who they will interview and how they will source content etc.), and this should be addressed in Section 3 of the application form.
- The application must demonstrate proof of commitment from at least one media outlet – based in Ireland – to broadcast or publish the proposed media project. This proof – which can be in letter or email format – must be from the editor / producer of the media outlet, indicating their intention to publish / broadcast the project. A commitment letter is required even where the applicant is the producer / editor. The proof of commitment must be addressed to the Mary Raftery Journalism Fund and appended with the application form upon

submission. The media outlet must also undertake to credit the Mary Raftery Journalism Fund and the Tony Ryan Trust. Please see sample commitment letter available on the website: www.maryrafteryfund.ie/apply.

- Each project funded by the Refugee Crisis Media Fund must publicly acknowledge the support received using the following wording: ‘Supported by the Mary Raftery Journalism Fund and the Tony Ryan Trust’. This wording must be used in all broadcasts, print outputs, photographic outputs and online outputs associated with the project.
- Funding sought must be for costs to facilitate the project, for example, wages; travel; out-of-pocket expenses (accommodation, subsistence, etc.); research expenses (publications or attendance at a conference or event); and resources (aids or equipment rental to facilitate your project).
- In exceptional circumstances, and resources (aids or equipment rental to facilitate your project) may be granted funding.
- For broadcasting proposals, the media outlet that has committed to broadcast the proposed media project must be licensed by the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (unless part of RTÉ or TG4).
- The closing date for receipt of applications is **5pm on Wednesday, 31st May 2017**.
- Applications will be accepted by email only. Applications should be sent to: info@maryrafteryfund.ie.
- Applicants will receive official notification from the fund administrators, DHR Communications, once applications have been received and formally screened for compliance with the criteria of the Refugee Crisis Media Fund.
- Applicants will be notified of the judging panel’s decisions by **Tuesday, 4th July 2017**.
- Funding will be disbursed to successful projects as soon as possible and once a contract has been signed between the applicant and DHR Communications. Successful applicants will be paid 50 per cent of their funding when the grant is awarded and 50 per cent on publication or broadcast of the project’s completed work.
- Applicants must give their tax (PPS) number if successful. Applicants must provide a tax clearance certificate to demonstrate that their tax affairs are in order.
- Successful applicants may be invited to attend events to showcase the work and outputs arising from the Refugee Crisis Media Fund. As a condition of funding, they will be expected to cooperate with the Fund administrators in the event of being invited to participate in showcasing activities.
- The copyright of the final product will remain with the applicant. However, materials produced must be made available – free of charge – for potential future use by the MRJF and The Tony Ryan Trust, including online. The Mary Raftery Journalism Fund and The Tony Ryan trust will at all times acknowledge copyright.
- Successful applicants are expected to complete their projects within six months of being awarded funding, unless otherwise agreed with the fund administrators.
- Applicants are advised to check with their commissioning editor to see if other applications presenting similar investigative proposals have received a commitment for publication. Note: Where there are two very similar proposals from the same media organisation, judges will only allocate funding for one proposal.
- The maximum amount of funding awarded to any applicant will be €20,000.

Selection of Successful Projects

Successful applicants will be chosen by an independent judging panel.

Judging Criteria

The judging panel for the Refugee Crisis Media Fund will base their decisions to grant all or part funding* on the following criteria:

- Potential impact of proposed investigation, including estimated audience / readership reach; likely position on broadcast schedule or prominence in publication or online media; and proposed use of multiple media platforms to publicise the outcomes of the investigation.
- Participation of media professionals from regions from where refugees and asylum seekers have originated.
- Originality of proposal idea, and why it is important.
- Evidence of a commitment to focus on highlighting the stories of those directly affected by the refugee crisis.
- Demonstrated experience and evidence on the part of the applicant of relevant expertise.
- Value for money.
- Whether the investigative journalism procedures proposed comply with the Code of Conduct of the National Union of Journalists.

*Based on the quality of applications received, the panel may decide to award partial funding to certain applicants.

Further Information

If you have questions about the Mary Raftery Journalism Fund, or any aspect of the application process, please contact:

The Mary Raftery Journalism Fund

c/o DHR Communications, 80 Francis Street, Dublin 8.

Tel: 01-4200580, Email: info@maryrafteryfund.ie