

HOLBROOKE GRANT

IJP Research Grant

International Journalists' Programmes (IJP) and the Arthur F. Burns Fellowships are offering a special opportunity for journalists with a passion for global research and storytelling.

About the Grant

The Holbrooke Grant provides stipends of up to 4,000 € for journalists in print, broadcast and digital media. Grantees will be selected by an advisory board of journalism professionals and trustees.

The grant honors Richard Holbrooke, a distinguished American diplomat and advocate of German-American relations. Holbrooke who served as U.S. Ambassador to Germany and Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, was instrumental in founding the American Academy in Berlin. These grants reflect his commitment to cross-cultural exchange and diplomacy.

Who can apply?

All IJP and Burns alumni are eligible to apply, including both newsroom staffers and freelancers.

Purpose

The grants support ambitious journalism projects on transatlantic topics. While collaboration between journalists from different countries is encouraged, individual projects are also welcome.

Key Details

Deadline: Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted.

Selection Criteria: Candidates are evaluated based on professional achievements, project impact, and commitment. For joint projects, each applicant must submit an individual application referencing the shared proposal.

Requirements: Projects must be endorsed by a news organization, which should explain why the project cannot be funded in-house. Stories must be published or broadcast within four months of receiving the grant.

Payment Terms: 80% of the grant is paid upfront, with the remaining 20% upon publication or broadcast.

Application Process

What to submit

1. Personal Statement (max. 500 words):

- Summarize your reporting experience and the types of stories you cover or aim to cover.
- Explain why you are applying for the Holbrooke Grant and provide details about your publication, broadcast outlet, or website (including audience size, reach, and nature).
- Include a brief CV.

2. Project Proposal (750 – 1,000 words):

- Outline three individual stories or a major reporting project you propose to pursue.
- Demonstrate preliminary research, suggest multimedia components, and confirm that you have discussed the topic with an editor or supervisor.
- Specify the grant amount requested (up to € 4,000) and provide a detailed budget (e.g. travel, accommodation, and other expenses)

3. Reference Letter from your Sponsoring News Organization:

Please submit a letter of reference from your editor, producer, or news director discussing your skills and potential as a journalist. Freelancers must submit a letter of commitment from a news outlet agreeing to publish or broadcast grant-funded stories. The letter should confirm the following:

- Commitment to publish or broadcast your stories, provided they meet the organization's editorial standards
- Approval for the necessary time off to complete the project
- Permission for IJP to feature the story on its website
- Explanation of why the organization cannot independently fund the project

How to Apply

Please submit your complete application to burns@ijp.org and office@ijp.org