

May 5, 2006

Dear friends,

you have received another issue of an irregular newsletter published by the INTERNATIONAL VISEGRAD FUND (IVF).

We are addressing the newsletter to you as we felt that you may find its content useful for your personal or professional life. In case that you do not want to receive its issues, please reply to this e-mail by putting "NO" in subject of the message.

1- GRANTS PROVIDED

In April the IVF approved **35 small** and **132 standard** grants reaching total amount over **1,170,000 Euro**. We have never experienced such a high interest in our grant programmes and at the same time such a high quality of submitted applications before.

Among the supported projects, there are music and film festivals, educational initiatives, youth summer camps, scientific conferences, historical researches, tourist presentations and projects in many other areas.

Next small grants deadline is June 1, 2006. We look forward to receiving your applications. More information available at <http://www.visegradfund.org/grants.html>

2- SCHOLARSHIPS

In April the IVF granted three categories of postgraduate scholarships for the upcoming academic year 2006/2007 - **26 Intra-Visegrad** scholarships (from one V4 country to another), **14 In-Coming** scholarships (for non-EU neighbours of Visegrad) and **28 scholarships** for Ukrainian students who will study in V4 countries. Total amount allocated on these programmes was **over 450,000 Euro**. List of the scholars can be found at <http://www.visegradfund.org/approvedvsp.html>.

3- UPCOMING EVENTS

We bring to your attention interesting public events supported by the IVF and taking place during the next few weeks:

May 4-10 "Anifest" , festival of animated films, **Trebon, CZ**, <http://www.anifest.cz/af2006/en/>

May 5 - 27 "Pulse", festival of Central European Music, **London, UK**, <http://www.pishter.com/pulse/>

May 7 "Visegrad Smiles", exhibition and concerts, **Warsaw, PL** (klub Barakuda), <http://www.barakudaklub.com.pl/>

May 8-14 "Workshop of Folk Craft and Folklore", **Satoraljaujhely, HU**

May 8-13 "Setkani 2006 Stretnutie" , theater festival, **Zlin, CZ** (Mestske divadlo Zlin), http://divadlo.zlin.cz/mdz/html_festival.php

May 20-25 "The Neighbours", Central European theater festival, **Lublin, PL** (Centrum kultury)

May 24-27 "Visegrad Waves", film, theater, poetry, dance and music festival, **Bratislava, SK** (Klub A4), <http://www.a4.sk/>

May 25-29 "Bukovina meetings", folklor festival, **Jastrowie / Pila, PL**, <http://www.pdk.pila.pl/?chapter=id2082p2>

May 26 "Dratofest" , music festival, **Olomouc, CZ**, www.dratofest.cz

May 28 - June 3 "International Festival for Children and Youth", film festival, **Zlin, CZ**, <http://www.zlinfest.cz/>

June 7 - 10 "Golden Beggar", festival of local TV broadcasters, **Kosice, SK**, <http://www.festival.sk/>

June 16 - 25 "United Islands of Prague", music festival, **Prague, CZ**, <http://www.unitedislands.cz>

Complete list of public events supported by the IVF can be found at <http://www.visegradfund.org/calendar.html>

We also bring to your attention events organised by the **V4 Cultural Institutes in Bratislava** on the occasion of the **15th anniversary of Visegrad cooperation** throughout the month of May.

4 - V4 MEETINGS

Recently, several meetings of political representatives of Visegrad Group took place:

- on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of Visegrad cooperation, number of meetings, concerts and other **gatherings outside V4 region** took place (conferences in Kiev and Oslo, meetings in Ljubljana, Bonn, etc.)
- **V4 National Coordinators** met with representatives of Benelux in Prague on March 2 where areas of mutual cooperation were discussed.
- **V4 Ministers of Foreign Affairs** met in Budapest on March 3
- **Ministers of Agriculture of V4** met in Hungarian town of Visegrad with their counterparts from Austria and Slovenia on March 30-31.
- **V4 Ministers of Regional Development** met on April 24-25 with their counterparts from Bulgaria and Romania.
- meeting of **V4 Ministers of Environment** takes place on May 4-5 in Kosice, Slovakia.

5 - OTHER

- V4 celebrates its 15th anniversary this year and IVF is going to **issue a unique publication** on this occasion. More to follow.
- IVF re-designed its **website** www.visegradfund.org , your possible comments will be welcome.

The International Visegrad Fund (IVF) based in Bratislava, was founded by the governments of V4 (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia) in June 2000 with aim to promote cooperation among the Visegrad countries. The IVF runs various grants schemes through which it supports joint projects in the fields of cultural, educational, scientific cooperation, support of tourism, youth exchange and cross-border cooperation. The IVF also runs scholarship programmes for post-graduate students. Total budget of the Fund in 2006 is 3,2 million Euro.

Contact:

International Visegrad Fund
Drotarska cesta 46
811 01 Bratislava
Slovakia

tel 00 421 2 67 207 111

fax 00 421 2 59 354 180

visegradfund@visegradfund.org

www.visegradfund.org