

APPLYING TO THE DIGITAL JUSTICE FUND

Thank you for your interest in the Digital Justice Fund!

We know how difficult it can be to understand a funder's criteria and application process (we've been there!) so we've put this guide together to try to make things as clear and transparent as we can. If after reading through everything, something still doesn't make sense you can get in touch with us at digitaljusticefund@weavingliberation.org.

This pack includes:

- 1. Background on the fund**
- 2. Funding Criteria**
- 3. How to apply**
- 4. FAQs**

**WEAVING
LIBERATION**

1. Background on the Fund

Weaving Liberation is an ecosystem-building and regranting initiative focussed on supporting and resourcing digital justice organising in Europe.

We are coordinating the implementation of '[A vision for digital justice organising in Europe](#)', a programme of activities that will help create the conditions for communities to work towards liberatory digital futures. We work to:

Support movements to work together and support each other towards positive visions of digital justice.

Build life-affirming practices to create change in policymaking, advocacy, litigation, organising etc.

Redistribute resources to racial, anti-caste, economic, environmental, transfeminist, queer, disability, migrant and digital justice groups working at the intersection of tech and justice.

We primarily do this through partnerships with others to co-design convening spaces like our [Knowledge and Imagining Retreats](#) and the [Digital Liberation Retreat](#), develop and disseminate [resources on key digital justice issues](#); make grants among other means of redistribution; and engage in general advocacy with private philanthropy to make the case for [digital justice](#), cross-movement building and [resource justice](#).

Why the Fund?

The Digital Justice Fund works towards nurturing an ecosystem where groups resisting violent technological harms and imagining more nourishing relationships with technologies have the resources they need to dream, organise, build and thrive towards liberatory digital presents and futures.

But currently these very groups have few resources and almost nowhere to turn for flexible funding, as many governments invest millions into the tech industrial complex and philanthropic funding on tech issues often going to reactive approaches defending marginal changes rather than systemic change-oriented work. The Fund is being designed to mitigate that gap.

Our vision is for an ecosystem where these groups can do their work on their own terms, moving beyond resisting and reacting to harms, with the resources to imagine and build power for better presents and futures. We see this ecosystem as a place where justice movements are in solidarity with each other and organising, dreaming and building together to ensure that the purpose, design, fabrication, use and governance of technologies are rooted in justice and towards our collective liberation.

For more on our understanding of digital justice you can explore [‘A vision for Digital Justice organising in Europe’](#).

Why a participatory approach?

We do this work, knowing the limitations of philanthropic resourcing, including top-down funding approaches that do not meet the needs of those most negatively impacted by technology. In many cases, these funding practices further harm by supporting strategies and solutions that do not take into account the problems and the solutions of those facing the harshest consequences of the tech industrial complex in their daily lives.

While participatory funding is far from perfect, it aims at redistributing power while it redistributes resources, to help give more access to funding to groups that are often structurally excluded. **For us, key to doing this is giving decision-making over how funding is being allocated to our Peer Circle** – a group of 10 people who hold knowledge and experience from working and organising across digital justice, disability justice, workers' rights, racial justice, anti-caste justice, Roma rights, queer and transfeminist justice, amongst many other areas. Movement people to decide where movement money should go.

This fund isn't starting from scratch. Weaving Liberation is the result of a collective effort that began in 2020, where over 30+ partners helped design '[A vision for Digital Justice organising in Europe](#)' – a programme that identified the need for radical funding practices to help create the conditions for groups to resist structural technological harms and advance liberatory alternatives.



We are also grateful to the work, support and solidarity of other intermediary funders radically reimagining resourcing in the field including Black Feminist Fund, Dalan Fund, Numun Fund, Guerrilla Foundation, Collective Abundance, Green Screen Coalition and many more.

We are grateful for the support of [Ford Foundation](#), [Luminate](#), and [Oak Foundation](#) for resourcing this pilot round of the Digital Justice Fund.

2. Funding Criteria

Who can apply?

The Fund is aimed at not-for-profit initiatives - **registered and unregistered groups, collectives, and non-governmental organisations** - working on digital justice organising in Europe (following the [definition of the Council of Europe](#)). We will prioritise groups led by historically and structurally excluded and marginalised communities.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply to the Fund and have a good chance of receiving a grant, you need to meet all the following criteria:

- **Your group must be based primarily in Europe, and the focus of your activities must also include Europe.** Work in coalition with groups based internationally is welcome.
- **Your work must focus on digital justice organising.**
- **Your annual organisational budget should not exceed an average of EUR 500,000** (calculated over the past two or three years).
- **You have no more than 10 paid staff (including long term freelance contracts).** Groups run entirely by volunteers or collectives without paid staff are also welcome to apply.
- **Your group is community-led.** This means the people directly affected by the issues you work on are represented in your leadership or decision-making and implementation of your activities.

We define **digital justice organising** as work that builds collective power towards equitable access to resources for all and creates the conditions for the planet and all beings to thrive – including by enabling historically and structurally excluded communities to self-determine the purpose, design, production, deployment and governance of digital technologies.

Who we are interested in funding

We know that movements across different contexts will have their own ways of defining digital justice, and we have kept our definition intentionally broad to allow for groups to self-define their work. Here, we offer additional context on the perspectives on digital justice we are keen on supporting:

- **Groups led by historically and structurally excluded communities** (e.g., Black, indigenous, racialised people, people who experience caste discrimination, people minoritised in their gender, queer people, disabled people, tenants, prisoners, workers in general, sex workers, migrants, impoverished people, landless people, young people, old people, displaced people, people resisting colonial occupation, war and/or genocide, ethnic or religious groups facing marginalisation, small farmers, etc.)
- **Groups that have an analysis of digital justice rooted in challenging and dismantling prevailing power structures and systems of oppression** enabled and amplified by digital technologies (e.g., colonialism, settler colonialism, racism, capitalism, capitalist extractivism, casteism, ableism, cis-hetero-patriarchy, etc.)
- **Groups that are building power towards advancing life-affirming and liberatory presents and futures**, by which we mean those in which technologies are a means to regeneration, abundance, care and self-determination.

Work we are interested in funding

This is not an exhaustive list, but a guide to the kinds of work we are excited to support:

- **Community building and sustaining around digital justice issues:** community organising, peer-to-peer support, relationship-building activities, etc.
- **Knowledge and capacity building:** popular and political education, investigative journalism, skills exchanges, issue mappings (e.g., technological harms, community needs and desires), advancing liberatory narratives around technology, artistic interventions, and other creative approaches, etc.
- **Coalition and movement building:** advocacy, strategic litigation, campaigning etc.
- **Tech-related mutual aid:** tech repair circles, peer support on digital safety and security, shared technical infrastructures for movement work, software/hardware sharing initiatives, etc.
- **Life-affirming technology work:** prototyping, piloting or expanding community-centred, transfeminist, anti-colonial technologies, etc.

We recognise that many of these activities and approaches overlap; **these examples are to help spark ideas, not limit opportunities for funding.**

Work we don't fund

- Work primarily based or with activities focused outside of Europe
- Large organisations already well-funded by trusts, foundations or high-net-worth individuals
- Intermediary organisations whose role is to regrant funds
- Organisations set up by governments
- Universities
- Local branches of well-funded national or international organisations
- Groups whose beneficiaries are not represented in leadership, decision-making or implementation
- Political parties or groups attached to political parties

How we fund

How much can you apply for?

Groups can apply for grants between EUR 10,000 and EUR 50,000, to be used over a period of up to two years. We know funding politics and practices have led to groups (particularly grassroots and Black and People of Colour-led) under-requesting funding, so we encourage you to think expansively about your resourcing needs when applying.

How much funding is available overall?

In this round, the Fund will distribute EUR 500,000 in total for grants to be used between 2026 and 2028.

Can we apply for a second grant or renewal?

As this is our first funding round, we cannot yet confirm future renewal opportunities. We hope to continue the Fund in future years and will share updates when we are able to.

How are decisions made?

All funding decisions will be made by our Peer Circle. They have helped shape the scope, processes and approach of our participatory funding model. The ten Peer Circle members hold knowledge and experience from working and organising across digital justice, disability justice, workers' rights, racial justice, anti-caste justice, Roma rights, queer and transfeminist justice, amongst many other areas.

3. How to apply

The platform to submit your application is open from the week commencing 11 May to 21 June 2026.

STEP 1. REGISTER ON THE GRANTS PLATFORM *Week commencing 11 May to 24 May 2026*

The first step in your application journey is to register on the grants platform by answering :

- Your group's name
- Your contact details
- How is the organisation constituted? (Example: are you registered not for profit/non-governmental organisation/workers cooperative or unregistered collective/community group)
- What country are you based in?
- Whether you will be applying in written form online or by emailing a video

Once you've registered, you'll receive a notification informing you that you can start working on your application from techsupport@digitalfreedomfund.org



The deadline to register on the grants platform is Sunday 24 May 2026, 23:59 CET

This is to register - you do not have to have completed your application by this date.

STEP 2. SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION ON THE GRANT APPLICATION PLATFORM by
completing these questions: *Open until 21 June 2026*

1. Background of your group – these questions help us assess your eligibility for the fund

- a. When and how did the group start?
- b. What is your average annual budget? (averaged over the last 2–3 years)
- c. How many paid staff do you have?
- d. What is the mission and vision of your group?
- e. How are the people directly affected by the issues you work on represented in the group's leadership or decision-making and implementation of activities?

2. Your work – these questions help us understand how you work on the issue of digital justice organising, how your group operates and what you plan to do with the grant

- a. What is the work you are applying to be funded for?
- b. What is the geographic scope of the work?
- c. How does your work relate to the issue of digital justice?
- d. Why do you want to do this work? What are your aims with this work?
- e. Who will do the work? Please also let us know about other groups and collectives that might be involved.
- f. How does your group practice care? Please share examples of how you embed care, wellbeing, accessibility or community support in your organising, decision-making or day-to-day work

3. Your budget – this helps us understand what your funding needs are

Guidance:

- Please give a brief budget to show what costs you'd like covered.
- You do not need to provide a highly detailed or itemised budget.
- You may include core costs, including staff salaries and operational costs.
- Care, wellbeing and accessibility costs are encouraged.
- If you are a volunteer-run collective, you may still include stipends or compensation for people's time.
- Adapt the categories to reflect your own organising practices.

Budget template

Budget Line	Description	Amount (EUR)
Staff Costs	Salaries, stipends, coordination time, project leads, community organisers	
Project Activities	Workshops, meetings, community events, political education sessions, research activities	
Care & Wellbeing Costs	Childcare, food, rest spaces, wellbeing support, community care practices	
Accessibility Costs	Interpretation, translation, captioning, access support workers, accessible materials, travel support	
Digital & Technical Costs	Software, hardware, secure communications tools, hosting, maintenance	
Communications	Design, printing, outreach, website updates, documentation	
Travel & Accommodation	Local and international travel (if relevant), accommodation, per diems	
Overheads / Operational Costs	Rent, utilities, admin support, insurance, accounting	
Contingency	Up to 10% for unexpected costs	
TOTAL		

4. **Additional documents** – these help us to understand the governance (formal or informal) of your group

Please attach all or any of the following documents:

- An official copy of your registration documents or any informal governing documents your organisation has.
- **One** of the following forms of financial statements (in English, if available, but we can accept other languages)
 - Audited financial statements (not older than the most recent financial year)
 - Financial statements/declarations (not older than the most recent financial year)

In case official financial statements are not available, please submit any financial accounting documents that might be relevant from the past six months to a year.

If you do not have any of these documents, for example you are a new group applying for funding, please reach out to us on digitaljusticefund@weavingliberation.org so we can better understand your context.

**The deadline to submit your application on the grant platform is
Sunday 21 June 2026, 23:59 CET** 

4. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

About the Fund

What is the Digital Justice Fund?

The Digital Justice Fund is a new participatory regranting fund created by Weaving Liberation. It supports racial, anti-caste, economic, environmental, transfeminist, queer, disability, migrant justice and digital justice groups working at the intersection of technology and justice. The Fund aims to resource groups to challenge systemic technological harms and to imagine and build liberatory digital futures.

Why does this fund exist?

There is currently no fund in Europe dedicated to supporting work on technology and justice led by communities directly affected by tech harms. Many groups doing vital work remain under-resourced or excluded from traditional funding. This Fund aims to change that by moving money directly to those groups and supporting their visions, strategies and organising. We've taken inspiration from organisations like Numun Fund, Dalan Fund and the Black Feminist Fund amongst others. For more on the background of the fund please see our website.

Where does the funding for the Fund come from?

We are grateful for the support of Ford Foundation, Luminate, and Oak Foundation for resourcing this pilot round of the Digital Justice Fund.

Eligibility

Who can apply?

We welcome applications from registered and unregistered groups, collectives, and non-governmental organisations. We will prioritise groups led by historically excluded communities.

What kinds of work are eligible?

We fund a broad range of digital justice organising, including but not limited to:

- Knowledge-building and political education
- Artistic and cultural interventions
- Coalition-building and cross-movement organising
- Developing community-centred tech resources and infrastructures
- Organisational strengthening and digital capacity-building

Are there any criteria we must meet?

Yes. To be eligible, applicants must meet ALL the following criteria:

- Be based primarily in Europe and focus of activities must include Europe
- Work on digital justice organising
- Have an average annual budget under EUR 500,000
- Have no more than ten paid staff
- Be community led (this means the people directly affected by the issues you work on are represented in your leadership, decision-making and the implementation of your activities.)

Can individuals apply?

No. This fund is specifically aimed at work happening within groups, collectives and organisations.

Can we apply with another organisation?

Yes. Collaborative applications are welcome. Only the lead organisation in a collaborative application needs to fulfil all the eligibility criteria.

What do you mean by 'based in Europe' and 'focus of your activities' must include Europe?

We intend to support organising on the ground in Europe and/or work that leads to change also in Europe. By based in Europe, we mean that at least 50% of your group must be based within one or multiple countries within the Council of Europe. Concerning the focus of your activities, we understand that a lot of digital issues and challenges faced are global and that how you envision change happening in Europe might come from various strategies, involving international/transcontinental movement building work that might decentre Europe in some aspect. If you are working or building a coalition with groups outside of Europe on something that also concerns Europe this is within the scope of this fund.

What if the work we are doing in Europe is connected to addressing harmful power dynamics and practices outside of Europe? Would that work be eligible?

Absolutely! We invite you to submit applications for work the intersection of tech and justice that connects strategies to address structural harms and power dynamics internationally, e.g., work that involves local organising in Europe to resist harmful political ideologies from another region that are being enabled by technology.

Funding

How much can we apply for?

You can apply for between EUR 10,000 to EUR 50,000.

How long can the funding last?

Funding can be used over a period of up to two years, between 2026 and 2028.

How much funding is available overall?

For the first round, the Fund will distribute EUR 500,000 in total.

Application process

How do we apply?

- Read the application pack
- Join a webinar drop-in (optional)
- Register on the Weaving Liberation grants platform
- Submit your application through the platform

After we've received your application, we'll take the following steps:

- Eligibility check by the Weaving Liberation team
- Peer Circle shortlisting
- Final decision-making by the Peer Circle
- Weaving Liberation to inform applicants of decisions

What are your due diligence processes?

As a not-for-profit organisation hosted under the Digital Freedom Fund in the Netherlands, we are legally required to carry out due diligence processes to confirm that applicants can receive funds, manage them, and deliver work aligned with the Digital Justice Fund's mission. Our intention is providing you with as few administrative burdens in this process.

You'll notice in the application that we ask specific questions about the organisation and the leadership. We also ask you to attach any governing documents, financial records and references.

Our intention has been to make this as low burden for applicants as possible whilst ensuring that we stay legally compliant. If you need support with anything please make sure to join one of our webinars or contact the team on digitaljusticefund@weavingliberation.org.

What are the reporting requirements on your grants?

As part of our commitment to shifting power dynamics within grantmaking, we intend to have a low burden reporting process at the end of your grant, for example providing some basic financial records on how the grant was spent. This will be agreed at the beginning of your grant.

We welcome being in a co-designed learning journey with our grantees, where they have the opportunity to decide on the questions or reflections that are of interest or crucial to them. There will also be opportunity to give feedback on our practices and processes as a funder.

What are the key deadlines?

- **Wednesday 20 May 2026, 12:30 CET** – Optional webinar session to learn more about the fund.
- **Sunday 24 May 2026, 23:59 CET** – Deadline to have registered your organisation on the grant's platform. You do not have to have completed your application by this date.
- **Wednesday 27 May 2026, 16:30 CET** – Optional webinar session to learn more about the fund.
- **Sunday 21 June 2026, 23:59 CET** – Deadline to submit your completed application via the grant's platform.
- **Early August** – Email from Weaving Liberation letting shortlisted applicants know the outcome of their application.

Can we submit an audio application?

Yes. If you prefer or have access needs that mean you would like to apply by audio, you can email the team on digitaljusticefund@weavingliberation.org to arrange this.

Who can access and see our data?

We will ask you to submit your application using Hypha - an open source submission management. The site is self-hosted using a [Greenhost Virtual Private Server](#) located in the Netherlands. Any audio submissions will be done via secure transfer in discussion with the Weaving Liberation team. Your data will not be kept without your explicit consent beyond the scope of this grantmaking cycle and be kept until then on secured platform. We invite you to not share any sensitive data that could put you or your group in danger at the stage of the application. If you have any specific concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out on digitaljusticefund@weavingliberation.org.

Decision-making

Who makes the funding decisions?

All funding decisions will be made by our Peer Circle – who stand with and close to those directly impacted by technology and who carry experience and knowledge of systemic harms and liberatory knowledge and practice. They have helped shape the scope, processes and approach of our participatory funding model.

When will we hear back?

If you are not shortlisted for the final stage of the process, we will notify you by end of July. Shortlisted applicants will be informed once decisions are made by early August.

Will we receive feedback?

We are a small team and given our capacity we are unlikely to be able to share personalised feedback with all applicants to the Fund. However, we are committed to giving feedback to all shortlisted applicants should they request it.

Support

Will there be any language translations available?

The application pack is available to download in languages other than English, including Arabic, Bosnian, French, German, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese.

Can I apply to the fund in a language other than English?

Given our limited capacity, for this round of the Fund, we are requesting that submissions either via the grants platform or audio are in English. We do encourage you to use translation tools to complete the application form if needed and to indicate it. If you would like discuss this further please do reach out to us on digitaljusticefund@weavingliberation.org.

What if my question isn't answered here?

Please contact the Weaving Liberation team directly on digitaljusticefund@weavingliberation.org. We're happy to support you.