



# COLLABORATIVE JOURNALISM PROGRAMME (ECJP) 2021

18.–21.3.2021

Gut Sigger, Baltic Sea, Northern Germany

27.–30.5.2021

Dataharvest, The European Investigative Journalism  
Conference, Mechelen, Belgium

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## WHY? / THE PROGRAMME

Collaborations between journalists and news organisations have become more important over the recent years. Resources and expertise can be pooled, facts and data jointly analysed and published outlets.

Issues of cross-border relevance, such as organised crime, migration or pollution, are on the rise while resource-demanding investigative and public interest journalism is increasingly under pressure. The need to work closely together has become urgent.

Therefore, Toepfer Foundation and Arena for Journalism jointly offer the European Collaborative Journalism Programme (ECJP) for the second time. Up to sixteen participants will be invited to the foundations' conference centre at the Baltic Sea to attend a four-day programme.

The aims are:

- Establishing a network among journalists from different European countries to foster exchange and encourage work relationships
- Providing methods and know-how on collaborative, cross-border journalism
- Discussing trends, skills and innovations in the field of journalism
- Reflecting individual work practices and routines through the exchange with other journalists
- Facilitating the exploration of a collaborative story, discussing it with fellow participants and receiving expert feedback

## WHAT? / PROGRAMME COMPONENTS

- Four-day programme of input, training and discussions on collaborative journalism with experts from Arena, Investigate Europe, EIC, Átlátszó Erdély and others
- Feedback on story ideas from trainers and peers
- Opportunity to discuss and further elaborate a story participants already have in mind, whether in initial or advanced stage
- Travel fees to and from the programme venue at Gut Sigger/Baltic Sea (Germany), including three nights of accommodation and all meals
- Fellowship to attend Dataharvest 2021 in Belgium, organised by Arena for Journalism including travel fees and accommodation.

## FOR WHOM? / TARGET GROUP

The programme is directed towards journalists from all over Europe, freelancers as well as staffers from all media. It is suited for entrants as well as mid-career journalists, who either already have first experiences with collaborative journalism or who firmly intend to work in this field.

In order to increase the potential for future collaborations, we especially encourage applicants interested in any of the following broad topics:

1. Sustainability: Land use, food, climate
2. Society: Social cohesion, social justice, social inequality
3. Governance: Polarisation, corruption, unilateralism

## ECJP & CORONA SAFETY MEASURES

As of Sept 2020, we firmly strive to hold two physical meetings during ECJP 2021, sticking closely to existing safety and prevention measures with regard to Covid 19. If new safety regulations should result in any changes of the format, participants will be informed timely and transparently.

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## HOW? / APPLICATION

Please submit the following documents at:

[toepfer-stiftung.de/en/ecjp/](https://toepfer-stiftung.de/en/ecjp/)

1. Letter of motivation (about 2500 charact.)
2. CV + a short description of your work experience incl. your cross-border collaboration, if existing (max. 1 ½ pages)
3. A short outline on a cross-border story you plan to work on or you are working on already (max. 750 charact.), alternatively your 2–3 main topics of interest
4. A letter of recommendation or 1-2 contact information
5. 1–2 recent work samples

Deadline: Nov 22, 2020

Notification: by Jan 15th, 2021

## CONTACT

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## WHO? / PROGRAMME PARTNERS

### TOEPFER FOUNDATION

Toepfer Foundation is a Hamburg-based non-profit foundation engaged in the areas of culture, science, education and nature conservation. Special attention is given to knowledge exchange and mutual understanding among Europeans. As part of this engagement, the foundation addressed the field of journalism and aims to foster networking and cross-border collaboration among European journalists.

[toepfer-stiftung.de](https://toepfer-stiftung.de)

### ARENA FOR JOURNALISM IN EUROPE

The foundation's purpose is to stimulate and support cross-border collaborative and investigative journalism in Europe, including collaborations with other professions, proceeding from the belief that such journalism contributes to information exchange, critical thought, mutual understanding and democracy in Europe.

[journalismarena.eu](https://journalismarena.eu)

