



## **Global Student Forum (GSF) 2024-2025 Call for Expressions of Interest for Executive Director**

### *About the Global Student Forum (GSF)*

The Global Student Forum (GSF) is the main umbrella organization of representative school and university student unions in the world. It's an independent and democratic structure composed by the five major regional student federations and their national member organizations in addition to national student unions and issue based student organizations outside of the regional federation membership. Through its 201 member unions from 127 countries, the GSF is the democratic and independent voice of learners worldwide, representing hundreds of millions of secondary and tertiary students from across the globe

### *About the Position*

The Executive Director plays a pivotal role in steering the GSF through its next phase of development, building on the foundations laid during the first three years of its existence. The successful candidate will manage a young, multicultural team, internal processes, foster partnerships, and strategically plan for a resilient future of the organization. Reporting to the Steering Committee, the Executive Director will be responsible for overseeing a range of activities, including all aspects of internal governance, human resources and finance, project management, communication and fundraising efforts, liaison with the membership and institutional partnerships as well as the planning and implementation of advocacy activities, seminars, conferences, training, and the GSF World Congress in 2025.

### *Specific Duties and Responsibilities*

- Strategic Planning: Develop and implement a strategic plan for the organization's growth and impact in 2024, 2025 and 2026.
- Network Expansion: Expand and strengthen relationships with member organizations, with a particular focus on capacity building and coordination in Asia, the Middle East, and North America.
- Partnership Development: Identify, cultivate and maintain ongoing and new partnerships with union federations, civil society organizations, and intergovernmental institutions.
- Coordinate policy consultations, policy development and the external representation of the GSF at conferences, meetings, and seminars.
- Team Management: Lead a small and multicultural team, overseeing recruitment, professional development, and compliance with internal policies.
- Maintain primary responsibility for managing relations for the GSF legal entities in Belgium and Denmark, ensuring compliance with policies and processes, and protecting against reputational risk.
- Financial Oversight and Fundraising: Maintain financial oversight, working closely with the Steering Committee and lead on fundraising activities to ensure sustainable long term funding for the organization.
- Communications: Oversee the communications of the organization, including social media, website and media relations, ensuring audience growth while maintaining required discretion.

### *Personal Qualities*

- Self-motivated and systematic.
- Strong organizational and analytical skills.
- Excellent team player and people manager.
- Emotional intelligence and ability to build relationships.
- Intercultural sensitivity and discretion.
- Ability to collaborate and work independently.
- Ability to prioritize and work under pressure.
- Ability to handle risk and ambiguity.
- Excellent interpersonal and communications skills.
- Ability to travel year around in remote areas of the world.

- Ability to remain impartial, have a good understanding of political dynamics

### *Education and Professional Experience*

- A high school leaving certificate is a must.
- Completed or ongoing higher education is a strong asset.
- Fluency in English (written and spoken) is essential; knowledge of other regional languages is an advantage.
- Experience working with student unions, movements, trade unions, international organizations, or the education sector is essential.
- A sophisticated understanding of non-profit strategy and international politics, with particular emphasis on the United Nations and the international education sector.
- Proven ability to manage relationships with government representatives, intergovernmental organizations, civil society and private foundations as well as humanitarian development cooperation funds.
- Proven ability to manage teams, particularly in international and intercultural settings.
- An international network of contacts in civil society, trade unions, private foundations, government, and academia is desirable.
- Experience in project and programme funding management is an asset

### *Compensation & Conditions of Service*

The host for this role will be the Global Student Forum. The exact compensation for the successful candidate is dependent on available funding, professional qualifications, experience and geographical location - with a minimum monthly consultancy fee of 1000 EUR available for the role. The successful candidate will be free to work remotely from wherever they are currently located as long as they have access to a high bandwidth internet connection and relevant digital tools to facilitate their work diligently. The initial duration of the role is limited to 1 year with the possibility of extension.

### *Process*

Expressions of interest, including a CV and motivation letter detailing relevant experience (merged into one PDF document), should be submitted via email to [recruitment@globalstudentforum.org](mailto:recruitment@globalstudentforum.org)

Within the motivation letter, applicants should answer each of the following questions in no more than 200 words per question.

1. Elaborate on your professional experience in working in international settings, highlighting specific projects and responsibilities you have undertaken in this context.
2. Please describe your specific experience and track record in managing projects and fundraising within organizational settings.
3. What standout achievements or successes have you had in the field of organizational development and management in your past roles?
4. Provide insights on the approach to working politically within an international organization. How do you navigate diverse stakeholder interests and develop effective relationships in such environments?

Successful candidates will be invited to an initial video conferencing interview in the beginning of February and the ideal start date for the successful candidate is 15 of March 2024. Applications will be assessed by a panel composed of individuals from the Steering Committee, and the Secretariat of the Global Student Forum as well as elected leaders of the regional member unions. For questions and clarifications, please contact: [recruitment@globalstudentforum.org](mailto:recruitment@globalstudentforum.org)

**GSF strongly encourages interested candidates to apply.**

**We particularly look forward to receiving applications from people coming from disadvantaged backgrounds and belonging or self-identifying as a minority. Diversity matters to us.**

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**Deadline for Applications: 5 February, 2024, 23.59 GMT**

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