



Visegrad Fund

The Roots of Visegrad Cooperation

- **Common Ground in History, Culture and Religion**

royal meetings in Visegrád in 1335 and 1336

(John of Luxembourg, Charles I of Anjou and Casimir III),

interconnected histories of V4 countries,

common cultural experience

- **Geographical Closeness**

the crossroads between the East and the West

- **Similar Development**

struggles for freedom in 1956, 1968, 1980, 1989;

social and economic transformations,

similar development of infrastructure, etc.

The Origins of the Visegrad Group I

- Visegrád February 15, 1991
- common will **to overcome the communist heritage** and “**to return to Europe**”
- a useful means for the **promotion of the region**
- very **quick results of the cooperation** and coordination (Soviet troops withdrawal, image of the region as region of cooperation and mutual understanding)
- **gradual weakening** of the cooperation in the 2nd half of the 1990s
- **new impetus** in 1999; establishment of the Fund as an evidence of the revival of the cooperation

The Origins of the Visegrad Group II

- the same communist past but **more different than similar development** of future V4 countries
 - *different political situation*
 - *different economic situation*
 - *different historical background*
- real independence led to serious **problems inside and outside of V4 countries**
 - *split of Czechoslovakia*
 - *Czechoslovak/Slovak–Hungarian tension*

The Origins of the Visegrad Group III

- **new problems** emerged also after the establishment of the Visegrad Group:
 - *reserved attitude of the Czech Republic to V4*
 - *a weak compatibility of political regimes in V4 countries in the second half of 1990s*
 - *concern that V4 cooperation could be regarded as a surrogate for a real integration in Europe*

The Origins of the Visegrad Group IV

- V4 was **in the state of hibernation**, only CEFTA worked in second half of the 1990s
- none of V4 countries proposed to dissolve the group but at the same time nobody was active
- a weak understanding what such cooperation should mean among V4 citizens and why it should be preserved (V4 was **established from above**)

Reasons behind the Fund's establishment

- further deepening of the V4 cooperation during its **revitalization in 1998–2000**
- strengthening of the V4 cooperation on the **civil society level** (as a pendant of the state cooperation)
- protection against potential “**ups and downs**” of the V4 cooperation
- improvement of **mutual knowledge** of each other (*three project partners as a minimum*)

$$\text{CZ} + \text{HU} + \text{PL} + \text{SK} = \underline{\text{V4}}$$

- **V4 as a Consultation Platform**
regular meetings at all levels and in all sectors
- **Joint Achievements**
membership in the EU, NATO; common positions within EU (e.g. the EU budget); cooperation with other regional bodies, Visegrad 4 Eastern Partnership (V4EaP) Program, etc.
- **Goals**
forming the EU Common Foreign and Security Policy and the European Neighborhood Policy, the Schengen Agreement, energy security, etc.
- **Common Experience and Expertise**
similar levels of social and economic development and transformation experience, fight for freedom as a know-how

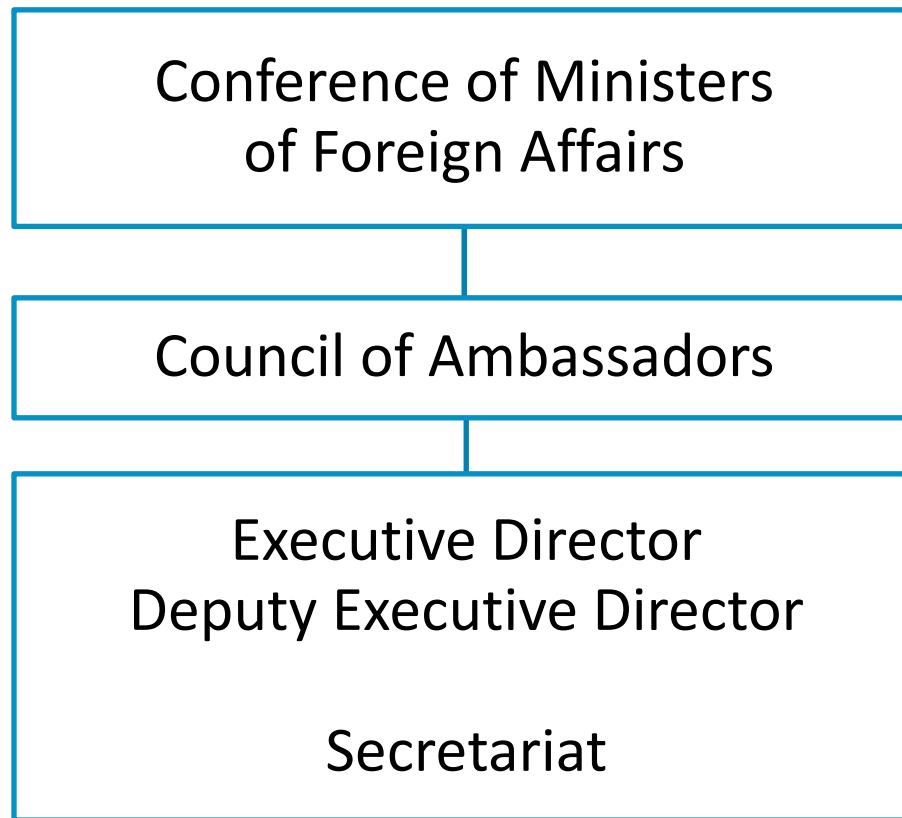
Basic Facts about the Fund

- established in **2000** as the **only solid organization** of the Visegrad Group with the seat in Bratislava
- instrument for **strengthening the regional cooperation** and awareness
- expression of **common priorities** of the Visegrad Group's foreign policy
- fostering people-to-people contact and supporting **common projects** and **individual mobility**



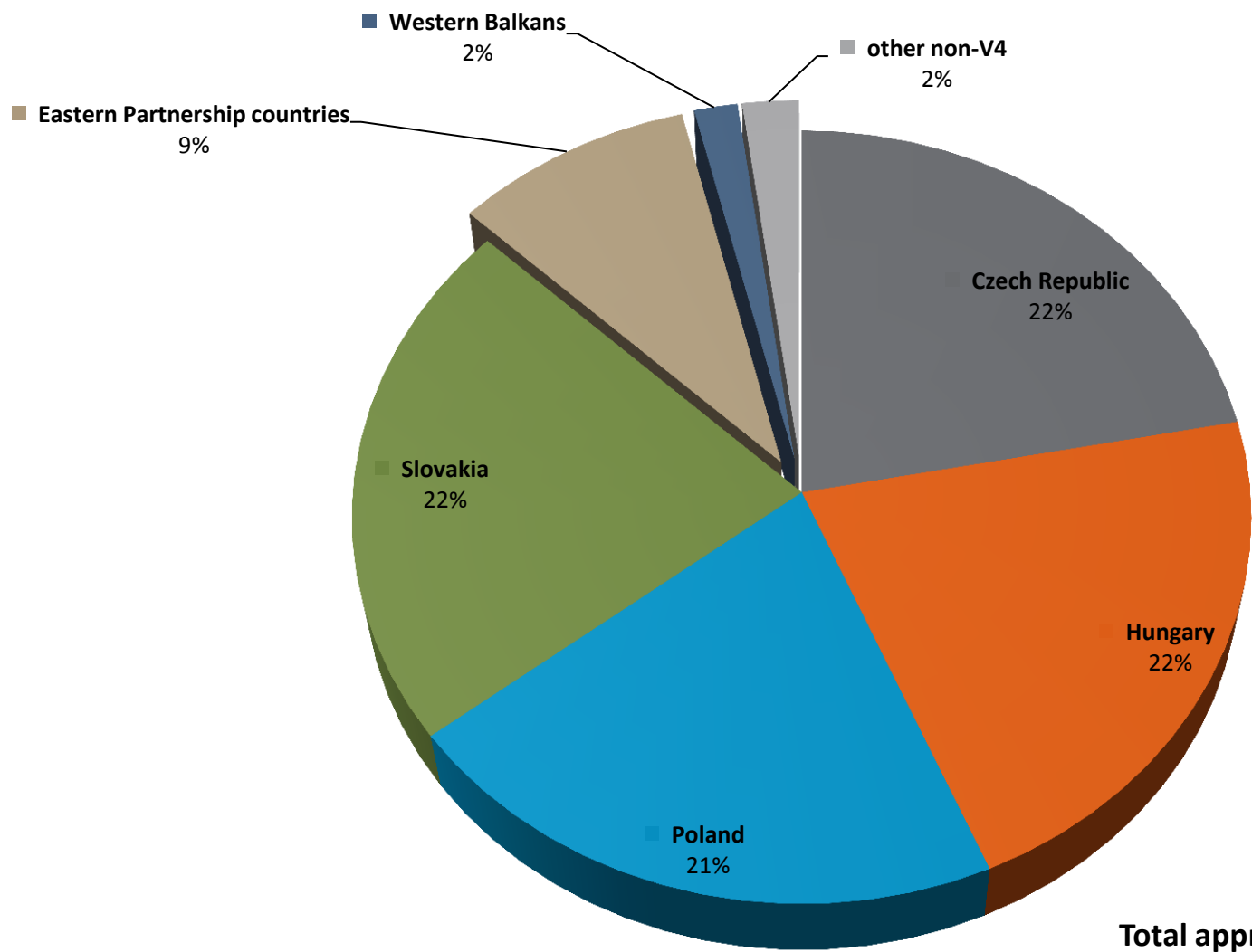
Basic Numbers about the Fund

- annual budget of **€7,000,000** (as of 2012)
(equal contributions of €1.75 million per member state)
- to date the Fund supported more than
 - **3,300** grant projects
 - **1,100** individual MA-/PhD-level scholarships
 - **150** individual artist residencies
- in total: nearly **€39.5 million**
- **5+ grant** programs, **3+ scholarship** programs,
3 artist-in-residence programs, **1 fellowship** program
- **10+ annual deadlines**
- staff of **13** (secretariat) + external trustees (PL, HU, UA, BY)



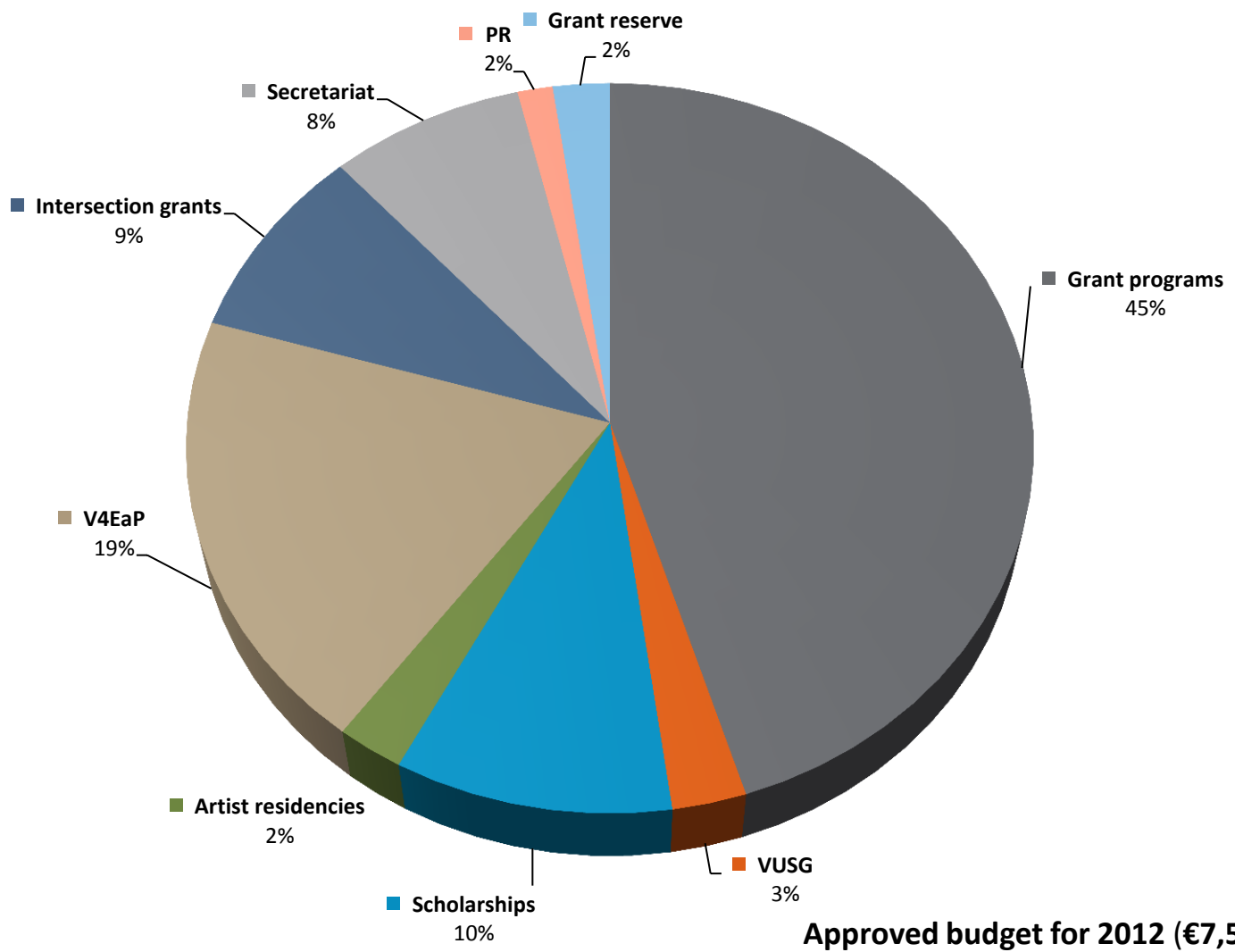
Target Countries 2000–2011

Target Countries 2000–2011



Total approved funding
per receiving country (€39.5 million)

Budget Breakdown (2012)



Approved budget for 2012 (€7,530,701 in total)

Program Overview

Grant programs:

Small Grants (\leq €6,000; up to 6 months)

Standard Grants (\geq €6,001; up to 12 months)

Visegrad Strategic Program (ca. €40,000; 12–36 months)

Visegrad University Studies Grants (ca. €10,000/€40,000)

Visegrad+ (individual budgets)

Mobility programs:

Visegrad Scholarship Program (€2,300 + 1,500/semester)

Visegrad Scholarships at OSA (€2,000/2 months)

VARP—General Residencies (€2,250 + 2,250/3 months)

VARP in New York (€4,000/3 months)

VARP—Performing Arts (€4,000/€ 8,000/3 months)

Grant Categories

- **Cultural Cooperation (49%)**
- **Scientific Exchange and Research (19%)**
- **Education (14%)**
- **Youth Exchanges (10%)**
- **Cross-Border Cooperation (7%)**
- **Promotion of Tourism (2%)**



100% = 3,240 projects approved in 2000–2011

Basic Granting Principles

- involvement of at least **3 V4 countries**
- **Visegrad/Central European topic**
- grant covers **up to 70% of project costs**
- reimbursements in **tranches** with **advance payments**
(up to 80% of project costs)
- **5% overhead costs**
- costs documented through **copies of invoices and bills**
- separate **bank account** for every grant project
- **project website** (with unique URL), **project calendar**,
press releases

Non-Refundable Project Costs

- **capital investments**
(purchases of laptops, office equipment, etc.)
- **indirect costs**
(utilities, telephone bills, etc.)
- **internal costs and expences**
(with the exception of up to **5% overhead costs**)
- **employments ruled by labor code**
(including all other related costs, e.g. per diems)

Refundable Project Costs

- **printing and publishing** costs
- **rent** of premises and related technical services
- **fees for experts, fees for artists**
- **accommodation and board**
- **transportation** costs
- **translation/interpreting** costs
- **awards and prizes**
- office supplies
- advertising costs and promotional material
- website design and update, etc.

Frequent Mistakes

- **copies of the letters of intent** (original documents necessary)
- **wrong ID documents** (official registries of the statistical offices, district courts or interior ministries are eligible—simple copies are enough)
- **unclear V4 feature** (missing “Visegrad added value”)
- **unclear role of project partners**
- **dates of project events too close** to the announcement of the grant selection results
- absence of proper **acknowledgement of the Fund’s support** (missing logo, website links, etc.)

- **Master's (MA)/Post-Master's (PhD) levels**
 - **1 or 2 semesters (MA up to 4 semesters)**
 - Funding both the **scholar and host university**
(€2,300/sem. + €1,500/sem. + a possibility of one-time €200 travel grant)
- ❖ **Intra-Visegrad Scholarships**
CZ–HU–PL–SK
 - ❖ **Out-Going Scholarships**
V4 → AL, AM, AZ, BA, BY, GE, HR, MD, MK, ME, RS, UA and XK
 - ❖ **In-Coming Scholarships (+ Scholarships for EaP)**
AL, BA, HR, MD, MK, ME, RU, RS, XK (+ AM, AZ, BY, GE, MD and UA) → V4

- joint project with the **Open Society Archives** at CEU Budapest (archives of the Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty)
- **10 annual fellowships** (8 x V4, 2 x non-V4)
- max. research periods of **2 months**
- **€2,000/project**
- **no regular deadline** (continuous submissions)

- annual budget: **€200,000** (2012)
- deadline: **10 November**
- grant for **the development and launching of Visegrad-related university courses or degree programs**
- all accredited public and private universities worldwide are eligible
- support of ca. **€10,000/course/€40,000/degree program**

Visegrad Artist Residency Program

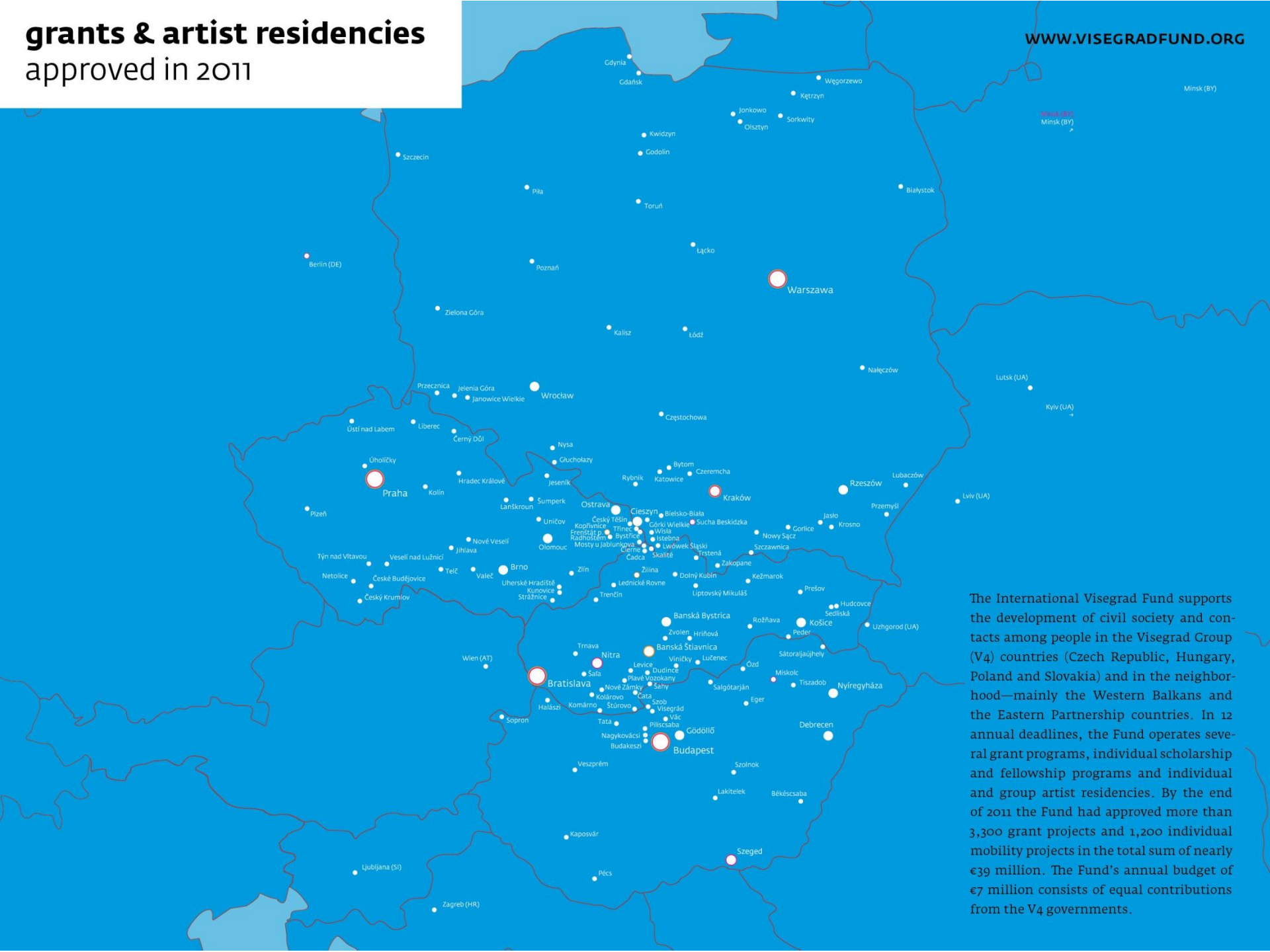
Visegrad Artist Residency Program



- **Visegrad Artist Residency Program—General Residencies**
(€2,250 + €2,250 per project, 4x4 3-month residencies)
- **Visegrad Artist Residency Program—Performing Arts**
(€4,000/€8,000 for individual/group residency, 3-month residencies)
- **Visegrad Artist Residencies in New York** (4 stipends annually)
(€4,000 per project, 3-month residencies in Brooklyn, NY)
- **Visegrad Literary Residency Program** (16 stipends annually)
(€750 per resident, 3 months residencies in V4 countries)

grants & artist residencies approved in 2011

WWW.VISEGRADFUND.ORG



The International Visegrad Fund supports the development of civil society and contacts among people in the Visegrad Group (V4) countries (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia) and in the neighborhood—mainly the Western Balkans and the Eastern Partnership countries. In 12 annual deadlines, the Fund operates several grant programs, individual scholarship and fellowship programs and individual and group artist residencies. By the end of 2011 the Fund had approved more than 3,300 grant projects and 1,200 individual mobility projects in the total sum of nearly €39 million. The Fund's annual budget of €7 million consists of equal contributions from the V4 governments.

Visegrad)

EASTERN
PARTNERSHIP
PROGRAM



Visegrad 4 Eastern Partnership Program (V4EaP)




- Total budget in 2012: **€1,456,000**
+ co-financing from **other sources** (NL, US)
- Focus on **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine**
- Programs have **similar structure** to the other programs (grants/mobility programs)

- **Flagship Projects**
long-term projects of **strategic character**; transfer of V4 know-how on **democratic transformation** and **regional cooperation**
- **Standard Grants—EaP**
medium-length projects linking the EaP and V4 regions
- **Visegrad University Studies Grants—EaP**
development of college/university courses and degree programs
- **Visegrad Scholarships for EaP**
individual academic mobility between V4 and EaP universities and colleges

Deadlines in 2012

31 January	Visegrad Scholarship Program
1 March	Small Grants
15 March	Standard Grants
30 March	Visegrad Strategic Program
1 June	Small Grants
1 September	Small Grants
10 September	Visegrad Artist Residency Program
15 September	Standard Grants/Standard Grants—EaP
10 November	VUSG/VUSG—EaP
1 December	Small Grants

Useful links

-  on-line notice board for **project partner search** and database of selected grantees
-  on-line **library catalogue** of the International Visegrad Fund
-  official portal of the Visegrad Group



From: 28/3/2012 To: 27/04/2012 Reload

March 2012						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
01/02/				1	2	3
Photo	4	5	6	7	8	10
01/02/	11	12	13	14	15	17
Photo	18	19	20	21	22	24
01/02/	25	26	27	28	29	31
Photo						

- 01/02/2012–30/04/2012
Collecting the materials regarding the tradition of Hungarian individual philanthropy and funds.
- 01/02/2012–30/04/2012
Collecting the materials regarding the tradition of Polish individual philanthropy and funds.
- 01/02/2012–30/04/2012
Collecting the materials regarding the tradition of Slovak individual philanthropy and funds.
- 01/02/2012–30/04/2012
Collecting the materials regarding the tradition of Czech individual philanthropy and funds.
- 01/02/2012–30/04/2012
Collecting the information about the European examples of funds and individual philanthropy.

Thank you.

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