Asociacioni i Gazetarëve të Kosovës
Association of Journalists of Kosovo

EREA
EMPOWERING RURAL ECONOMIES IN AGRICULTURE

CARITAS Schweiz Suisse Svizzera Svizra

With funding from
Austrian Development Cooperation

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

AGRO-JOURNALISM COMPETITION 2026

The Association of Journalists of Kosovo (AJK), in cooperation with Caritas Switzerland in Kosovo, within the framework of the **Empowering Rural Economies in Agriculture (EREA)** programme, Agro-Media component, announces the **Agro-Journalism Competition 2026**.

Purpose of the Competition

The Agro-Journalism Competition aims to promote high-quality and professional reporting on agriculture and rural development in Kosovo. Through this initiative, the competition seeks to encourage journalists and journalism students to cover more topics related to agriculture, farmers, agribusinesses and rural development, while raising public awareness of the importance of the agricultural sector to the country's economic and social development.

Encouraged topics include, but are not limited to, organic farming, innovative agricultural technologies, challenges faced by farmers and agribusinesses, the role of women in agriculture, modern agricultural practices, rural development, food security, and other topics of public interest that contribute to a better understanding of the agricultural sector in Kosovo.

Categories and Prizes

The competition is open in two categories: **video article** and **written article**, with the following prizes awarded in each category:

- **First place – €700**
- **Second place – €500**
- **Third place – €350**

Eligibility and Application Criteria

Journalists working for media outlets in Kosovo and freelance journalists are eligible to apply.

Each applicant may submit a maximum of **one entry**, either one video article or one written article. Submission of more than one entry is not permitted.

To qualify for evaluation, submitted materials must address topics related to agriculture, rural development, agricultural innovation, challenges faced by farmers

and/or

agribusinesses, the empowerment of women in agriculture, modern agricultural practices, or other topics of public interest that contribute to informing and raising awareness about the agricultural sector in Kosovo.

Articles and video articles must have been published between **10 August 2025 and 16 August 2026**.

Video articles must not exceed **30 minutes** in length and must be submitted via a functional link or in an electronic format accessible to the jury. Written articles must be submitted in the form in which they were originally published.

All submitted materials must be the applicant's original work and comply with professional and ethical journalism standards. Materials containing plagiarism, unverified information, or violations of the basic principles of professional reporting will be excluded from the evaluation process.

Applicants are responsible for ensuring that the submitted materials and relevant links remain accessible and functional throughout the evaluation period. The organisers reserve the right to request additional information or evidence regarding the authorship and publication of the submitted materials.

Evaluation Criteria

The materials will be evaluated by a professional, independent and impartial jury composed of media professionals and experts in the relevant field.

For both categories, the jury will assess the **originality of the topic and journalistic approach, relevance of the content to the agricultural sector and the general public, depth of coverage, quality of research and accuracy of information, as well as creativity in storytelling and presentation**.

For the video article category, the jury will also consider the **technical quality of production**, including the use of video, audio, editing and other visual elements that contribute to effectively conveying the story and its message.

How to Apply

Applications should be submitted by sending the material or the link to the article/video article to:

aplikimet@agk-ks.org

The email subject line should state:

"Name Surname – Agro Competition – EREA"

Application Deadline

The call will be open from **17 August 2026 until 11 September 2026 at 16:00 (4:00 PM)**.

The winners will be announced on **24 September 2026**, at a ceremony to be held in Prishtina.

About the EREA Programme

The **Empowering Rural Economies in Agriculture (EREA)** programme aims to contribute to the sustainable development of the agricultural sector and rural areas in Kosovo by strengthening market actors, improving access to information, and promoting cooperation among farmers, agribusinesses, institutions and the media.

The programme seeks to support continued cooperation and mutual understanding between the agricultural and media communities, to increase awareness and strengthen collaboration between actors in the agricultural sector and the media.

EREA is funded by **Austrian Development Cooperation** and implemented by **Caritas Switzerland**.