<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>U.S. Department of State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Title</td>
<td>DRL Internet Freedom Annual Program Statement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Program Description**

- The Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) announces a Request for Statements of Interest (RSOI) from organizations interested in submitting Statements of Interest (SOI) for programs that support Internet Freedom. In support of the U.S. International Strategy for Cyberspace, DRL’s goal is to protect the open, interoperable, secure, and reliable Internet by promoting fundamental freedoms, human rights, and the free flow of information online through integrated support to civil society for technology, digital safety, policy and advocacy, and applied research programs. DRL invites organizations interested in potential funding to submit SOI applications outlining program concepts that reflect this goal.

- The submission of a SOI is the first step in a two-part process. Applicants must first submit a SOI, which is a concise, 3-page concept note designed to clearly communicate a program idea and its objectives before the development of a full proposal application. The purpose of the SOI process is to allow applicants the opportunity to submit program ideas for DRL to evaluate prior to requiring the development of full proposal applications. Upon review of eligible SOIs, DRL will invite selected applicants to expand their ideas into full proposal applications.

**Field(s) of Study**

- Human rights
- Internet freedom / digital safety
- Policy advocacy

**Amount**

$3,000,000

**Internal Deadline**

Feb 1, 2019

**Sponsor Deadline**

March 11, 2019

**Links to URL for the sponsor**


**Eligibility**

SOIs must address one or more of the Internet Freedom Funding Themes: technology, digital safety, policy and advocacy, and applied research

**Key Program Considerations:**

The following list of program considerations is provided as a guide to help applicants develop responsive, robust program proposals.
This list of considerations will not be used as criteria to evaluate SOI applications.

- Preference will be given to open source technologies with practical deployment and sustainability plans. These technologies are inherently more transparent and re-usable. At the same time, DRL recognizes that anti-censorship tools may at times rely on non-publicly disclosed information or code for a small portion of their system.
- Consistent with DRL’s venture-capital style approach to Internet freedom, projects should have a model for long-term sustainability beyond the life of the grant.
- DRL encourages applicants to foster collaborative partnerships, especially with local organization(s) in target countries and/or regions, where applicable. Where appropriate, applicants are invited to form consortia for submitting a combined proposal, but the primary organization that is developing and deploying the anti-censorship technology must be the lead (“prime”) applicant.
- DRL strives to ensure its programs advance the rights and uphold the dignity of the most at-risk and vulnerable populations.

| Georgetown University Nomination Limit | 1 |
| Submission Information | Send the following as a single PDF document to limitedsubmissions@georgetown.edu |
| | 1) 1-page project description, and |
| | 2) CV |
| Questions about the sponsor? | For technical questions related to this solicitation, please contact InternetFreedom@state.gov. |
| Question about Limited Submissions process? | Please contact: Jesse Szeto (jesse.szeto@georgetown.edu) 202.687. 7795 or Venus Davis (vnd2@georgetown.edu) 202.687.4978. |