

# Resiliency in times of COVID:

## CSO responses to the uncertainty across continents

### Invitation to an online discussion

March 12th, 14h - 16h CET / 8h - 10h EST via Zoom\*

**Partners**Global and Partners Serbia cordially invite you to attend an online event on civil society resiliency and civic space in the global pandemic era. The event is organized within the Enabling and Protecting Civic Space (EPCS) INSPIRES project and will provide participants with the opportunity to share knowledge and experiences with civil society experts from the United States, Balkans, East Africa, West Africa, and Latin America. The event presents a unique opportunity to reflect on global challenges and obstacles to civic space by learning and discussing about specifics in some of the regions with fragile democracies, and share best practices to better respond, adapt and overcome such civic space shifts.

The event will consist of an expert panel and group discussion around critical issues affecting global civil society actors, including:

- Whether and how the global pandemic has affected the work and resiliency of civil society in general?
- What have been the global issues that civil society has faced throughout the pandemic?
- Will the crisis make the sector more resilient?
- What have been the local specifics and examples of shrinking of civic space and how has civil society responded?

\*Please refer to the Time and Date website to convert the event time to your local time, available at: <https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/converter.html>

## About INSPIRES

**The Enabling and Protecting Civic Space (EPCS) INSPIRES** project will increase knowledge and capacity to respond to growing restrictions on democratic freedoms of association, assembly, and expression. With civic space shifting rapidly around the globe, faster and more potent interventions are critical for bolstering local civil societies. Many current best practices have been developed through a series of ad hoc responses to closures of civic and political space. Through in-depth research, earlier forecasting of civic space shifts, and rigorous evaluation of different interventions, civil society can be better supported to navigate and influence these shifts in proactive, effective, and strategic ways.

**Partners**Global's Resiliency+ Framework helps civil society organizations (CSOs) identify these external threats and internal vulnerabilities impeding them from implementing effective and resilient operations. Using this information, the Resiliency+ Framework provides a menu of strategies, tactics, tools, and peer-to-peer assistance to help CSOs strengthen seven key resiliency factors. The first of its kind, the framework provides a nuanced understanding of how organizations can operate, adapt, and thrive in response to multifaceted and multi-dimensional changes in social, political, and economic dynamics.

A detailed agenda and ZOOM link will be distributed via email prior to the event. We sincerely hope that you will be able to join us in contributing your insights and perspectives to these crucial discussions.

If you are able to attend, please send your RSVP to Partners Serbia at [office@partners-serbia.org](mailto:office@partners-serbia.org).