

WORKSHOP OPEN CALL

MOVING BALKANS

MOVING BALKANS: OPEN CALL FOR PRODUCERS & CULTURAL MANAGERS (CONTEMPORARY DANCE)

24–29 June 2026, Sofia

Are you a producer or cultural manager working in contemporary dance and the performing arts? Do you have at least 2 years of professional experience and want to strengthen your skills in fundraising, project development, touring, festival and artist management while expanding your international network? We invite you to apply for a 5-day residential workshop in Sofia (Bulgaria), complemented by online sessions taking place prior to the on-site program. Hosted by Derida Dance Center.

Application deadline:

3 April 2026, 23:59 CET

Application form: [HERE](#)

[APPLY HERE](#)

DATES & FORMAT

Residential workshop (Sofia): 24–29 June 2026

Daily schedule: 09:00–18:30 (with breaks)

Online module (Zoom): 4 online sessions (May–June 2026) + 1 follow-up session after the workshop (date TBC)

Estimated total time commitment: 4 online sessions + 5 residential workshop days + 1 follow-up session

Working language: English

WHO CAN APPLY?

The workshop is for professionals from the **contemporary dance field**, including:

- Producers, arts managers, project/operational managers
- Cultural entrepreneurs, curators, agents
- Professionals with **minimum 2 years of experience** in production/cultural management in performing arts

There is no age limit.

Eligibility: nationals or legal residents of: Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Greece, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Kosovo*, Romania, Bulgaria, Türkiye.

Selection priority: applicants working primarily in contemporary dance.

Participants per country: 2 participants from each eligible country, with an exception for Bulgaria (5 places for local producers)

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

- Practical tools and frameworks for fundraising & project writing
- Skills in cultural diplomacy and international networking
- Insights into festival management
- Business development for producers: touring, partnerships, artist & tour management
- Hands-on exercises, group work, real-life case studies, peer exchange in a multicultural environment

MENTORS

Participants will learn from internationally experienced professionals, including:

- Kathrin Deventer – European Festivals Association, Secretary General
- Giulia Poltronieri – Cultural Manager
- Magnus Nordberg – Nordberg Movement, Founder
- Maria Popović – SKCNS, Cultural Manager & Fundraiser
- Atanas Maev – Derida Dance Center, CEO & Co-founder

Full bios available [HERE](#).

**This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.*



Co-funded by
the European Union

COSTS COVERED

Derida Dance Center will cover:

- workshop fee
- accommodation
- travel costs from/to the participant's place of residence to/from Sofia (*economy and reasonable costs*)

We encourage green overland travel (train/bus/shared ground transport) whenever feasible. Detailed travel and reimbursement guidelines will be shared with selected participants.

SELECTION FOCUS

We are looking for motivated professionals who are ready to:

- actively participate and contribute to the group learning process
- apply the knowledge and tools in their local contexts
- strengthen international collaboration and exchange within the region

HOW TO APPLY

Please prepare:

- CV (max. 3000 characters)
- Motivation statement describing your experience, interests, and what you want to develop through this program (max. 1800 characters)

Submit via Google Forms: [HERE](#)

Questions: admin@derida-dance.com and carmen.cotofana@cndb.ro

Application deadline: 3 April 2026, 23:59 CET

Notification about the selection will be sent by mid April 2026.

ABOUT MOVING BALKANS

Moving Balkans is a new European project that brings together dance organizations from the Balkans. The mission of the platform is to elevate contemporary dance in the region and position it competitively within Europe. Through a regional partnership network, showcases, artist mobility initiatives, workshops, co-creations, and capacity-building activities, we strive to empower dance professionals and raise awareness of the vibrant dance scene in the Balkans.

This project is co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency.

