

HALAQAT II - OPEN CALL FOR ARTISTS IN 2026 AT QUEENS COLLECTIVE IN MOROCCO

From 06/11/2025 6:00 PM to 20/11/2025 12:00 PM CET (Midday)

HALAQAT OPEN CALL FOR ARTISTS IN 2026 - IN A NUTSHELL:

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WHAT?

This new call is addressed to individual parenting artists who experience both working as an artist and parenting/caregiving and are interested in participating in the Halaqat residency programme with an individual project focusing on the themes of Gender and Care.

The residency will be hosted by Queens Collective in Marrakesh, Morocco, for a duration to be chosen by the participating artists of either 6 weeks or 3 months between April and June 2026. The residency at Queens Collective specifically focuses on the themes of parenthood and caregiving and welcomes artists who are interested in integrating care work and parenting into their creative practice.

Along with a grant and the opportunity to participate in the residency, selected artists will also benefit from local exchange and networking with fellow artists, groups, and institutions in Marrakesh, its surrounding region and Morocco. Participants will also benefit from project development support and the chance to showcase their work or work-in-progress at a public event, while immersing themselves in the vibrant atmosphere of Marrakesh and exploring its historic old city.



Funded by
the European Union



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Who, where, when?

The call is open to artists from and based in one of the following focus countries: Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria and all EU members states (with a strong link to and relevant previous work experience in the Arab region for applicants based in the EU).

The residency takes place at Marrakesh, Morocco, for a duration of either 6 weeks or 3 months between April and June 2026.

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How much?

- 2,950€ for a 3-month residency / 1,750€ for a 6-weeks residency covering travel costs and per diems (paid in Euro or the equivalent)
- Based on the specific needs of each project, additional budget for production costs and showcasing preparation can be provided.
- To ensure family situation or special needs don't prevent artists from participating in the residency, top-ups for family*, accessibility and visa can be provided as a one-time payment for the entire period of the residency. **

*Artists are welcome to include their children in the residency, as much as their school schedules and holidays allow.

** A one-time supplementary payment may be available to support family participation, accessibility needs, and visa-related expenses for the full duration of the residency.

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How and when to apply?

Submit your application in English via the Goethe-Application Platform (GAP):

Login - Kulturfoerderung des Goethe-Instituts

Deadline for the application:

20 November 2025 12:00 pm CET (Midday)

About Halaqat

Halaqat – an Arabic term meaning ‘multiple links and circles’ – provides a space for cultural actors from Arab and European countries to artistically reflect on themes of care, exploring them through the lens of gender. Launched in 2021, the project fosters exchange and supports artistic productions and cultural scenes in both regions. In its second phase, running from 2024 to 2027, the main activities of Halaqat are taking place in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, and Belgium.

Halaqat explores the notion of ‘care’, a concept which is deeply related to gender topics in both regions, and tackles the questions of gender equity and sensitivity, and power dynamics, in an inclusive and intersectional way. Care is a multifaceted notion. It can refer to a particular attention or concern for someone or something, but it can also convey the idea of worrying about or looking after something, implying a sense of responsibility or vigilance. The project invites dialogue with artists, cultural practitioners and audiences, exploring the theme of care on both a structural and artistic level. How can different notions of care be addressed and expressed? How do dominant narratives influence which bodies are cared about (and which are not), and how can these narratives be challenged? How can we strengthen practices of care in the cultural scene and in society at large?

The networks, knowledge, lessons learned and exchanges from the first phase of Halaqat inspired the design of this next phase. The project has an expanded geographical scope and takes a cross-regional and intra-regional approach, fostering South-South exchange. It also focuses on the notion of locality and the importance of bringing forward the role of art in local communities. The key objective is to strengthen artistic voices by supporting co-creation through different grants, residencies, public events, and capacity-building initiatives like workshops and mentorship programmes.

Halaqat (2024-2027) is funded by the European Union and implemented by the Goethe-Institut. It will run for 32 months until spring 2027 with activities in Belgium, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Morocco.

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I. General Information

1. About the Open Call for Artists

As part of the Halaqat Project, eight art residencies will be taking place in 2026 in Lebanon, Morocco, Jordan, and Egypt!

Among them is a residency organized by Queens Collective in Morocco, centred on the themes of parenthood and caregiving. This residency welcomes artists interested in exploring how care work can be integrated into their creative practice.

As this concept is quite innovative and experimental within the art scene, we have decided to republish the offer to ensure it reaches more artists who may resonate with its vision. The Queens Collective residency opportunity reflects Halaqat's core focus areas: Gender and Care.

Along with a grant and the opportunity to participate in the residency, selected artists will also benefit from local exchange and networking with fellow artists, groups, and institutions in Marrakesh, its surrounding region and Morocco. Participants will also benefit from project development support and the chance to showcase their work or work-in-progress at a public event, while immersing themselves in the vibrant atmosphere of Marrakesh and exploring its historic old city.

2. About the Residency Opportunity at Queens Collective (Morocco)

City: Marrakesh

Duration: 6 weeks or 3 months

Dates: 1 April – 30 June 2026 for the 3 month-residency, 1 April – 15 May or 16 May – 30 June 2026 for the 6 week-residency

Eligible Disciplines: multidisciplinary art, live art, site specific performance, dance, visual art, sound art and design

Preferred Languages of Communication: English / French

Introduction to the Residency Host in general:

Queens Collective is a vibrant multidisciplinary arts and residency hub in Marrakesh, dedicated to nurturing both local and international artists. It provides a safe space and platform for creative exchange, collaboration, female empowerment, and community activities. Through diverse residencies and public events, QC supports artistic growth and cultural connection, believing in the arts' power to inspire care, freedom, and transformation.

Introduction to the Host's Residency Concept for Halaqat:

This residency supports artists whose practice explores the intersection of parenting and artistic creation. It is open to artists active in multidisciplinary art, live art, site specific

performance, dance, visual art, sound art and design who tackle the notion of parenthood and care in their artistic practice

Queens Collective invites parenting artists offering space to integrate care-work into creative practice. Embracing the child as a collaborator, it invites artist parents to develop work shaped by creative parenthood. Rooted in local context, the program highlights the lack of structural support for artist parents in Morocco and the world and creates space for collective strategies, embodied research, and long-term artistic empowerment.

- How does the caregiving reshape the artistic practice?
- How can we bend our ideas of art making?
- How do we transform limitation into inspiration?
- How do we adapt our practices to the new reality?

Applications are open to artists whose work engages with parenthood and caregiving, as raising children, co-parenting, or other relationships of caregiving. Priority will be given to artist parents interested in developing a child-inclusive practice, where the child – whether present or not – is seen as part of the creative process. Artists may choose to bring their child for the full duration, part of the residency, or not at all. Queens Collective offers a safe, family-friendly environment with support in childcare and cooking for those attending with children.

For additional information you can check: <https://www.queenscollective.org>

3. Additional Information About the Open Call for Artists

3.1. Who Can Apply?

The call is open to artists from and based in one of the following focus countries: Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria and all EU members states. Candidates based in the EU should have a strong link to and relevant previous work experience in the Arab region.

3.2. Funding Objectives and Principles

Halaqat provides artists with the opportunity to undertake this art residency in Morocco for a duration of 6 weeks or 3 months, supporting the development of new artistic projects that address the themes of care and gender. Selected artists will receive a lump sum grant (paid in two instalments) covering travel, production costs, showcasing, and per diems. The residency also provides extra top-up funding for artists who require additional support linked to visa costs, family responsibilities, and/or special needs.

It is possible to apply across the different Halaqat Open Calls, either as an individual and/or as representative of a legal entity, but the number of grants awarded as part of Halaqat II cannot exceed two and the diversity of proposals is required.

Co-funding from other source(s) is possible but double funding with EU financial contributions is not allowed if intended for the exact same artistic mobility and residency project that constitute the subject of this application. However, if costs are covered by another source, they should be mentioned in the application form, and/or declared to Goethe-Institut if received at a later stage of the grant cycle.

3.3. Calculation of the Grant

a. Maximum Grant Amount (in EUR):

- 2,950€ for a 3-month residency / 1,750€ for a 6-weeks residency (paid in Euro or the equivalent), excluding additional top-ups for special needs, family responsibilities, or visa costs.

b. Breakdown of the Grant Amount:

- Travel cost: 550€
- Per diem: 800€/month

Based on the specific needs of each project, additional budget for production costs and showcasing preparation can be provided (following the submission of a financial plan at the start of the residency.).

- Production costs: up to 1,000€
- Showcasing preparation: up to: 250€

To ensure family situation or special needs don't prevent artists from participating in the residency, the following top-ups can be provided as a one-time payment for the entire period of the residency:

- Family top-up for artists with family responsibilities: on a case-by-case basis.
- Accessibility top-up for artists with special needs (e.g. disability): on a case-by-case basis.
- Visa top-up: will be paid separately (refund of real cost)

Artists are welcome to include their children in the residency, as much as their school schedules and holidays allow. A one-time supplementary payment may be available to support family participation, accessibility needs, and visa-related expenses for the full duration of the residency.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the applicant to check if s/he can get a visa to enter the selected country. The Goethe-Institut and the Halaqat team can only support in the visa process but cannot guarantee that the visa will be obtained.

c. Grant Disbursement:

The agreed amount, as stated in the Grant Agreement, will be paid in two instalments:

- 1- 70% with the first instalment paid prior to the start of the residency and upon signature of the Grant Agreement, and
- 2- 30% upon completion of the residency and submission of the Activity Report, subject to the approval of the report by the Halaqat team.

The Goethe-Institut reserves the right to adjust the payment modalities at any stage of the grant cycle, in the form of amendments to the Grant Agreement, interim reports, or by introducing a third instalment and adjusting the amounts per instalment. In the event of changes pertaining to the payment modalities, the Goethe-Institut has the obligation to inform the grant recipient sufficiently in advance and to ensure that the changes introduced do not impede the implementation of the project.

4. Timeline

- Open Call: 06 November 2025 6:00 pm CET
- Closing Date: 20 November 2025 12:00 PM CET (**Midday**)
- Results: 6 to 8 weeks after the deadline.
- Submission of the Activity Report: No later than 30 days after the end of the residency.

II. Eligibility Criteria

To be considered 'eligible', artists should meet all eligibility criteria and submit a relevant project proposal that fulfils the conditions listed below.

1. Eligible Countries

Artists from and based in the following focus countries can apply:

Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, and all EU members states: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden.

N.B: If based in an EU Member State, applicants must be engaged in the art scene in the Arab region, either directly or through ongoing or previous collaborations.

Priority will be given to artists based in the Arab region and residing in countries other than the country where the selected host is based, in line with Halaqat's endeavours to foster South-South artistic mobility.

2. Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants must be active in the artistic field(s) defined by the host organisation. They should submit a concept for an artistic project that demonstrates the relevance of a residency in the selected country to their work. The concept should also reflect a strong commitment to, and interest in, the topics of gender and care. To qualify, artists must have relevant previous experience and a proven track record with at least one artistic project that was presented publicly. They should also be willing to participate in a public event during the residency (e.g., work-in-progress presentation, artist talk, workshop, open studio, etc).

3. Eligibility Checklist

Your application is eligible if:

- ☐ You are over 18 years old.
- ☐ You are active in the artistic field(s) of the residency host.
- ☐ You come from and are based in one of the following focus countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, and all EU members states.

If based in the EU, applicants must have strong links to the region and be engaged in the art scene in the Arab region, either directly or through ongoing or previous collaborations.

- ☐ Your concept demonstrates the relevance of the residency to your work.
- ☐ Your concept reflects a strong commitment to, and interest in, the topics of gender and care.
- ☐ You have a proven track record with at least one artistic project that was presented publicly.
- ☐ You are willing to participate in a public event during the residency (e.g., work-in-progress presentation, artist talk, workshop, etc).
- ☐ You confirm your full availability for the chosen period of the residency

Your application is eligible if you have:

- ☐ A passport with minimum 6 months validity from the day of departure from the country where the residency takes place.
- ☐ A proof of legal residence, with clear indications on your current place of residence.
- ☐ A CV.
- ☐ An artistic portfolio (and if available: artist statement/manifest)

- A concept note of the project you would like to explore during your residency.

4. List of Eligible Activities

The concept note of the project should present potential activities that could be organised during the residency.

Eligible activities can include, but are not limited to:

- Development of artistic projects exploring the topics of gender and care.
- Public engagement activities fostering cultural exchange.
- Collaboration with fellow residency artists, local artists and/or communities.
- Exhibitions, performances, screenings, or public showcases as part of the residency plan.

5. Exclusion Criteria

- Applications will be considered ineligible if incomplete or not submitted in accordance with the timeline, format, guidelines and criteria outlined in this call.
- Applications will be considered ineligible if required information fields are left blank, the supporting documents are not uploaded, or if they are shared by any other means than directly uploaded to the Goethe Application Portal (GAP). Documents shared via WeTransfer, Dropbox, attached to emails, etc., will not be accepted.
- Applications submitted after the deadline of **20 November 2025 12:00 PM CET (Midday)** will not be considered. Applicants are strongly advised not to wait until the last day to submit their application.

III. **Award Criteria and Selection Process**

1. Award Criteria

- Relevance of the project proposal to the thematic focus of Halaqat.
- Relevance of the project proposal to the concept of the residency host
- Relevance of an artistic mobility and/or motivation to take part in a residency in Marrakesh/Morocco
- Artistic quality of the concept and previous projects.

2. Selection Process

1.1. What happens once the Application is Submitted?

The selection process starts with an eligibility check by the Halaqat project team. Complete applications that meet the eligibility criteria are then assessed by three jury members. The jury members work independently from one another and follow a clear evaluation grid. Based on this initial assessment, pre-selected applicants will be invited to online interviews. The round of interviews is scheduled for mid-December. Pre-selected applicants will be informed by e-mail of the exact date and time of the interview.

The final selection of the artists is made by the jury and is based primarily on the application and the interviews, along with other criteria such as geographical, gender and sectoral balance, and other inclusion aspects. The Goethe-Institut seeks to ensure fairness, diversity, non-discrimination, the equal treatment of all applicants and the quality, impartiality, absence of conflicts of interest, and coherence of the selection process.

1.2. Notification of Results

The results (selected, not selected, and reserve list) are communicated individually to applicants via the Goethe-Application Portal (GAP), approximately 6 to 8 weeks after the deadline. Applicants will also receive an e-mail notification.

Applicants on the reserve list could be selected at a later stage if previously selected applicants drop-out of the funding opportunity.

IV. How to apply?

1. Preparation of the Application

- The online application must be written and submitted solely by the applicant in accordance with the timeline, format, guidelines and criteria outlined in this call.
- The application must include a thorough presentation of the residency concept, together with the mandatory supporting documents.

2. Language, translation, and AI

- Applications should be submitted in English.
- Linguistic skills will not be considered in the selection process, but applications should be clearly written to ensure a smooth evaluation process.
- Applicants are free to work with proofreaders, to use online translation tools, and/or AI tools.

3. List of Supporting Documents

- A proof of legal residence, with clear indications on your current place of residence. Official documents should be submitted, in the language in which they were provided by issuing authorities, translations are not required.
- A passport with minimum 6 months validity from the day of departure from the country where the residency will take place.
- CV: This document should be submitted in the language of the application.
- Artistic portfolio: The artistic portfolio presents an overview of the artist, and samples of previous projects, along with links to relevant works, and if available documentations in form of still and moving images, sound recordings, demos etc. This document should be submitted in the language of the application.
- A concept note: A brief proposal for the concept of the project you would like to explore during the residency. This document should be written **in English**. Applicants are free to work with proofreaders, to use online translation tools, and/or AI tools.

4. Guidelines for Applying on the Goethe-Application Portal (GAP)

- You are required to create an account and fill out the online application on the Goethe-Application Portal (GAP): [Goethe-Application Portal](#)
- You can edit and save the draft application for the whole duration of the call but once submitted the application can no longer be changed.
- All mandatory fields in the form should be filled, and all compulsory supporting documents provided.
- Once the application is submitted, you will receive an automatic e-mail confirmation of the receipt. If you do not receive an automatic confirmation, please contact the Halaqat Team, as well as in case of any other technical problems on: Halaqat@goethe.de

Please note that only complete applications submitted via the Goethe-Application Portal (GAP) by 20/11/2025 12:00 PM CET (Midday) will be evaluated. Applicants are strongly advised not to wait until the last day to submit their application.

To ensure that all applicants have access to all necessary and relevant information, all questions, and answers as well as other important information will be published and accessible to everyone in the Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) section on the [website](#). For any additional inquiries, you can contact the Halaqat team at Halaqat@goethe.de or through the GAP platform via the e-mail option.

V. Additional Information:

1. Changes to the Project Proposal

- Since the selection process is based on the information provided in the application, changes to the residency project are limited, require a written amendment, and are subject to prior approval by the Goethe-Institut.
- If after the signature of the grant agreement, a beneficiary is faced with unforeseen exceptional circumstances such as *force majeure* that would hamper their capacity to carry out their project, the Goethe-Institut reserves the right to propose the option of implementing the project in a hybrid or virtual format. Such a change is at the discretion of the Goethe-Institut and conditional on the adjustment of the overall amount allocated to the grant.

2. Disclaimer

- Applicants are responsible for reading the call at the time of application. By submitting the application applicants accept all terms, conditions and requirements of the call.
- Only complete applications submitted via the Goethe-Application Portal (GAP), in a timely manner and in accordance with the criteria outlined in this call will be considered. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that their applications

meet all the eligibility criteria, and that all information provided in the application is true.

- The Goethe-Institut stands for diversity and inclusion, and welcomes applications from all interested parties, regardless of their cultural and social background, nationality, age, religion, gender, disability and sexual identity.
- There is no legal entitlement to funding.
- The Goethe-Institut reserves the right to make any changes and modifications at any stage of the project including but not limited to terms and conditions, selection processes and methodologies applied, issuing of results, utilization of funds, documents required for eligibility, contract signature and contractual obligations, indicative timetable and any deadlines mentioned.
- The Goethe-Institut will not be responsible for any inconveniences that may be caused by the changes/adjustments made to the contents of these Guidelines due to unforeseen circumstances.
- In the event of changes pertaining to the terms and conditions of the grant, the Goethe-Institut has the obligation to inform the grant recipient sufficiently in advance, and to ensure to the best of their abilities that the changes introduced do not impede the implementation of the project.

3. Data Protection

Applying to the call involves the recording and processing of personal data (such as name, address, contact details and any other personal data contained in the requested information and documents). This data will be processed pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (Data Protection Directive). This data will be processed for the purpose of evaluating the funding application and - insofar as a contract is concluded - also for the purpose of fulfilling the contract on the legal basis of Art. 6 para. 1 sentence 1 lit. b) General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Unless indicated otherwise, any personal data requested to evaluate the application in accordance with the specifications of the call will be processed solely for that purpose by the Halaqat team and the external experts. In the event of a grant, the data will also be used to contract and implement the project.

In the process, your data will also be transferred to Goethe-Instituts based outside the European Union (EU) or the European Economic Area (EEA). Insofar as your data leaves the area of the EU/EEA, we ensure an appropriate level of data protection for the transfer to these third countries by agreeing on EU standard data protection clauses with the Goethe-Instituts located there, which have been issued by the European Commission for this purpose. You can obtain a copy of this agreement from us on request.

4. Get in touch with the Halaqat Team

The Halaqat team is available to answer your questions about the content and modalities of the open call. For any additional inquiries, you can:

Online:

- Please visit the Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) section on the [website](#).

By Email:

- You can contact the Halaqat team on: Halaqat@goethe.de
- If you have a Goethe-Application Portal (GAP) account, you can also send an e-mail directly via the platform.

Stay updated and subscribe to our newsletter by sending an email to: Halaqat@goethe.de

هالاقات Halaqat

Halaqat provides a space for cultural actors from Arab and European countries to artistically reflect on themes of CARE, exploring them through the lens of gender.

In the second phase of the project, which runs from 2024 to 2027, Halaqat supports creativity and cooperation in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Morocco, and Brussels through grants, residencies and training.

The project is funded by the European Union and implemented by the Goethe-Institut.



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