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# FUNDING TOOLKIT: YOUR NEW GUIDE ON EUROPEAN FUNDING

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**Eurodiaconia** is a European network of churches and Christian NGOs providing social and healthcare services and advocating social justice.

## Mission

Eurodiaconia is a network of churches and Christian organizations that provide social and health care services and advocate for social justice. Together we work for just and transformative social change across Europe, leaving no-one behind.

## Vision

Driven by our Christian faith, our vision is of a Europe where each person is valued for their inherent God-given worth and dignity and where our societies guarantee social justice for all people, including the most vulnerable and marginalized.

**Editor:** Giorgia Signoretto

**Template design:** Sara Gianguzza

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# WELCOME TO THE FUNDING TOOLKIT!


Eurodiaconia has developed a funding toolkit for members to support them in:


1. developing a fundraising strategy
2. learning about relevant EU funds and identifying the most suitable programmes
3. writing project proposals
4. accessing funding from foundations


In case of any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact the *Head of Membership Services, Projects & Engagement* Vera Nygard at [vera.nygard@eurodiaconia.org](mailto:vera.nygard@eurodiaconia.org), and the *Projects and EU Funding Officer* Giorgia Signoretto at [giorgia.signoretto@eurodiaconia.org](mailto:giorgia.signoretto@eurodiaconia.org)

## HOW TO USE THE EURODIACONIA TOOLKIT ON FUNDING FOR MEMBERS

The **Eurodiaconia Toolkit on Funding** is an instrument for members to easily access the funding information they are looking for. The toolkit is focused on European funding instruments and foundations, but also includes more general information on funding. We have divided the Toolkit into three main categories: Basics of fundraising, EU funding, and Foundations. These categories have three sub-categories that give users more information about each topic.

The category **BASICS OF FUNDRAISING**  looks at developing a fundraising strategy, the skills a fundraiser needs in order to be successful, and what sources of funding are available to organisations.

The category **EU FUNDING**  has a subcategory that gives an overview of EU funding and the technical terminology useful to know before looking into applying under a specific funding instrument. The overview of EU funding instruments summarises for you each **funding programme** relevant to members with the most important information on the programme, the objectives, the eligibility criteria, and how to apply for funds. Finally, a step – to – step guide supports you in your project development process by summarising the most important steps to take.

The category **FOUNDATIONS**  gives an introduction to how to approach foundations when seeking private funding. A list of relevant foundations includes a short summary of their priorities and a contact link.

# BASICS OF EU FUNDING



## Fundraising strategy

A good fundraising strategy is the backbone of successful fundraising. It gives an overview of the needs of your organisation, the sources from which you can seek funding and includes a strategic plan looking at the types of funding desired and how to access them. Your fundraising strategy should include the following information:

- ☑ Description of your organisation;
- ☑ Outline of your vision and mission;
- ☑ Needs of your organisation;
- ☑ Agreed principles (ethical policy);
- ☑ Your main selling points;
- ☑ Available sources of income and methods used to access them;
- ☑ Summary of your current financial situation;
- ☑ SWOT analysis (strength, weaknesses, opportunities and threats);
- ☑ Goals and major projects;
- ☑ Medium-term financial plan;
- ☑ Challenges/barriers to fundraising your organisation could experience;
- ☑ Snapshot of your fundraising environment.

The fundraising strategy should help you to make decisions regarding your funding priorities, your available budget for fundraising activities, and time limits. It is imperative to do enough research into each of the funding sources you identified before approaching them

and to use a variety of sources to avoid putting a lot of work into a single source to finally receive a rejection.

## Skills of a fundraiser

Fundraising does not only require conducting thorough research, but also the ability to communicate the right message to the right people. Therefore, several people skills and organizational skills are needed to build lasting relationships with donor organizations and individuals.

## Sources of funding

Sources of funding diaconal organisations can range from individual options to corporate funding, foundations, and public funding. Here you can see a list of sources:

**Public Funding:** *-Public Procurement -EU Grants -Public subsidies/ grants -EU calls for tender*

**Foundations:** *-Grants*

**Individual Donors:** *-Face-to-face, door-to-door -Major individual donors -Events -Crowdfunding -Advertisement/Social Media/Campaigns -Direct Mail*

**Corporate Funding:** *-Donations -Pro-bono services -Sponsoring -Events- Subcontracting services to NGOs -Grants -Team-building exercises*

# EU FUNDING



## The Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)

The European Union provides funding and grants for a broad range of projects and programmes, financed out of the EU's budget, as defined through a Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), the EU's long-term spending plan for the period 2021 - 2027. The MFF sets out the maximum budget for the EU in seven broad areas. This division into seven categories of expenses ('headings') is corresponding to different areas of EU activities:

- 1. Single Market, Innovation and Digital:** Horizon Europe
- 2. Cohesion, Resilience and Values:** ESF+, Erasmus+, ERDF, CERV, ESC, EU4Health, Creative Europe
- 3. Natural Resources and Environment:** LIFE, Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
- 4. Migration and Border Management:** AMIF
- 5. Security and Defence:** European Defence Fund
- 6. Neighbourhood and the World:** Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III), Global Europe, Humanitarian aid
- 7. European Public Administration**

### The NextGenerationEU

With a budget of EUR 806.9 billion, NextGenerationEU will help repair the immediate

economic and social damage caused by the coronavirus pandemic and make the EU fit for the future. The instrument will help build a post-COVID-19 EU that is greener, more digital, more resilient and a better fit for the current and forthcoming challenges.

**The Recovery and Resilience Facility:** the centrepiece of NextGenerationEU with €723.8 billion in loans and grants available to support reforms and investments undertaken by EU countries. The aim is to mitigate the economic and social impact of the coronavirus pandemic and make European economies and societies more sustainable, resilient and better prepared for the challenges and opportunities of the green and digital transitions. Member States are working on their recovery and resilience plans to access the funds under the Recovery and Resilience Facility.

**Recovery Assistance for Cohesion and the Territories of Europe (REACT-EU):** NextGenerationEU also includes €50.6 billion for REACT-EU. It is a new initiative that continues and extends the crisis response and crisis repair measures delivered through the Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative and the Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative Plus. It will contribute to a green, digital and resilient recovery of the economy. The funds will be made available to:

- the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- the European Social Fund + (ESF+)

In addition, NextGenerationEU will reinforce several existing EU programmes and policies, as follows:

- the Cohesion policy under the recovery assistance for cohesion and the territories of Europe (REACTEU), to help address the economic consequences of COVID-19 in the first years of the recovery;
- the Just Transition Fund, to guarantee that the transition to climate neutrality works for all;
- the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, to further support farmers;
- InvestEU, to support the investment efforts of our businesses;

- rescEU, safeguards that the EU Civil Protection Mechanism has the capacity to respond to largescale emergencies;
- Horizon Europe, to make sure the EU has the capacity to fund more excellence in research.

To finance NextGenerationEU, the EU will borrow from the markets. Repayment will take place over a long-term period, until 2058. This will avoid placing immediate pressure on Member States' national finances and enable them to focus their efforts on the recovery.

### Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 and NextGenerationEU total allocations per heading

|  | <i>MFF</i>              | <i>NextGenerationEU</i> |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Single market, innovation and digital | €149.5 billion          | €11.5 billion           |
| 2. Cohesion, resilience and values       | €426.7 billion          | €776.5 billion          |
| 3. Natural resources and environment     | €401 billion            | €18.9 billion           |
| 4. Migration and border management       | €25.7 billion           | -                       |
| 5. Security and defence                  | €14.9 billion           | -                       |
| 6. Neighbourhood and the world           | €110.6 billion          | -                       |
| 7. European public administration        | €82.5 billion           | -                       |
| <b>TOTAL MFF</b>                         | <b>€1 210.9 billion</b> | <b>€806.9 billion</b>   |

## EU Funding Principals

**The EU funds can roughly be divided into three types:** structural and investment funds, programmes and initiatives, and third country funds. Whilst the first two types are allocated internally within the EU, the latter particularly addresses actions outside the EU.

EU funds are mostly allocated through grants awarded on the basis of calls for proposals, in which different actors compete for the support of the EU. **Two types of grants can be distinguished:**

1. action grants for projects with a limited lifetime during which proposed specific activities are implemented;
2. operating grants providing financial support for the regular work and activities of an organisation.

Furthermore, the EU awards public contracts through calls for tenders (public procurement) to buy services, goods, or works that ensure the operations of the EU institutions and their programme. Several other types of financing by EU funds exist, such as direct subsidies, which are not part of this toolkit.

## Who is managing the funding and decides on awarding grants/contracts?

### EU Member States

The European Commission designates national or regional managing authorities according to the shared management principle. This means that the European Commission only supervises the implementation of funds, but the Member State

takes responsibility for the management (for example in the case of the European Structural and Investment Funds). The calls for proposals are published by the national or regional managing authorities on the basis of operational programmes, which outline the investment strategy of each fund or priority.

### European Commission

Centrally managed programmes, i.e. the responsible department (Directorate General) or external agency publishes calls for proposals that invite candidates to present project proposals, selects projects, monitors the implementation and evaluates the outcome.

## Call for proposals

A call for proposals signifies that applications for funding are welcome during a certain period and until a certain deadline. Depending on the programme, calls for proposals are published once or several times a year. Purpose: a transparent application process where all applications have the same conditions.

## Where to find calls for proposals?

At European level calls for proposals can be found on the website of the EU funding programmes, which should be checked on a regular basis. In the section of this toolkit on EU funding programmes the links to the respective websites are listed.

At national level members can consult the website of the National Agency or National Contact Point responsible for the programme they are targeting or call the agency directly in



order to get more information on open or upcoming calls for proposals. In the section of this toolkit on EU funding programmes the links to the website of the European Commission listing national agencies can be accessed.

## STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE: DEVELOPING A PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR EU FUNDING



### 1) Preliminary considerations

Ask yourself the following questions before you start working on a project outline.

Does your organisation have sufficient expertise in the area of intervention and financial independence?

Does your organisation exist for at least three years and is in possession of sufficient own resources to guarantee the pre-financing of the project?

### 2) Eligibility criteria and other preconditions

Before writing the project proposal, it is important to check if the chosen funding call can be used for the participating organisations and planned actions. Most of the time, the calls outline different eligibility criteria and preconditions for participation, several examples are listed below.

- **Eligible legal entity:** Most calls are directed towards a specific type of legal entity or require partnerships with certain forms of

entities. These can be for example public bodies, research institutes, and civil society organisations.

- **Financial capacity:** Funding programs often only co-finance projects and thus require the funded organisations to give proof of their financial capacities to provide the required share of resources.
- **Deadline and duration of the project:** Calls for project proposals usually have strict deadlines by which the entirety of requested information and documents need to be submitted, as well as a set time frame by which the project must have started and/or ended. These dates need to be carefully taken into consideration when planning the application process.
- **Thematic focus:** Projects have to fulfill certain thematic priorities and objectives in order to be considered for funding (set out in funds' operational programmes). The project needs to be clearly designed toward reaching these goals, which is why they should be considered before writing the actual proposal. Being familiar with the purpose of the funds and with their operational plans is therefore crucial.
- **Eligible activities:** Some projects only fund a specific set of activities, such as mobility projects or research projects. Make sure to have looked into the chosen activities beforehand.
- **Eligible participants:** Some projects aim at helping a specific target group

### 3) Draft a project outline

The project outline could be 3-5 pages long, depending on the complexity of the project, and should include the following sub-categories:

- project title
- lead applicant/partners
- objectives/outcomes
- planned activities
- implementation schedule
- target group
- financial planning
- contact address

The project outline helps to make a loose idea more precise and serves as a clear format to share with potential partners and give a good idea of the project and whether it could be relevant to them.

### 4) Writing a project proposal

Writing a project proposal can be very time-consuming and, in most cases, might require the effort of more than one person. When a call for proposal is published it is important to read the conditions for participation and the financial regulation very carefully before starting on the proposal.

EU calls for proposals generally follow a similar template for the application form and most of them use an online application tool. Nevertheless, a paper version of all documents needs to be handed in on top of the online application in some cases.

The elements with the highest importance are the description of the action, expected outcomes

as well as the budget and the work plan which should reflect the actions and expected results. Find below a summary of the main elements of a project application:

**Aim of the project:** Include quantifiable statements which can be assessed to determine whether the project has been successfully implemented. The aim should include information about what will be implemented in which timeframe and for which budget.

**Project actions:** State-specific measures that are implemented in the course of the project, such as workshops, publications, or social services.

**Results:** What results are you aiming for? These can be of a material, or immaterial nature.

**European added value:** This is the European dimension of a project. Here applicants must show the transnational character of the planned activities and that social, cultural, economic or other advantages are created for participating countries or regions.

**Sustainability:** This point is highly valued when applying for EU funding and therefore it is important to show how project achievements will continue when the funding period is over.

#### Recommended Tool 1

- **Logical Framework (Logframe):** *The logframe is a helpful tool to structure the project development. It includes all elements necessary for a coherent project proposal in a matrix.*

## Recommended Tool 2

- **Gantt Chart:** *First list the expected results in terms of deliverables, then draw a corresponding list of tasks necessary for their production and gather tasks under work packages (such as communication, evaluation). To schedule and manage tasks, define the duration of work packages*

## 5) Budget and Eligibility of Costs

When designing the budget, attention has to be paid making it coherent, balanced, reasonable, and it must include only eligible costs. Eligible costs are those costs directly related to the proposed project, for which an actual expense is incurred, and actual payment is made. For example, paid staff time devoted to an activity would be an eligible expense. Voluntary staff time, on the other hand, might have value but does not result in an actual expense or payment. Costs for preparing the project are usually not eligible for EU funding. All costs related to the implementation of the specific project, such as the purchase of equipment, office material, the renting of facilities, insurance costs, and communication costs are potentially eligible as indirect project costs. The personnel costs have to include all related costs, such as the employer's contribution to social security, taxes and charges, holidays, and special payments. The work of volunteers cannot be included in the draft budget. Further types of costs that can be covered by EU funding are travel costs, daily rates for food and accommodation, as well as costs for subcontracting, such as interpreting services.

Most of the project funds apply a co-financing principle by which the EU covers a certain percentage of the overall costs and the applicants have to cover the rest. The maximum co-financing rates as well as more specific rules on the eligibility of costs are specified in each call for proposal.

EU grants may take any of the following forms:

### **Reimbursement of a specific proportion of the eligible cost actually incurred**

- The applicant will define his expenditure in terms of real costs (where maximum eligible rates may apply). European Union financing will be calculated by applying a percentage to real eligible expenditure. The contribution will be reduced pro rata if, at the final reporting stage, the project is not fulfilled or is only partially fulfilled, or funds have been spent on ineligible expense items.
- In the case of (the part of) a grant awarded on the basis of real costs, the beneficiary shall keep and be able to produce upon request all proofs of expenditure related to the expense items based on real costs.

### **Lump Sums**

- In the case of grants awarded as a lump sum, the beneficiary has to be able to prove that the activity for which grant support is awarded has really taken place, rather than the actual amount of expenditure. If the supported activity is realized in a satisfactory manner, the full grant amount is acquired.

## Flat rate financing

- In the case of flat-rate grants using scales of unit costs (for example maximum daily rates for subsistence), the beneficiary does not have to justify the costs incurred but has to be able to prove the reality of activities resulting in the entitlement to a specific grant amount.

## 6) Where can you find project partners?

European Funding Instruments often suggest or require creating partnerships for a project proposal. There are a number of sources to consult when looking for project partners. Success stories of previous projects, partner search databases, and compendia are tools that are available at the EU level. There are many more opportunities out there and it is therefore imperative to spend sufficient time on conducting research and identifying further sources for information.

A tool to look for partners: [EU Research Partner Search](#)

At the national level the national agency or contact point responsible for the programme relevant to your organisation is a good address to turn to in search of partners. Again, it is important to conduct sufficient research and find out whether there are any other project partnership databases or search tools available in your national language.

Another source for information is **European networks and umbrella organisations** which

often provide funding information on their website and could potentially identify suitable partners from within their membership. Eurodiaconia is a network of social and health care providers from all over Europe who can help members to find suitable partners for transnational project calls. In order to get an overview of Eurodiaconia members, please consult our webpage [here](#).

## 7) Which legal documents have to be prepared?

Most funding programs require applicants and partner organisations to fill in several legal documents, giving information about the legal form and the financial identification, for example. The exact number of documents required is specified in the calls and program guides and can be found on the European Commission websites. The most common legal documents needed include:

- **Legal entity form** – The legal entity form asks for information on the legal form and registration number of the applying organisation, for example. It can be accessed in all official languages of the European Union [here](#).
- **Financial identification form** – This document asks for banking details of the applicant organisation. It can be accessed in all official languages of the European Union [here](#).
- **Declaration on honour** – the declaration of honour requires the applicant organisation to commit to comply with the program rules and project.

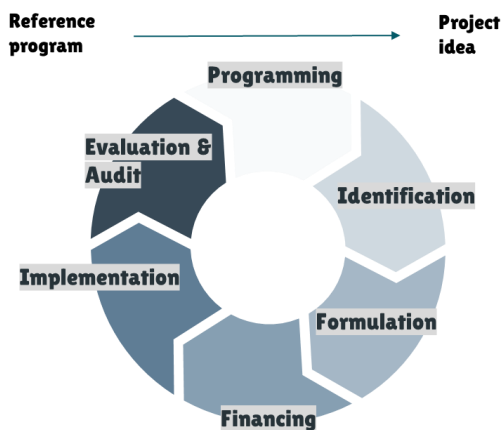
- **Letters of mandate** – For the case that partners are involved in the project, a letter of the mandate has to be filled in which gives authorization to the applicant organisation to hand in and coordinate the project.

Templates for all these documents are available and the relevant links are provided in the call or online application form. There, it is also stated which of these documents are needed for the specific funding program.

In addition to this information, organisations often have to provide a copy of their statutes and VAT certificates as well as a copy of their budget summaries of preceding years.

## 8) Project Cycle Management

The “Project Cycle Management” approach is the primary set of project design and management tools adopted by the European Commission. This approach was primarily developed for projects in the field of international development but can be adapted to the European context as well. The graphic below shows the different stages an organisation will go through when applying for EU funds.



## Tips and tricks for writing funding applications

Applying for funding, especially for funding from major donors such as the European Union, often requires special knowledge and skills on how to properly fill in the application and the required legal documents. Eurodiaconia and several of its members have considerable experience in applying for funds from different sources and have shared their experience and tips in order to successfully fill in and implement different calls for proposals. Below, you will find detailed tips and tricks for writing funding applications for different programs.

### Tips and tricks

Applying for funding is a lengthy and complicated process that requires specific skills and experience in order to be successful. These tips and tricks can help organisations to get started with writing funding proposals.

- **Start with applying for funding with an easy programme and a manageable project.**

Funding programs allow for projects of different sizes and complexity and have easier application procedures for certain programs and projects with lesser budgets. For the first funding application, it is thus favourable to start with a small project and a less complex program, such as Erasmus+.

- **Do not be discouraged by the first funding application.**

The first funding proposal to write is the most complicated as you cannot build on any pre-knowledge and experience. So, if it fails, do not be discouraged as a failed funding proposal usually receives feedback that can be used to improve the application for the next attempt.

- **Plan ahead, especially in projects including partners.**

Writing project proposals and collecting all necessary documents is a lengthy process. Especially when the project involves partner organisations, the workload needs to be planned carefully as the applicant organisation has to anticipate delays in receiving the necessary information and documents. Partner organisations might have trouble adhering to short deadlines as all official documents have to be signed by the legal representative of the organisation and not the project manager. Furthermore, when having partners from different countries, the post way of the originally signed documents has to be planned into the timetable.

- **Ask the responsible Commission or national agency for advice.**

European Union programs are either coordinated by the responsible European Commission agencies or by national agencies on the Member State level, or by a combination of both. When it is a nationally coordinated project, the national agencies responsible for

handling the funding applications can be asked for advice. They usually have consultants who are available for meeting with civil society organisations and the time to answer questions and assess the potential of the funding proposal. For an EU-coordinated project, the contact details of the responsible funding managers should be available on the websites of the European Commission agencies.

- **Prepare documents.**

Most documents have templates available which require the applicant to fill in information about the project and organisation. As the templates are often lengthy and require several empty spots to be filled in throughout the document, it is good to highlight the respective spots so that the legal representative or partner organisation who has to sign the information off easily sees where what kind of information is required.

- **Let an experienced person proofread the text of the proposal.**

Once a draft version of the funding proposal is ready it is often very helpful to let someone with experience and knowledge of project management read through the entire text and give feedback on its coherence and persuasiveness. External observers usually spot inconsistencies and misunderstandings more easily than the authors of the text.

# PROGRAMMES



## EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND + (ESF+)

The ESF+ is part of the **Heading 2 – Cohesion and Values** which amounts to 35.2 % of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-27.

The ESF+, with a total budget of **€99.3 billion** (in current prices). It will play an important role in the implementation of the action plan on the European Pillar of Social Rights and in countering the socio-economic effects of the pandemic.

The ESF+ will merge the existing programmes:

- *European Social Fund (ESF)*
- *Youth Employment Initiative (YEI)*
- *the Fund for the European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD)*
- *the Employment and Social Innovation programme (EaSI)*

### ESF+ PRIORITIES

The goal is to use the ESF+ to help build a more social Europe by aligning the funding with EU policy priorities and processes. To achieve this, the ESF+ will support the implementation of:

- The European Pillar of Social Rights. The 20 principles will guide the actions under ESF+ to support investments in people and systems in employment, education and social policy.
- The social and employment priorities of the European Semester. The ESF+ will support member states to invest in employment,

education, health, and social policy reforms in line with the country-specific recommendations (CSRs) and employment guidelines. How? Member states will have to allocate an ‘adequate amount from national ESF+ resources’ to implement policy responses to challenges identified in the European Semester process.

### The ESF+ foresees:

- Member states with an above EU-average percentage of young people not in employment, education, or training (NEET) between 2017 and 2019 should devote at least 12.5% of their ESF+ resources to help them improve their skills or find a good quality job. Other member states should also dedicate resources to them.
- Member states that had an above EU average percentage of children at risk of poverty or social exclusion between 2017 and 2019 should invest at least 5% of their programming resources in directly supporting children’s equal access to childcare, education, healthcare, and decent housing. All member states are obliged to invest in combating child poverty.
- At least a quarter of the funds will be dedicated to measures fostering equal opportunities for disadvantaged groups, including marginalized communities such as Roma and third country nationals;
- Capacity building: 0.25% of funds to be allocated for capacity building of social partners and civil society in each member state.

- Social Inclusion: at least 25% for all Member states
- The current Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) has been integrated into the new ESF+. Under the new rules, all member states will have to spend at least 3% of their funds on food and basic material assistance to address the forms of extreme poverty that contribute most to social exclusion.

### How the ESF+ will be managed

The majority of funding under the ESF+ (€98.5 billion) will be allocated under shared management with the Member States. This means that the ESF+ Managing Authorities in each country will dedicate the money to projects that are run by a range of public and private organisations, thereby responding to the country- and region-specific needs.

In addition to the shared management strand of the fund, the European Commission directly manages a smaller share (€762 million) of the ESF+ under the Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) Strand. This side of the fund will support analytical activities, capacity building and transnational/cross-border cooperation to strengthen social protection and social inclusion, fair working conditions, equal access to the labour market, social entrepreneurship and labour mobility.

### How to participate

- Who to contact?

ESF funding is available through the Member States and regions. The ESF does not fund projects directly from Brussels.

Organisations interested in ESF funding for a project should contact the ESF Managing Authority in their country or region.

- Who is who?

ESF projects are applied for and run by a wide variety of organisations known as beneficiaries, including public administrations, workers' and employers' organisations, NGOs, charities and companies. The individuals who take part in an ESF project are called participants; these include, for example, older workers training for new skills, young jobseekers getting work placements, or people seeking advice on how to set up their own business.

#### Useful Links

- [\*European Social Fund + website\*](#)
- [\*European Social Fund + handbook\*](#)
- [\*European Social Fund + projects examples\*](#)
- [\*European Social Fund + Contact Points\*](#)
- [\*European Social Fund + calls for proposals\*](#)



## ERASMUS+

The Erasmus+ programme is part of the **Heading 2- Cohesion and Values** of the MFF 2021-2027. It amounts to 35.2 % of the total budget and is allocated the largest amount of funding in the proposal. The Programme supports priorities and activities set out in the **European Education Area, Digital Education Action Plan and in the European Skills Agenda**. Helps make European Pillar of Social Rights a reality, implements the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027 and develops the European dimension in sport.

Erasmus+ 2021-27 has an estimated budget of **€26.2 billion** for the period 2021-2027, nearly doubling the funding compared to its predecessor programme (2014-2020).

- 70% of the budget will support mobility opportunities for all, from a lifelong learning perspective.
- 30% of the budget will be invested in cooperation projects and policy development activities where organizations gain experience in international cooperation, strengthen their capacities, produce innovative approaches, exchange good practices, and network.

Erasmus+ is the EU Programme in the fields of education, training, youth, and sport for the period 2021-2027. Education, training, youth, and sport are key areas that support citizens in their personal and professional development. High-quality, inclusive education, and training, as well as informal and non-formal learning,

ultimately equip young people and participants of all ages with the qualifications and skills needed for their meaningful participation in a democratic society, intercultural understanding, and successful transition in the labour market.

### The priorities are:

- Inclusion and Diversity;
- Digital Transformation;
- Environment and fight against climate change;
- Participation in democratic life.

Erasmus+, for the funding period 2021-2027, offers mobility and cooperation opportunities in:

- higher education
- vocational education and training
- school education (including early childhood education and care)
- adult education
- youth
- sport

### The Erasmus+ programme has three Key Actions:

**KEY ACTION 1:** mobility of individuals

**KEY ACTION 2:** cooperation among organisations and institutions

**KEY ACTION 3:** support policy development and cooperation

### KEY ACTION 1 – MOBILITY OF INDIVIDUALS

Organisations active in the fields of education, training and youth will receive support from the

Erasmus+ Programme to carry out projects promoting different types of mobility.

- Mobility of learners and staff;
- Youth Participation Activities;
- DiscoverEU Activities.

## **KEY ACTION 2 – COOPERATION AMONG ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS**

### **1) Partnerships for Cooperation**

This action enables participating organisations to gain experience in international cooperation and strengthen their capacities, but also produce high-quality innovative deliverables. Depending on the objectives of the project, the participating organisations involved, or the expected impact, among other elements, Partnerships for Cooperation can be of different sizes and scopes and adapt their activities accordingly. There are two types of partnerships:

- Cooperation Partnerships
- Small-scale Partnerships

### **2) Partnerships for Excellence**, including:

The Partnerships for Excellence support projects with a long-term sustainable perspective. The following actions are supported under this type of partnership:

- Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVEs)
- Erasmus+ Teacher Academies
- Erasmus Mundus Action: Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters and Erasmus Mundus Design Measures.

### **3) Partnerships for Innovation**

- Partnerships for innovation support projects that aim at achieving systemic impact at the European level by having the capacity to

deploy the project outcomes on a European scale and/or by being able to transfer them into different thematic or geographical contexts. They focus on thematic areas that are strategic for Europe's growth and competitiveness and social cohesion.

- Alliances for Innovation
- Forward-looking Projects

## **KEY ACTION 3 – SUPPORT TO POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION**

1) **The European Youth Together** action, targets youth organisations at grass root level which want to establish partnerships across borders, i.e., which aim at adding a European dimension to their activities. The purpose is to encourage new applications from organisations that are not already well established at the European level.

2) **Jean Monnet** actions will support:

- Jean Monnet Action in the field of Higher Education;
- Jean Monnet Action in other fields of education and training;
- Support designated institutions.

## **WHAT TO DO IN ORDER TO SUBMIT AN ERASMUS+ APPLICATION?**

To submit an Erasmus+ project, applicants must follow the four steps described below:

1) Registration. Each applicant must be registered as follows:

- a) For actions managed by the Executive Agency, applicants, affiliated entities and associated partners must register in the

Funding & tender opportunities portal and receive a Participant Identification Code (PIC). Organisations/groups that have already obtained a PIC through their participation in other EU programmes do not need to register again.

- b) For actions managed by National Agencies, applicants must if not already done, register through the Organisation Registration system for Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps and receive an Organisation ID.
- 3) Check the financial conditions;
- 4) Fill in the application form and submit the application form.

### **STEP 1: REGISTRATION**

All applicants must be registered.

#### **For actions managed by the Executive Agency:**

To register in the Funding & tender opportunities portal, the legal representative of the applicant must carry out the following steps:

- Create an EU Login account (unless the person representing the applicant already has an account). New EU Login accounts can be created via the following website: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/>
- Access the Funding & tender opportunities portal at: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home> and register (if applicable) on behalf of the organization/group they represent.

Guidance and Frequently Asked Questions are available on the portal.

#### **For actions managed by the Erasmus+ National Agencies:**

To register in the Organisation Registration system of Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps, the legal representative of the applicant must carry out the following steps:

- Create an EU Login account (unless the applicant has an account).
- Access the Organization Registration system for Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps

### **STEP 2: CHECK THE COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROGRAMME CRITERIA**

When developing their project and before applying for EU funding, participants must verify that they and their project respect the following criteria: admissibility, eligibility, exclusion, selection and award.

#### **Eligibility criteria**

The eligibility criteria are used to determine whether the applicant is allowed to participate in a call for proposals and to submit a proposal for action. They apply to the applicants and to the activities for which the grant is requested: (e.g., type of project or/and activities, implementation period, profile, and/or the number of participants involved). To be eligible, the applicant and the project must meet all the eligibility criteria relating to the Action under which the proposal is submitted. If the project does not meet the eligibility criteria at the application stage, it will be

rejected without being further evaluated. If it appears at the implementation or final report stage that these criteria have not been fulfilled, the activities may be considered ineligible with a consequent recovery of the EU grant initially awarded to the project. The specific eligibility criteria applying to each of the actions implemented through the Erasmus+ Programme Guide is described in Part B of the Guide.

#### Useful Links

- [Erasmus+ website](#)
- [Erasmus+ programme guide](#)
- [Erasmus+ opportunities](#)
- [Erasmus+ projects examples](#)
- [Erasmus+ calls for proposals](#)

## EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS (ESC)

The European Solidarity Corps programme is part of the **Heading 2- Cohesion and Values** of the MFF 2021-2027. The European Solidarity Corps aims to foster solidarity in European society, engaging young people and organisations in accessible and high-quality activities. With a dedicated budget of **€1.009 billion** for 2021-2027, it offers 270 000 opportunities to young people to help address societal and humanitarian challenges through volunteering or by setting up their own solidarity projects.

The European Solidarity Corps finances volunteering (including humanitarian aid) and solidarity projects. It is open to individuals aged 18 to 30 (35 for humanitarian aid) and organisations in EU and partner countries.

### PRIORITIES

The programme implements the following operational actions:

- Volunteering projects
- Solidarity projects
- Volunteering in humanitarian aid operations

Additionally, the European Solidarity Corps supports a series of Quality and Support measures and non-formal and informal learning.

### What can you do?

Broadly, you can get involved in:

- [volunteering](#)
- [traineeships](#) (whereas traineeships can still run this year funded by the budget from the previous programme, please be aware that in the new programme 2021-2027 they are discontinued)
- [jobs](#) (whereas jobs can still run this year funded by the budget from the previous programme, please be aware that in the new programme 2021-2027 they are discontinued)
- [Local Solidarity Projects](#)
- [Humanitarian aid volunteering](#) (European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps)

These can be in a wide range of fields – education and training, citizenship and democratic participation, environment and

natural protection, migration, culture, humanitarian aid, and many others.

### How does it work?

The European Solidarity Corps funding is provided in the form of grants to organisations through call for proposals.

Young people wishing to engage in such activities need to [register in the European Solidarity Corps portal](#). The European Solidarity Corps portal offers a place for those young people and organisations, holding a grant, to implement activities and find each other.

### Who runs the Corps?

The European Solidarity Corps is managed by the European Commission.

It is implemented on the ground by a variety of bodies:

- [European Education and Culture Executive Agency \(EACEA\)](#)
- [National Agencies](#) in each participating country
- [SALTOs](#)
- [European Solidarity Corps resource centre](#).

#### Useful Links

- [\*\*European Solidarity Corps website\*\*](#)
- [\*\*European Solidarity Corps programme\*\*](#)
- [\*\*European Solidarity Corps projects opportunities\*\*](#)
- [\*\*European Solidarity Corps calls for proposals\*\*](#)

## CITIZENS, EQUALITY, RIGHTS AND VALUES PROGRAMME

The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme is part of the **Heading 2- Cohesion and Values** of the MFF 2021-2027. The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme was launched in 2021 and will run for seven years until 2027. The budget is **€1.55billion billion**, the programme was created along with the Justice programme under the **Justice, Rights and Values Fund**.

The CERV programme seeks to support and develop open, rights-based, democratic, equal and inclusive societies based on the rule of law. That includes a vibrant and empowered civil society, encouraging people's democratic, civic and social participation and cultivating the rich diversity of European society, based on our common values, history and memory.

### The CERV programme has four pillars:

#### 1) Union Values

To protect and promote Union values. Following Article 2 of the Treaty on the European Union, 'the Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. Those values are common to the Member States in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity, and equality between women and men prevail'.

**Projects in this area will:** focus on protecting, promoting, and raising awareness of rights by providing financial support to civil society

organisations active at the local, regional, and transnational levels in promoting and cultivating these rights, thereby also strengthening the protection and promotion of Union values and the respect for the rule of law and contributing to the construction of a more democratic Union, democratic dialogue, transparency, and good governance.

## **2) Equality, Rights and Gender Equality**

To promote rights, non-discrimination, and equality, including gender equality, and advance gender and non-discrimination mainstreaming. Projects in this area will:

- prevent and combat inequalities and discrimination on grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and respect the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds;
- promote women’s full enjoyment of rights, and gender equality, including work-life balance, women’s empowerment, and gender mainstreaming;
- combat all forms of discrimination, racism, xenophobia, afrophobia, antisemitism, anti-gypsism, anti-muslim hatred, and other forms of intolerance, including homophobia and other forms of intolerance based on gender identity both online and offline;
- protect and promote the rights of the child, awareness raising of children rights in judicial proceedings, capacity-building of child protection systems;

- protect and promote the rights of persons with disabilities, for their active inclusion and full participation in society;
- tackle the challenges related to the protection of personal data and data protection reform, as well as support the stakeholder dialogue in this area;
- support the efforts to enable people to exercise their rights as EU citizens and enforce free movement rights, as well as tackling the abuse of those rights.

## **3) Citizens' engagement and participation**

To promote citizens' engagement and participation in the democratic life of the Union and exchanges between citizens of different Member States and to raise awareness of the common European history. Projects in this area will:

- remember, research, and educate about defining events in recent European history, including the causes and consequences of authoritarian and totalitarian regimes, and at raising awareness among European citizens, of their common history, culture, cultural heritage, and values, thereby enhancing their understanding of the Union, its origins, purpose, and diversity;
- promote citizens and representative associations' participation in and contribution to the democratic and civic life of the Union by making known and publicly exchanging their views in all areas of Union action;
- promote exchanges between citizens of different countries, in particular through

town-twinning and networks of towns, to afford them practical experience of the wealth and diversity of the common heritage of the Union and to make them aware that these constitute the foundation for a common future.

#### 4) Daphne

To fight violence, including gender-based violence. Projects in this area will:

- prevent and combat at all levels all forms of gender-based violence against women and girls and domestic violence, also by promoting the standards laid down in the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul Convention);
- preventing and combating all forms of violence against children, and young people, as well as violence against other groups at risk, such as LGBTQI persons and persons with disabilities;
- support and protect all direct and indirect victims of such violence, such as domestic violence exerted within the family or violence in intimate relationships, including children orphaned by domestic crimes, and support and ensure the same level of protection throughout the Union for victims of gender-based violence.

#### Type of projects:

Training, capacity building and exchange of good practices, town twinning, raising peoples'

awareness about their rights and the benefits that EU policies will bring to their daily lives, and supporting the development of knowledge-based EU policies and legislation through surveys, studies and analyses.

#### Type of recipients:

Civil society organisations, European networks, public authorities, including equality and human rights bodies, local authorities, academia / research institutes and think tanks.

#### Budget implementation:

The programme is managed directly by the Commission and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (formerly the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency). Funds are disbursed in the form of grants, prizes and procurements.

#### How you can apply

Civil society organisations active at local, regional, national and transnational level, as well as other stakeholders, can apply to receive CERV funding for initiatives aimed at citizens' engagement, equality for all and the protection and promotion of rights and EU values.

- For the latest news on funding opportunities & funded projects under the CERV and Justice programmes, sign up [here](#) to receive the [funding newsletter](#) on a regular basis.
- Many countries also have a national contact point to help applicants and beneficiaries with questions and issues related to the CERV programme.

- If your country does not yet have a CERV national contact point, feel free to contact the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA).

### Useful Links

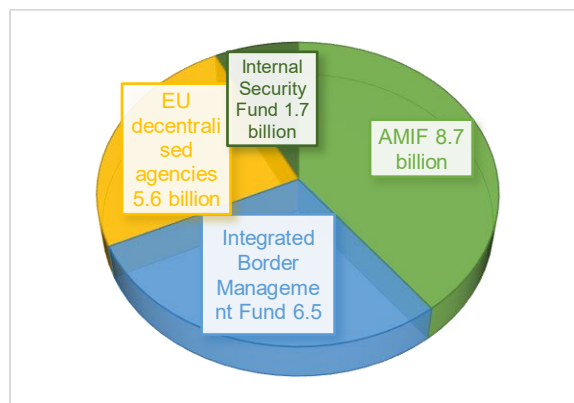
- [Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme website](#)
- [Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values work programme](#)
- [CERV Contact Points 2021-2027](#)
- [Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values calls for proposals](#)

## ASYLUM, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION FUND (AMIF)

The AMIF is part of the common European asylum system package and **Home Affairs Funds** in the 2021-2027 MFF. The AMIF will amount to **€9.882 billion** at current prices. The sectoral home affairs proposals are:

- ❖ **the asylum and migration fund**, which will provide support to member states in their management of asylum and migration.
- ❖ **the instrument for financial support for border management and visa**, which will ensure a strong and effective integrated border management at the EU's external borders.
- ❖ **the internal security fund**, which supports prevention and coordination between police, judicial and other competent authorities to protect citizens.

**The common European asylum system package and Home Affairs Funds in the 2021-2027 MFF are divided as follows:**



\*All numbers are in 2018 prices

### PRIORITIES

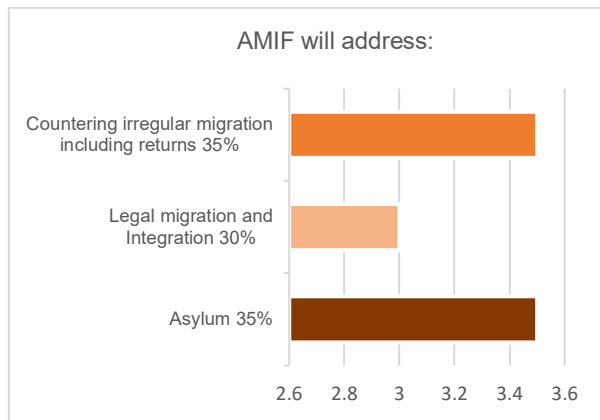
AMIF will contribute to the achievement of four specific objectives:

- to strengthen and develop all aspects of the **common European asylum system**, including its external dimension
- to support **legal migration** to the Member States, including by contributing to the integration of third-country nationals
- to contribute to **countering irregular migration** and ensuring the effectiveness of return and readmission in third countries
- to **enhance solidarity** and responsibility sharing between the Member States, in particular towards those most affected by migration and asylum challenges.

Funds should also aim at enhancing solidarity and responsibility sharing between the member states and could be allocated to local and regional authorities to support people to integrate into their communities.



## Allocation of Resources for the Member States:



The weighting above will be calculated taking into account the number of individuals arriving, residing, or being returned in each MS. For initial allocation, the reference figures shall be based on the latest annual statistical data produced by the Commission (Eurostat) covering the three calendar years 2017, 2018 and 2019.

## Thematic concentrations (funds to different priorities)

The agreed text for the regulation reduced the percentages contains the following thematic concentrations:

- **At least 15%** of each national programme is to be spent on the asylum objective;
- **At least 15%** of each national programme to be spent on the objective of legal migration and integration (in the past MFF, the earmark was 20% for these two objectives);

- **Up to 15%** of each national programme to be spent on 'operating support' for the four objectives;
- **At least 20%** of the thematic facility to be spent on solidarity measures;
- **At least 5%** of the thematic facility for integration measures are implemented by local/regional authorities.

## Funded actions under AMIF

**Actions** funded through AMIF can include a wide range of initiatives, such as:

- ensuring a uniform **application of the EU "acquis"** (common set of rules) and priorities related to the Common European Asylum System, legal migration and return
- providing **support and services** consistent with the status and the needs of the person concerned, in particular vulnerable groups
- supporting **resettlement, humanitarian admission and transfers** of applicants for and beneficiaries of international protection
- supporting the development and implementation of policies **promoting legal migration**, such as the development of mobility schemes to the EU and raising awareness of the appropriate legal channels for immigration
- **supporting integration measures** tailored to the needs of third-country nationals and early integration programmes focusing on education, language and other training (such as civic orientation courses and professional guidance) to prepare their

active participation in and their acceptance by the receiving society

- supporting **infrastructures for the reception** of third country nationals, including the possible joint use of such facilities by more than one Member State
- supporting an integrated and coordinated approach to **return management** at the EU and Member States' level, development of capacities for effective and sustainable return and reducing incentives for irregular migration
- supporting assisted **voluntary return and reintegration**
- **cooperating with third countries** on asylum, legal migration and countering irregular migration and on effective return and readmission for the purpose of managing migration.

### Implementation of the Fund

AMIF is implemented under:

- [shared](#),
- [direct](#) or
- [indirect management](#).

**The largest share** will be allocated to the **national programmes under shared management**.

### AMIF beneficiaries

Examples of beneficiaries of the programmes implemented under AMIF can be:

- state and federal authorities
- local public bodies
- non-governmental organisations

- humanitarian organisations
- private and public law companies
- education and research organisations

### Useful Links

- [\*Asylum, Migration And Integration Fund programme website\*](#)
- [\*Asylum, Migration And Integration Fund working programme\*](#)
- [\*Asylum, Migration And Integration Fund calls for proposals\*](#)

## HORIZON EUROPE

Horizon Europe is part of **the Heading 1 – Single Market, Innovation and Digital**, which represents 12.3 % of the MFF 2021-2027.

Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation with a budget of **€95.5 billion**.

Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation. It tackles climate change, helps to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and boosts the EU's competitiveness and growth.

Its goals are:

- to strengthen the EU's scientific and technological bases and the European Research Area (ERA);
- to boost Europe's innovation capacity, competitiveness, and jobs;
- to deliver on citizens' priorities and sustain our socio-economic model and values.

- a particular focus on creating impact or the European Green Deal, the digital and sustainability transition, and recovery from the coronavirus crisis.

### Horizon Europe is divided into three pillars:

#### Pillar 1

- Excellent Science
- European Research Council
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action
- Research Infrastructures

#### Pillar 2

Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness

##### Clusters:

- Health
- Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry and Space
- Climate, Energy and Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

#### Pillar 3

- Innovative Europe
- European Innovation Council
- European Innovation ecosystems
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology

### ONE HORIZONTAL PRIORITY

*Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area*

- Widening participation and spreading excellence
- Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

### New elements in Horizon Europe

- **European Innovation Council:** Support for innovations with potential breakthrough and disruptive nature with scale-up potential that may be too risky for private investors. This is 70% of the budget earmarked for SMEs.
- **Missions:** Sets of measures to achieve bold, inspirational and measurable goals within a set timeframe. There are 5 main mission areas as part of Horizon Europe.
- **Open science policy:** Mandatory open access to publications and open science principles are applied throughout the programme [Factsheet: Open science in Horizon Europe](#)
- **New approach to partnerships:** Objective-driven and more ambitious partnerships with industry in support of EU policy objectives

#### Useful Links

- [\*\*Horizon Europe programme website\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Horizon Europe working programme\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Horizon Europe calls for proposals\*\*](#)

## EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF)

The ERDF programme is part of the **Heading 2-Cohesion and Values** of the MFF 2021-2027. It amounts to 35.2 % of the total budget and is allocated the largest amount of funding in the proposal. Under the new Cohesion strategy, we have: the European Regional Development The ERDF focuses its investments on several key priority areas, such as innovation and research, the digital agenda, support for SMEs as well as the environment, and the zero-carbon economy. The ERDF is part of the New Cohesion strategy presented by the European Commission: The cohesion policy is about “reducing disparities between the various regions and the backwardness of the least favoured regions; referring to economic, social and territorial cohesion”. The idea is that cohesion policy should also promote more balanced, more sustainable territorial development.

It is the policy behind the hundreds of thousands of projects all over Europe that receive funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the European Social Fund (ESF), and the Cohesion Fund.

### Five main objectives will drive EU investments in 2021-2027:

- **Smarter Europe**, through innovation, digitisation, economic transformation, and support to small and medium-sized businesses

- a **Greener, carbon free Europe**, implementing the Paris Agreement and investing in energy transition, renewables, and the fight against climate change
- a more **Connected Europe**, with strategic transport and digital networks
- a more **Social Europe**, delivering on the European Pillar of Social Rights and supporting quality employment, education, skills, social inclusion, and equal access to healthcare
- a **Europe closer to citizens**, by supporting locally-led development strategies, and sustainable urban development across the EU.

**Regional development investments will strongly focus on objectives 1 and 2. 65% to 85% of ERDF and Cohesion Fund resources** will be allocated to these priorities, depending on Member States' relative wealth.

Cohesion Policy keeps on investing in all regions, still on the basis of 3 categories:

- *less-developed*;
- *transition*;
- *more developed*.

The allocation method for the funds is still largely based on **GDP per capita**.

**New criteria are added** (youth unemployment, low education level, climate change, and the reception and integration of migrants) to better reflect the reality on the ground. **Outermost**

**regions** will continue to benefit from special EU support.

Cohesion Policy further supports **locally-led development strategies** and **empowers local authorities** in the management of the funds. The urban dimension of Cohesion Policy is strengthened, **with 6% of the ERDF dedicated to sustainable urban development**, and a new networking and capacity-building programme for urban authorities, the European Urban Initiative.

## HOW TO APPLY

### Where do I apply for regional funds?

You should apply for regional funding from the authority managing the relevant regional programme. That body will evaluate your project and decide whether to grant funding: [Find your managing authority](#).

### Who can apply for regional funds?

- Organisations that can benefit from regional funding include public bodies, some private sector organizations (especially small businesses), universities, associations, NGOs and voluntary organizations. Foreign firms with a base in the region covered by the relevant operational programme can also apply, provided they meet European public procurement rules.
- Contact your managing authority for more information on who can apply in your region.
- Project promoters in countries that are candidates or potential candidates for EU membership should contact the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA).

- In most cases, funding is granted to projects, so you need to develop a project to be eligible for funding, which you will then receive at different stages of the process.

### What about other sources of EU funding?

- [EuroAccess](#) : Your gateway to funding in the EU Macro-Regions

#### Useful Links

- [\*European Regional Development Fund programme website\*](#)
- [\*European Regional Development Fund work programme\*](#)
- [\*European Regional Development Fund programme projects opportunities\*](#)

## GLOBAL EUROPE:

### Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument

With an overall allocation of **€79.5 billion**, the new Global Europe will cover the **EU cooperation with all third countries**, except for the pre-accession beneficiaries and the overseas countries and territories from the geographic programmes.

The total allocation will be divided as follows:

- €60.38 billion for geographic programmes (at least €19.32 billion for the Neighbourhood, at least €29.18 billion for Sub-Saharan Africa, €8.48 billion for Asia and the Pacific, and €3.39 billion for the Americas and the Caribbean);
- €6.36 billion for thematic programmes (Human Rights and Democracy; Civil Society Organisations; Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention; and Global Challenges);
- €3.18 billion for rapid response actions.  
A “cushion” of unallocated funds of €9.53 billion could top up any of the above-mentioned programmes and rapid response mechanisms, to address unforeseen circumstances, new needs, or emerging challenges and promote new priorities.

Global Europe will particularly support countries most in need to overcome long-term developmental challenges and will contribute to achieving the international commitments and objectives that the Union has agreed to, in particular the 2030 Agenda and its [Sustainable Development Goals](#) and the Paris Agreement. It merges several current external financing instruments under the EU budget.

Global Europe also unifies grants, blending, and guarantees (the latter previously subject to specific rules and regulations, such as the EIB’s External Lending Mandate), which will allow the EU to strategically promote public and private investment worldwide in support of sustainable

development through the European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus (EFSD+). Investments will be backed by an up to €53.4 billion External Action Guarantee, which will also cover the pre-accession countries.

#### Useful Links

- [Global Europe Fund programme website](#)
- [Global Europe Fund programme projects opportunities](#)

## INSTRUMENT FOR PRE-ACCESSION ASSISTANCE (IPA III)

The Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) is the means by which the EU has been supporting reforms in the enlargement region with financial and technical assistance since 2007. IPA funds build up the capacities of the beneficiaries throughout the accession process, resulting in progressive, positive developments in the region. For the period 2007-2013, the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) had a budget of EUR 11.5 billion. Its successor, -IPA II- was allocated EUR 12.8 billion for the period 2014-2020. **For the new multiannual financial framework period 2021-27, the IPA III budgetary envelope is EUR 14.162 billion.**

The current beneficiaries are Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Turkey.

## PRIORITIES

The general objective of the new IPA III instrument is to **support the beneficiaries in adopting and implementing the political, institutional, legal, administrative, social and economic reforms** required by those beneficiaries to comply with Union values and to progressively align to Union rules, standards, policies and practices with a view to Union membership, thereby contributing to their stability, security and prosperity.

IPA III presents a solid policy-driven approach, with the strategic and dynamic deployment of assistance, putting the fundamental requirements for the EU membership at the core of the instrument. By further focusing EU financial assistance on key priorities, IPA III will leverage support for reforms fostering sustainable socio-economic development and bringing the partners closer to the Union's values and standards. At the same time, it will be sufficiently flexible to adapt to the evolving situation in Turkey and reflect developments in our relations with the country.

## IPA III Programming Framework

The [IPA III Programming Framework](#), is the overarching European Commission's strategic document for the use of EU funds assisting the IPA III beneficiaries for the duration of the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework.

The new programming framework 2021-2027 reflects the specific objectives of the IPA III Regulation and focuses on the priorities of the

enlargement process according to five thematic windows, which mirror the clusters of negotiating chapters as per the revised enlargement methodology.

Programming of EU assistance is based on EU thematic priorities rather than pre-defined country envelopes. This will allow rewarding performance and progress towards key priorities and increased flexibility to respond to the evolving needs of the partners in their path towards accession.

### Useful Links

- [\*IPA III programme website\*](#)
- [\*IPA III planning and programming\*](#)
- [\*IPA III calls for proposals\*](#)

# PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS



Foundations can be defined as asset-based, and purpose-driven. They have no members or shareholders and are separately constituted non-profit bodies that focus on a variety of issues, such as social services, research, or culture. They have an established and reliable income source, which allows them to plan and carry out work over a longer period of time than many other institutions.

There are several reasons why foundations are being set up. These can be of philanthropic nature, relate to corporate social responsibility, or be legal or tax-related. The different types of foundations are:

- Foundations with an institutional set up with a number of trustees tend to make grants according to detailed procedures and have established criteria and guidelines on which to employ professional staff.
- Foundations can be set up privately by a single individual who takes most of the grant-making decisions alone or after discussion with a spouse.
- Family foundations are often set up by one individual, often in memory of earlier family members, with trustees who are related or at least closely connected to each other. Decisions tend to be taken collectively but informally.
- Corporate foundations have an income that depends upon the profit of a company or a

group of companies. Decisions tend to be made by committees and ratified by directors of the company.

- Community foundations are charitable trusts that support local community causes.

These are just a few examples of foundations that could be relevant for members. When considering foundations as a source of funding the most important factor to consider is that the aim of the project matches the aim of the foundation.

## EU EXTERNAL DONORS

### King Baudouin Foundation (Belgium)

The King Baudouin Foundation is an independent public benefit foundation based in Brussels that supports projects all over the world.

The mission of the Foundation is to help to improve living conditions for the population. The foundation supports projects and citizens who are committed to creating a better society and making a contribution towards greater justice, democracy, and respect for diversity. The working areas of the foundation are poverty and social justice, democracy in Belgium, democracy in the Balkans, heritage, philanthropy, health, leadership, local engagement, migration, and development.

Additional information:

[King Baudouin Foundation](#)



## **The European Programme for Integration and Migration – EPIM (Belgium)**

The European Programme for Integration and Migration (EPIM) is a collaborative funding initiative of currently twenty-five grant-making foundations, hosted in the Network of European Foundations (NEF). Their goal is to strengthen the role of civil society in building inclusive communities and in developing humane and sustainable responses to migration, based on Europe's commitment to universal human rights and social justice.

### **Mission:**

Migration is a significant factor in shaping European societies and policies. As a collaborative fund, they link the resources and expertise of foundations to strengthen the role of civil society in building inclusive communities and in developing humane and sustainable responses to migration, based on Europe's commitment to universal human rights and social justice.

### **Additional information:**

[The European Programme for Integration and Migration \(EPIM\)](#)

## **Robert Bosch Stiftung (Germany)**

The Robert Bosch Stiftung is one of the major foundations in Europe that is associated with a private company. Through their work, they have followed the legacy of Robert Bosch for over 50

years, continuing his commitment to social and societal causes in a contemporary form.

### **Area of interests:**

- Education: Daycare and school for the 21st century. What is the impact of digitalization or automation on people, on the way we learn at educational institutions and live together in society? And what will our future workplaces look like? People will have to focus on tasks that cannot be automated and that require creativity, social intelligence, reflection, and cooperation. Also, knowledge and skills are required to understand, use, critically view, and apply digital technologies.
- Health: Making health care fit for the future, Since the Robert Bosch Stiftung was founded back in 1964, health care has been one of its core focuses, with the Robert Bosch Hospital inaugurated by Robert Bosch himself in 1940 at its heart. Today, they are working to strengthen the future viability of our health care system. They are committed to health care that is geared to people and their social needs.
- Global Issues: Joint solutions to global challenges. Promoting peace and stability to alleviate human suffering was a matter particularly close to Robert Bosch's heart. He advocated for a democratic state, the rule of law, and liberal society with responsible, free citizens. As a foundation, their task is to carry out his legacy in keeping with the times.

**GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS:**

Everywhere

Additional information:

[Robert Bosch Stiftung](#)

**Civic Europe (Germany)**

It is an incubator for locally rooted civic initiatives, organizations and individuals in Central, Eastern and Southern Europe, realized by MitOst, Sofia Platform Foundation and Stiftung Mercator.

Two types of activities:

- Idea Challenge

Eligible countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain.

- Capacity building

Eligible countries: Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania.

Additional information:

[Civic Europe](#)

**EDF Group Foundation (France)**

Working together to support the environment, education and inclusion. It is their vision of a shared future and their fight for the young generations and territories in solidarity.

The EDF Group Foundation works for future generations and acts for solidarity-based territories, so it will focus on initiatives that have

a direct impact on beneficiaries – young and/or fragile public – and have a territorial anchorage. The possibility of mobilizing group employees (volunteer offers, skills sponsorship) is a plus for your project. Throughout the year, several decision-making bodies (depending on the amount of support requested) are held to review and vote on the projects received.

**GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS:**

Everywhere

Additional information:

[EDF Group Foundation](#)

**The European Social Catalyst Fund – ESCF (Ireland)**

The European Social Catalyst Fund (ESCF) is a new initiative designed to have a significant impact on some of Europe’s most pressing social challenges.

The objective of the ESCF is to bring together public and private resources to improve social services to enable people who need support to live as valued and participating members of their communities. The ESCF will provide financial and capacity-building support to develop plans to scale proven social service innovations.

**GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS:**

EU Member States

Additional information:

[The European Social Catalyst Fund \(ESCF\)](#)

## **The European Network of Innovation for Inclusion (Spain)**

Action Against Hunger has been leading since 2016 this European Network to promote social innovation among social entities, companies, public administrations, and relevant stakeholders to create a more inclusive European labour market. This network aims to build a more innovative socially inclusive ecosystem, helping different organizations develop successful European employment and entrepreneurship projects through the exchange of good practices and participation in European programs.

### **GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS:**

non-profit organizations only from Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Spain.

Additional information:

[The European Network of Innovation for Inclusion](#)

## **International Visegrad Fund (Slovakia)**

The International Visegrad Fund is an international organization based in Bratislava, founded by the governments of the countries of the Visegrad Group (V4) — the Czech Republic, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Poland, and the Slovak Republic—on June 9, 2000.

The purpose of the Fund is to facilitate and promote the development of closer cooperation among V4 countries (and of V4 countries with

other countries, especially but not exclusively non-EU member states in Eastern Europe, the Western Balkans and the South Caucasus) through the support of common cultural, scientific and educational projects, youth exchanges, cross-border projects and tourism promotion.

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), municipalities and local or regional governments, schools and universities, but also private companies and individual citizens from the Visegrad Group countries (and other countries) are eligible for the Fund's support.

Additional information:

[International Visegrad Fund](#)

## **NON-EU EXTERNAL DONORS**

### **Oak Foundation (USA, UK)**

Since Oak Foundation was founded in 1983, they have made over 4,650 grants to not-for-profits across the globe.

They partner with organisations that work to advance the foundation's overall mission and the strategic goals within programmes. Each programme has its own funding criteria, geographic scope and requirements. The programmes are managed by dedicated staff with deep field expertise and networks.

### **Area of interests:**

- Housing and Homeless
- International Human Rights
- Issues affecting women

-Area of Special interest: health, humanitarian relief, education and the arts

Oak Foundation has an invitation-only application process. The majority of awards are made to our long-standing partners or are invited to apply based on fieldwork and research.

**GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS:**  
everywhere

Additional information:

[Oak Foundation](#)

### **The Volant Trust**

The Volant Trust was established to work to alleviate social deprivation, with a particular emphasis on supporting women, children, and young people at risk. The Volant Trust is a grant-making trust, which primarily helps fund charitable organisations and projects based in Scotland working to alleviate social deprivation, particularly concerned with women, children, and young people.

Open Grants Programme: Their main area of support is through our Open Grants Programme. The Volant Charitable Trust is committed to other work that includes international projects, and the support of single parents through Gingerbread.

#### **Area of projects:**

- Women

Victims of sexual abuse, rape, domestic violence, and those working in the sex industry;

care for young mothers and those affected by postnatal depression, isolated and lone parents; community support for black and minority ethnic women and asylum seekers; support services for women prisoners and their families.

- Children and young people

Counselling, support services, and outreach projects for those who are disadvantaged or deemed to be at risk through neglect, emotional and physical abuse, and alcohol or drug misuse.

- Poverty and deprivation

Mental health projects for women and children; support for vulnerable families; promotion of healthy eating for families in areas of extreme deprivation.

- COVID-19 response fund

Charities assisting groups impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic in the UK and Internationally. Response from charities or their projects demonstrates a strong focus on alleviating social deprivation and helping vulnerable groups who have been particularly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Additional information:

[The Volant Trust](#)

# WHAT CAN EURODIACONIA



## DO FOR YOU

### How can Eurodiaconia help?

Eurodiaconia can offer different options to support its members in applying for EU calls or different funding sources.

- **Facilitate partnerships for transnational project calls.**

Eurodiaconia is a network of social and health care providers from all over Europe who can help members to find suitable part-ners for transnational project calls. Especially for EU-funded projects, partners from different countries are often a requirement or an added value in the eyes of the evaluators. In order to get an overview of Eurodiaconia members, please consult our webpage [here](#).

- **Act as a project partner for the dissemination of project results.**

When trying to receive funds for a project, donors often want to know how project results are disseminated and how widely they can be spread. Eurodiaconia with its vast network of local, national, and European contacts has a great potential in disseminating project results and communicating them to not only its members but also to stakeholders and decision-makers working on the European level, such as the European Parliament and European network

organisations working on social policy. Eurodiaconia can depend on availability, and act as a project partner to strengthen the dissemination of project results beyond the local and national levels.

- **Provide information on new proposals on the calls for project proposals website section.**

Eurodiaconia has a specific part on its website dedicated to informing members of relevant calls for project proposals from the European institutions and others, focusing on calls related to priority areas of Eurodi-aconia members such as social inclusion, Roma integration, migrant and refugee projects as well as unemployment support. A short description of the call is provided together with a link to the website of the original call with more information on how and by when to apply. The resource can be accessed [here](#).

- **Provide general information on funding matters in the funding newsletter.**

Eurodiaconia recently introduced a funding newsletter that is circulated among interested persons on a monthly basis. The newsletter presents information on different matters related to funding. It summarizes feedback on the use of funds, and provides links to the most recent calls for project proposals. In order to subscribe for the funding newsletter, please sign up [here](#).

- **Organise funding workshops for members**

Eurodiaconia is an organisation that is funded under EU and has considerable experience in applying and partnering for project calls. The knowledge of how an application process takes place and what needs to be taken care of can be valuable information for organisations that do not have extensive experience in applying for EU funding. In order to share this knowledge, Eurodiaconia can organize funding workshops for members. If you are interested in receiving information through a workshop or webinar organized by Eurodiaconia, get in touch with *Vera Nygard* and *Giorgia Signoretto*.



Rue Joseph II 166 – 1000 Bruxelles – Belgium

**Tel.:** +32 (0)2 234 38 60    **Email:** [office@eurodiaconia.org](mailto:office@eurodiaconia.org)  
**Fax:** +32 (0)2 234 38 65    **Web:** [www.eurodiaconia.org](http://www.eurodiaconia.org)



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