



Brussels, 5.11.2019
C(2019) 7824 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 5.11.2019

**on the financing of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme and the adoption of
the work programme for 2020**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme for the period 2014 to 2020², and in particular Article 9 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure implementation of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2020. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (3) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (4) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (5) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme Committee established by Article 10 of Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 *The work programme*

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual work programme for the implementation of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme for 2020, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 62.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme for 2020 is set at EUR 66 713 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union:

(a) budget line 33 02 01: EUR 27 960 000

(b) budget line 33 02 02: EUR 38 753 000

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft general budget of the Union for 2020, following the adoption of that budget by the budgetary authority or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

Article 3
Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme. The increase of the maximum contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20%.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Article 4
Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annex. Grants may be awarded to the bodies referred to in the Annex (points 2.2.2 and 3.3.2).

Done at Brussels, 5.11.2019

For the Commission
Věra JOUROVÁ
Member of the Commission



Brussels, 5.11.2019
C(2019) 7824 final

ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

Commission Implementing Decision

**on the financing of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme and the adoption of
the work programme for 2020**

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Work programme for 2020 of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme

1. INTRODUCTION

The annual work programme for 2020 for the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme aims to contribute to the further development of an area where equality and the rights of persons as enshrined in the Treaty on the European Union, in the Treaty on the Functioning of the Union, in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and in the international human rights convention to which the EU has acceded are promoted, protected and effectively implemented¹.

Funding translates EU policies into tangible results on the ground, empowering citizens, promoting justice and fundamental rights in people's day-to-day lives.

In particular, the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme supports the following specific objectives²: (a) promote non-discrimination; (b) combat racism, xenophobia and homophobia and other forms of intolerance; (c) protect the rights of persons with disabilities (d) promote gender equality; (e) prevent violence against children, young people and women; (f) protect the rights of the child; (g) ensure the protection of personal data; (h) enhance the exercise of rights deriving from EU citizenship; and (i) enforce consumers' rights.

To this aim, the work programme provides financial assistance for actions such as trainings, workshops, conferences, mutual learning and cooperation for a, media campaigns, awareness-raising and dissemination activities. It also provides support for actors whose activities contribute to the implementation of the objectives of the Programme, as national, regional and local authorities and non-governmental organisations and European-level networks.

Ensuring the protection of rights and empowering citizens

The work programme will finance activities on preventing and combating gender-based violence, including online violence. Violence against children³ will also be addressed, to contribute to the strengthening of child protection systems.

Funding for protecting the rights of the child will focus on child participation in the EU democratic and political life. The aim is to support the design and the implementation of different mechanisms and structures that ensure the rights of children are heard in the decision-making process, particularly on issues that matter to them.

¹ Art. 3 of [Regulation \(EU\) No 1381/2013](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme for the period 2014 to 2020

² Art. 4 of Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

³ Violence, as defined in Article 19 of the [UN Convention on the rights of the child \(1989\)](#): “all forms physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse” and in [General comment No 13](#) of the UN Committee on the rights of the child (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence

The General Data Protection Regulation⁴ entered into application in May 2018, strengthening citizens' rights and cut costs and red tape for European business. In order to concretely support the implementation of the legislation at national level, funding will continue to be provided to national Data Protection Authorities for reaching out to stakeholders on the new Regulation. The work programme will also continue to support awareness raising campaigns, complementing those at national level, and studies supporting the implementation of the data protection framework.

Citizens need to have better knowledge of their EU rights, in particular the right to move and reside freely on the territory of the Member States (including understanding the conditions that apply to this)⁵. Activities are envisaged in the work programme to continue knowledge-building and awareness-raising concerning the rights of Union citizenship and the associated EU common values, as well as to foster the successful inclusion and political participation of mobile EU citizens in civic and political life. Support for national cooperation networks on elections will also be ongoing.

In line with the Communication on a New Deal for Consumers⁶ the work programme will fund training for small and medium-sized enterprises to help them understand and comply more easily with consumer and marketing law⁷, as well as the content update of consumer and marketing law database integrated in e-Justice Portal. The Commission adopted in May 2019 the Digital content directive⁸ and the Sales of goods directive⁹, that will ensure a high level of consumer protection and increase legal certainty for both consumers and traders in millions of everyday transactions. The work programme will finance analytical activities and coordination meetings to support Member States in their preparatory work for a smooth and timely transposition of the directives.

Promoting non-discrimination and equality

The work programme continues to promote equality and tackle discrimination by supporting the implementation of the LGBTI List of actions¹⁰; initiatives promoting diversity management, monitoring and enforcing non-discrimination legislations, fighting discrimination against Roma and antigypsyism and enhancing stakeholder dialogue on Roma equality and inclusion at European and national levels. Funds are further deployed to complement the activities by Member States and equality bodies in promoting and protecting rights and implementing the EU anti-discrimination legislation, including Commission Recommendation on standards for equality bodies¹¹, and to improve the collection of equality data.

⁴ [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 (General Data Protection Regulation)

⁵ Art. 21(2) of the [Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union](#).

⁶ The [New Deal for Consumers](#) is composed of two proposals for Directive: COM(2018)185 as regards better enforcement and modernisation of EU consumer protection rules & COM/2018/0184 on representative actions for the protection of the collective interests of consumers

⁷ As follow-up to the Consumer Law [Ready project](#) started in 2017

⁸ [Directive \(EU\) 2019/770](#) on certain aspects concerning contracts for the supply of digital content and digital services

⁹ [Directive \(EU\) 2019/771](#) on certain aspects concerning contracts for the sale of goods, amending Regulation (EU) 2017/2394 and Directive 2009/22/EC, and repealing Directive 1999/44/EC.

¹⁰ [List of actions](#) by the Commission to advance LGBTI equality, 2015

¹¹ [Commission Recommendation C\(2018\) 3850](#) on standards for equality bodies

To address the worrying increase of intolerance in our societies, funds are allocated to actions aiming at improving responses to racist hate crime and speech and better support victims; preventing and countering racist speech online and racism in the media; fostering tolerance and mutual respect and dialogue. The work programme will also continue to assist Member States in developing a common methodology on collecting data on hate crimes and hate speech as well as training for law enforcement to deal with hate crime and speech cases.

In particular, financial support will be provided to the work of the Commission's coordinators on combating Antisemitism and anti-Muslim hatred, with a view to encourage dedicated actions to help people belonging to these and other vulnerable communities.

Delivering on the priorities of the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020¹², funding is allocated to actions aiming to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities, in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities¹³. The work programme envisages, among others, the conception of a communication and awareness raising campaign on the follow up to the current Disability Strategy, to enhance knowledge on achievements at European and national level to protect the rights and improve the life of persons with disabilities.

The Commission continues to promote gender equality on the basis of the strategic engagement for gender equality¹⁴ and in line with the gender pay gap action plan¹⁵ as well as the initiative on work-life balance for working parents and carers¹⁶. To this aim, the work programme will support awareness raising and other activities for the empowerment of women and girls, tackling gender stereotypes in education and early childhood care, in educational and career choices, in a digitalised world.

¹² [European Disability Strategy 2010-2020](#): A Renewed Commitment to a Barrier-Free Europe, COM(2010) 636

¹³ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities [A/RES/61/106](#)

¹⁴ [Strategic Engagement for Gender Equality 2016-2019](#), 2015

¹⁵ [Action Plan on Tackling the Gender Pay Gap 2017-2019](#), 2017

¹⁶ [Communication COM\(2017\) 252](#) An initiative to support Work-Life Balance for Working Parents and Carers, setting out a comprehensive package of complementary legal and policy measures

BUDGET OVERVIEW FOR 2020

On the basis of the objectives given in Regulation 1381/2013, the work programme provides a budget of € 66 713 000 to finance activities ensuring the protection of rights and empowering citizens as well as promoting non-discrimination and equality. The financial amounts per specific objectives are as follows:

Budget per objective	Amount	% of the 2020 funds
Ensuring the protection of rights and empowering citizens (budget line 33 02 01)	€ 27 960 000	41,91 %
Promoting non-discrimination and equality (budget line 33 02 02)	€ 38 753 000	58,09 %
TOTAL	€ 66 713 000	100,00 %

Funds committed in the work programme are deployed via procurement and grants and by awarding prizes.

Procurement is the acquisition of a service by the Commission from an economic operator¹⁷, which is selected following a call for tenders' procedure.

Grants are financial contributions by way of donation by the Commission in order to finance: an action intended to help achieve a Union policy objective (action grants); the functioning of a body which has an objective forming part of, and supporting, a Union policy (operating grants)¹⁸. The award of a grant follows, in general, a call for proposals' procedure. Financial support to third parties (i.e. sub-granting) is not allowed under this work programme.

Prizes are financial contributions given by the Commission as a reward following a contest. They shall promote the achievement of policy objectives of the Union¹⁹.

The implementation of actions in the work programme is directly managed by the Directorate-General of Justice and Consumers of the European Commission (DG JUST) unless specified otherwise. In particular, the implementation of actions under the specific objective to protect the rights of persons with disabilities is managed by the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL).

¹⁷ Art. 2(49) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union ('the Financial Regulation')

¹⁸ Art. 2(33) and 180(2) of the Financial Regulation. The [list of the operating grants](#) awarded is published under each call for proposals.

¹⁹ Art. 2(48) and 206(1) of the Financial Regulation

The indicative budget available for procurement and grants contracts and prizes is as follows:

Grants/Procurement/Prizes	Amount	% of the 2020 funds
Grants (direct management)	€ 51 383 000	77,00 %
Procurement (direct management)	€ 14 980 000	22,5 %
Prizes (direct management)	€ 350 000	0,5 %
TOTAL	€ 66 713 000	100,00 %

At present, the countries participating in the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (hereafter the Programme) are: EU Member States, Iceland and the Republic of Serbia. Liechtenstein is participating in the “Promoting non-discrimination and equality” objectives (budget line 33 02 02). Should additional third countries conclude an agreement with the Union on their participation in the Programme as of 2019, this will be announced in the relevant call for proposals and/or on the Funding & tender opportunities portal²⁰.

The Programme shall finance actions with European added value. The European added value of actions, including that of small-scale and national actions, shall be assessed in the light of criteria such as their contribution to the consistent implementation of Union law and policies, and to widen public awareness about the rights and benefits deriving from them; their potential to develop mutual trust among Member States and to improve cross-border cooperation; their contribution to the elaboration and dissemination of best practices; their potential to contribute to the creation of minimum standards and solutions addressing cross-border or Union-wide challenges²¹.

All activities implemented under this work programme shall respect and shall be implemented in line with the rights and principles enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. They shall support gender mainstreaming, child rights mainstreaming and the mainstreaming of non-discrimination.

As highlighted in the interim evaluation of the Programme²², the coherence of activities implemented and related EU policy areas shall also be ensured.

In particular, activities implemented under this work programme shall ensure consistency, complementarity and synergies with activities supported by other Union instruments. These instruments include the Justice Programme, the Europe for Citizens Programme and the programmes in the areas of employment and social affairs; the European structural and investment funds; the Internal Security Fund and the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund in the area of home affairs; the Erasmus+ programme in the area of education; the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance, the European Neighbourhood Instrument and the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights in the area of external actions. Coordination within the EU legal and policy framework on trafficking in human beings under the mandate of the EU Anti-trafficking Coordinator shall be ensured as relevant.

²⁰ Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme in the [Funding & tender opportunities portal website](#)

²¹ Art. 2 of Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

²² [Report COM/2018/508](#) on the interim evaluation of the implementation of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme 2014-2020, p. 10

ESSENTIAL SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA OF ACTION GRANTS IN CALLS OF PROPOSALS

The essential selection and award criteria of action grants in the calls for proposals are, unless specified otherwise in the specific calls, as follows²³:

1. Grant applicants and partners must meet the following **selection criteria**:

- (a) applicants and partners must have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activity throughout the duration of the grant and to participate in its funding ('financial capacity');
- (b) applicant and partners must have sufficient operational and professional capacities to implement the activities for which co-funding is requested ('operational capacity').

Organisations participating in several projects shall have sufficient financial and operational capacity to implement multiple projects.

The verification of the financial capacity shall not apply to international organisations and public bodies²⁴.

2. Proposals will be assessed based on the following **award criteria**:

- (a) relevance to the priorities of the call for proposals;
- (b) quality of the proposed action;
- (c) European added value of the project;
- (d) expected results, dissemination, sustainability and long-term impact;
- (e) cost-effectiveness.

The essential eligibility criteria are specific to each call for proposals.

²³ Justice Programme & Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme - [Guide for Applicants Action Grants](#)

²⁴ Article 198(5)(6) of the Financial Regulation

2. ENSURING THE PROTECTION OF RIGHTS AND EMPOWERING CITIZENS - BUDGET LINE 33 02 01

2.1. Introduction

The work programme provides a budget of € 27 960 000 for actions covering the following five objectives of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme: (e) prevent violence against children, young people and women; (f) protect the rights of the child; (g) ensure the protection of personal data; (h) enhance the exercise of rights deriving from EU citizenship; and (i) enforce consumers' rights.

The budget available for procurement and grants contracts is as follows:

- action grants (2.2)	€ 22 285 000
- operating grants (2.3)	€ 1 850 000
- procurement (2.4)	€ 3 825 000
Total	€ 27 960 000

INDICATIVE BUDGET BREAKDOWN PER SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

To prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, young people and women, as well as violence against other groups at risk, in particular groups at risk of violence in close relationships, and to protect victims of such violence (Daphne)	€ 17 860 000
Action Grants (2.2.1; 2.2.2)	15 935 000 €
Operating Grants (2.3.1)	1 300 000 €
Procurement (2.4)	625 000 €
To promote and protect the rights of the child	€ 4 300 000
Action Grants (2.2.3)	€ 3 350 000
Operating Grants (2.3.1)	€ 550 000
Procurement (2.4)	€ 400 000
To contribute to ensuring the highest level of protection of privacy and personal data	€ 1 800 000
Action Grants (2.2.4)	€ 1 000 000
Procurement (2.4)	€ 800 000
To promote and enhance the exercise of rights deriving from citizenship of the Union	€ 3 000 000

Action Grants (2.2.5)	€ 2 000 000
Procurement (2.4)	€ 1 000 000
To enable individuals in their capacity as consumers or entrepreneurs in the internal market to enforce their rights deriving from Union law, in addition to projects funded under the Consumer Programme	€ 1 000 000
Procurement (2.4)	€ 1 000 000
TOTAL	€ 27 960 000

2.2. Action grants

2.2.1. Call for proposals to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, young people and women

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

Specific Objective: to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, young people and women, as well as violence against other groups at risk, in particular groups at risk of violence in close relationships, and to protect victims of such violence (Daphne).

PRIORITIES

1. Preventing gender-based violence

The focus is on prevention of gender-based violence, with actions including (but not limited to): education and awareness raising, training and practical activities to tackle prejudices and gender stereotypes, norms, attitudes and behaviours that encourage, condone or minimise violence. Prevention also include actions focusing on perpetrators, to prevent them from offending again. Actions may focus on developing empowerment and intervention programmes to equip women and men with the tools to call out and stand up to violence as bystanders, and to be role models in the fight against gender-based violence.

2. Tackling online violence against women

The focus is on prevention and response to online violence against women, with actions including (but not limited to): awareness raising of the general public and/or target groups; information and support to (potential) victims to develop coping strategies and claim their rights; information and support to (potential) victims on flagging or reporting harmful content to IT platforms and/or law enforcement agencies; capacity-building for relevant professionals; prevention and treatment of other forms of gender-based violence (including domestic violence) with a cyber-dimension; and tackling prejudices and gender stereotypes and norms that encourage or condone online violence.

In particular, actions may focus on the development of tools for reporting, flagging and/or removal of harmful online violent content against women. Co-operation with and among national audio-visual regulatory bodies, non-governmental organisations, IT platforms, national authorities, equality bodies, and criminal justice systems is strongly encouraged.

3. Protecting and supporting children, young people and women who are victims and potential victims (including witnesses) of violence

Actions shall focus on protection and support services for (potential) victims/witnesses of violence, addressing their specific needs. Projects shall aim at fostering multi-disciplinary cooperation and strengthening capacity building for relevant professionals in contact with victims, including – but not limited to - law enforcement, justice system, victim support or social services, health care professionals, care professionals and educators.

Actions may include the design, implementation and facilitation of access to specialised support services aiming at helping victims and witnesses of violence to overcome trauma, mental health issues and psychological harm linked to their experience of violence. Actions can also specifically target children, young people and women in migration.

The target group shall be (non-exhaustive list): social service professionals, health and care professionals, teachers, people working with children and youth, law enforcement representatives, staff in reception centres, or in alternative care settings, staff in detention centres, judicial professionals, helplines and hotlines operators, psychologists and therapists working with children, families, children, young people and women. The ultimate beneficiaries of the actions shall be the victims.

4. Preventing, combating and responding to peer violence amongst children

Actions shall focus on preventing, combatting and responding to peer violence amongst children (committed by children on children). Actions shall focus on supporting victims, perpetrators and/or witnesses of violence, as well as helping parents, professionals in schools, in youth organisations and clubs, in the health and care sectors, etc. to be better equipped to detect and respond to this phenomenon. Actions shall focus on all forms of violence, including online.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Activities shall include:

- awareness-raising and empowerment activities;
- capacity-building and training for professionals;
- design and implementation of protocols, development of working methods and tools;
- exchange of good practices, mutual learning.

Practical projects developing and implementing concrete measures are preferred. While research is not excluded, if some research activities are to be part of the project, they shall be strictly linked to the project as a whole.

It is strongly encouraged to involve a public authority to actively participate in the projects. This requirement will be assessed under the award criterion (b) quality of the proposed action.

EXPECTED RESULTS

1. Preventing gender-based violence

- changed attitude and behaviour as regards the issue of gender-based violence (including lower tolerance and decreased victim-blaming) among the general population and particular groups, e.g. relevant professionals, witnesses and bystanders, vulnerable groups;
- (early signs of) violence is detected and reported, in particular increased reporting of violence to the police and other services, with appropriate mechanisms in place to facilitate this;
- victims' safety is guaranteed and further violence prevented;
- increased likelihood of bystander intervention;
- increased capacity of stakeholders and relevant professionals to address issues related to gender-based violence, including through strengthened multi-agency co-operation and tackling of prejudices, gender stereotypes and norms.

2. Tackling online violence against women

- changed attitudes and behaviour as regards the issue of illegal online content targeting women and girls among the general population and particular groups, e.g. relevant professionals, witnesses and bystanders, vulnerable groups;
- online violence is prevented before it happens through education about respect and equality;
- increased capacity of stakeholders and relevant professionals to address issues related to illegal online content, including through strengthened multi-agency cooperation;
- online violence victims' safety is guaranteed and further violence prevented;
- increased reporting of violence to the police and other services, with appropriate mechanisms in place to facilitate this.

3. Protecting and supporting children, young people and women who are victims (including witnesses) of violence

- strengthened support and protection systems for children, young people and women;
- increased awareness among groups at risk, relevant professionals and the general public;
- increased capacity of relevant professionals in contact with those affected to address problems deriving from violence, in particular increased multi-disciplinary and multi-agency cooperation.

4. Preventing, combating and responding to peer violence among children

- national child protection systems are strengthened;
- education, health and social services sectors are supported to detect, deal with and respond to episodes of violence among children;
- capacity-building is increased for relevant professionals;
- ways to talk about the phenomenon and to find responses to it are strengthened;
- awareness is raised as regards the issue of violence among children.

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

- (a) applicants and partners must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the Programme, or an international organisation. Organisations which are profit-oriented must submit applications in partnership with public entities or private non-profit organisations;
- (b) the project can be either national or transnational;
- (c) the application must involve at least two organisations (applicant and partner);
- (d) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000.

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG JUST

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CALL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT

Call Reference (Topic)	Date	Total Budget Available
REC-RDAP-GBV-AG-2020	Q1 2020	€ 12 435 000

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS

80%

2.2.2. Award of action grants without a call for proposals to national statistical authorities for the development of a survey on gender-based violence

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

Specific objective: to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, young people and women, as well as violence against other groups at risk, in particular groups at risk of violence in close relationships, and to protect victims of such violence (Daphne)

Art. 195(d) of the Financial Regulation and Art. 5(3) of Regulation (EC) 223/2009 on European statistics

PRIORITIES

The aim is to support national statistical institutes, through action grants without a call for proposals as envisaged in Art. 5(3) of Regulation (EC) 223/2009 on European statistics, for the development of an EU survey on gender-based violence.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Survey on the experience of violence, developed and implemented by the European Statistical System Support, in order to have comparable data on violence against women in the EU. The development of the EU wide gender-based violence survey begun in 2016. Since then a draft questionnaire and methodology have been prepared and tested, with the pilot survey results being analysed and used for improvements. Support to national statistical institutes to implement the main survey is being provided.

EXPECTED RESULTS

This survey would improve the methodology and coverage of the survey developed by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. It will result in a common EU methodology and questionnaire to gather comparable EU gender-based violence data on a regular basis. It will also provide data on gender-based violence in the EU from a full scale survey to be carried out in 2019-20 in all Member States willing to participate.

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY AND AWARD CRITERIA

To be eligible, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria: applicants must be national statistical institutes or other national authorities responsible for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics, as identified in the list referred to in Art. 5 of Regulation (EC) 223/2009 on European statistics.

The award criteria are based on:

- a) the relevance of the application in relation to the objectives of the invitation and the priorities of the annual work programme;
- b) the quality of the proposal including an evaluation in terms of coherence, relevance and proportionality of the estimated budget in relation with the proposed action.

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG ESTAT based on a co-delegation (type II).

INDICATIVE PLANNING AND AMOUNTS

Call Reference (Topic)	Date	Amount
JUST-2020-ESTAT	Q3 2020	€ 3 500 000

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS

90%

2.2.3. Call for proposals on capacity-building in the area of rights of the child

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

Specific Objective: to promote and protect the rights of the child

PRIORITIES

In order to promote child participation in the democratic and political life in the EU, this call for proposals will focus on the following priorities:

- 1. To increase general awareness and knowledge, including among children, of children rights** and in particular, but not limited to, the right to be heard and express their voices on issues that matter to them.
- 2. To design, test, establish and evaluate mechanisms of child participation at local level.**
- 3. To assess national legislative and policy frameworks for child participation,** with a view to designing and implementing tools to promote child participation at national level.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Under the **first priority**, activities shall include:

- public campaigns promoting children's rights in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the rights of the child;
- trainings and the production of training material for professionals as well as child friendly material on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- platforms as well as activities with children to increase their knowledge on their rights and what their rights mean in the European Union context.

Activities can take place in, inter alia, schools, youth clubs, community centres, child care facilities, and can aim at reaching children, parents, families, teachers, professionals who work in contact with children and youth, media, politicians and decision makers.

Under the **second priority**, activities shall include the design, implementation and evaluation of child participation mechanisms at local level, for example, children city councils, children advisory boards, and consultations with children at local level. Activities can also include peer learning and peer support among local authorities from the same or a different country, aimed at fostering exchange of knowledge and good practices on how to embed child participation in local decision-making processes.

Under this second priority, it is strongly encouraged to involve a public authority to actively participate in the projects. This requirement will be assessed under the award criterion (b) quality of the proposed action.

Under the **third priority**, activities shall include:

- mapping of existing national legislation and practice to assess how child participation is embedded in national frameworks;
- development of strategies and plans to foster child participation at national level, of

- handbooks, check-lists, training material, on how to increase child participation;
- design and implementation of child participation mechanisms at national level.

Under this third priority, it is strongly encouraged to involve a public authority to actively participate in the projects. This requirement will be assessed under the award criterion (b) quality of the proposed action.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- increased awareness on and general knowledge of children rights, and their practical implementation, among the general population, professionals working with children, and children themselves; in particular the right of children to be heard and to express opinion on issues that matter to them, especially with regard to public decision making processes;
- increased space provided by local authorities for children to make their voice heard on issues related to the communities where they live and that matter to them;
- strengthened knowledge and expertise on how to embed child participation in decision making at local and national level;
- enhanced child participation at local and national level.

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

- (a) applicants and partners must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the Programme, or international organisations. Organisations which are profit-oriented must submit applications in partnership with public entities or private non-profit organisations;
- (b) the projects can be either national or transnational;
- (c) the application must involve at least two organisations (applicant and partner);
- (d) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000.

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG JUST

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CALL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT

Call Reference (Topic)	Date	Total Budget Available
REC-RCHI-PROF-AG-2020	Q1 2020	€ 3 350 000

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF ELIGIBLE COSTS

80%

2.2.4. Call for proposals limited/restricted to national Data Protection Authorities on reaching out to stakeholders on data protection legislation

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

Specific objective: to contribute to ensuring the highest level of protection of privacy and personal data

PRIORITIES

Considering 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 (General Data Protection Regulation), the actions aim to support national data protection authorities in: reaching out to stakeholders through raising awareness among business stakeholders, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, and through the general public. Building on the experience from the same calls for proposals launched in past years and depending on the needs of national data protection authorities, further support to national data protection authorities might be necessary in reaching out to stakeholders to ensure awareness on the data protection legislation and replying to their queries.

The Commission published in 2018 a Communication on Stronger protection, new opportunities - Commission guidance on the direct application of the General Data Protection Regulation as of 25 May 2018 (COM(2018) 43). The aim is to facilitate a direct and smooth application of the data protection rules across the EU. The guidance recalls the main innovations, opportunities opened up by the new rules, takes stock of the preparatory work already undertaken and outlines the work still ahead of the European Commission, national data protection authorities and national administrations.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Supporting national data protection authorities on reaching out to business and citizens through:

- supporting data protection authorities in raising awareness among business stakeholders (in particular small and medium-sized enterprises), in replying to their queries on the implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation and in facilitating compliance of small and medium-sized enterprises with the General Data Protection Regulation; this objective can be achieved through the development of “hotlines”;
- supporting data protection authorities in their awareness-raising activities aimed at the general public.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- increased knowledge and understanding among business stakeholders, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, about data protection rules;
- increased awareness of data protection among the general public.

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

- a) applicants must be national data protection authorities within the meaning of Art. 51 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679; partners must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the Programme;
- b) the project can be either national or transnational;
- c) the application may involve one or more organisations (applicant and partner(s));
- d) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000.

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG JUST

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CALL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT

Call Reference (Topic)	Date	Total Budget Available
REC-RDAT-TRAI-AG-2020	Q1 2020	€ 1 000 000

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF ELIGIBLE COSTS

80%

2.2.5. Call for proposals to improve the awareness on EU citizenship rights and inclusion of mobile EU citizens and to support coordination among national authorities competent in electoral matters

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

Specific Objective: to promote and enhance the exercise of rights deriving from citizenship of the Union

PRIORITIES

1. The actions aim to enhance and develop citizenship of the Union - indicative amount: € 1 000 000.

More specifically to: promote awareness, gather data and build knowledge concerning EU citizenship rights and associated European common values and common democratic standards; foster the inclusion and provision of information to mobile EU citizens and their family members; encourage democratic participation of mobile EU citizens and under-represented groups, including women, Roma, young people and citizens with a disability. The actions should support the efforts of Member States and civil society organisations in this domain, complementing and not duplicating the work being funded elsewhere by the Commission.

2. Restricted to public authorities, the actions aim **to support national cooperation networks** responsible for bringing together the national authorities and bodies involved in elections (such as in their organisation, and in the monitoring and enforcement of legislation) - indicative amount: € 1 000 000.

The overall purpose is to support the integrity of free and fair elections in Europe, preserving the democratic institutions and citizens' participation in them. Coordination within and among such networks could lead in particular to the establishment of common working methods to detect and address threats to elections (potentially setting up alert systems), best practices and guidelines.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

1. To enhance and develop citizenship of the Union, promote awareness of EU citizenship rights, Union values and democratic standards, gather data and build knowledge concerning EU citizenship rights and foster inclusion and provision of information to mobile EU citizens and their family members and encourage democratic participation of mobile EU citizens and under-represented groups.

Activities may consist of projects; training; seminars; awareness-raising practices; data gathering and consultation, development, exchanges and dissemination of best practices amongst public authorities and civil society organisations. This could involve in particular:

- data-gathering and consultation on the way EU citizenship rights are used, on how to build knowledge of these rights and on how such rights might be enhanced and developed;
- ways of fostering engagement in the democratic life of the European Union (through e.g. facilitation of access to cross-border and local political information, and the promotion of

common democratic standards and awareness of the European dimension in politics) and representation as well as participation in local and EU elections, including of young people, women and EU citizens living in another EU country than their own (through e.g. digital, interactive, innovative tools);

- inclusion policies and best practices which do not solely focus on one profile of mobile EU citizens, but rather take into account both the different needs of these EU citizens and their family members as well as the challenges cities are facing when welcoming them (e.g. housing, schooling, inclusion in the job market, involvement in community decision-making and volunteering etc.), and which promote multiculturalism;
- dissemination of practical information and advice on what the rights of EU citizens and their family members are, including voting rights, residence rights and responsibilities of mobile EU citizens in a given country/region/city and assistance in seeing them through.

2. Restricted to public authorities: to support national electoral cooperation networks and a European coordination of these networks

Activities may consist of workshops, seminars, conferences, expert meetings at various levels as appropriate (high level meetings may be needed to coordinate on policy approaches, while technical exchanges among experts may be needed to implement such policies); mutual learning, the development of tools or guides, cooperation exercises; analytical studies; awareness raising activities, as well as information exchange platforms.

Furthermore, actions may include creating fora for sharing expertise among the national authorities to monitor and explore challenges and detect threats, to monitor enforcement and administrative practices and to identify gaps in existing frameworks, including cross-border implications, and to raise awareness among stakeholders and citizens. Actions could also provide for national contact points to enable an efficient and effective exchange of good practices among Member States and coordination at the European level.

EXPECTED RESULTS

1. To enhance and develop citizenship of the Union:

- improved information on the way EU citizenship rights are used and how they are implemented in Member States;
- raised awareness and better provision of information to mobile EU citizens and their family members on their EU citizenship rights with resulting better knowledge of EU rights and conditions;
- improved availability, awareness and participation of mobile EU citizens in civic activities in their host communities, such as volunteering groups and local decision making bodies, including school boards and community organisations;
- increased capacity of national, regional and local experts to enable and facilitate the participation of mobile EU citizens and their family members in the political and social life of their host communities;
- strengthened cooperation and exchange of information between competent public authorities in relation to enabling mobile EU citizens' participation in their host Member States and local communities.

2. Restricted to public authorities: to support national electoral cooperation networks and a European coordination of these networks:

- improved monitoring and understanding of the challenges and risks to an election process, and to the regulatory framework, for preserving the integrity of democratic elections in Europe;
- increased capability and awareness of authorities and relevant bodies involved in elections of their respective roles and responsibilities in this domain and their better collaboration.
- streamlined and effective European level coordination in electoral matters.

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible under the **first priority**, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

- (a) applicants and partners must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the Programme, or international organisations. Organisations which are profit-oriented must submit applications in partnership with public entities or private non-profit organisations;
- (b) the project can be either national or transnational;
- (c) the application must involve at least two organisations (applicant and partner);
- (d) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000.

To be eligible under the **second priority**, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

- (a) applicants must be public authorities or bodies competent in electoral matters of one of the countries participating in the Programme; partners must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the Programme, or international organisations;
- (b) the project can be either national or transnational;
- (c) the application may involve one or more organisations (applicant and partner(s));
- (d) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000.

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG JUST

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CALL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT

Call Reference (Topic)	Date	Total Budget Available
REC-RCIT-CITI-AG-2020	Q1 2020	€ 2 000 000

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF ELIGIBLE COSTS

80%

2.3. Operating grants

2.3.1. Operating grants to Framework Partners active to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, young people and women (Daphne) and in the area of the rights of the child

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

Specific objectives:

- to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, young people and women, as well as violence against other groups at risk, in particular groups at risk of violence in close relationships, and to protect victims of such violence (Daphne)
- to promote and protect the rights of the child

PRIORITIES

The grants aim to support the annual work programme of European networks aiming at (i) preventing and combating all forms of violence against children, young people and women, as well as violence against other groups at risk, in particular groups at risk of violence in close relationships, and to protect victims of such violence; (ii) promoting and protecting the rights of the child. These European networks have signed a Framework Partnership Agreements with the Commission. The Commission will invite Framework Partners in writing to submit their proposal announcing the annual priorities.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

The grants will fund operating costs and those activities of the networks which have EU added value and contribute to the implementation of the objectives of the Programme, among others: analytical activities, training activities, mutual learning, cooperation, awareness-raising and dissemination activities.

EXPECTED RESULTS

In the area of **violence against children, young people and women**, networks are expected to contribute to achieving at least one of the following results:

- building the capacity of public organisations working to prevent and combat violence against children, young people and women, including female genital mutilation;
- increasing the number and quality of perpetrator programmes and of tailored and specialised support services for female victims of violence, particularly addressing the vulnerabilities of specific groups of women;
- building the capacity of professionals in contact with victims of all forms of violence against children, young people and women, and enabling multi-disciplinary cooperation and mutual learning.

In the area of the **rights of the child**, networks are expected to contribute to achieving at least one of the following results:

- contributing to the elimination of violence against children;

- building their capacity to develop coherent and coordinated activities to promote the protection of the rights of the child, showing a measurable increase in impact on children;
- expanding their reach, including new partners in a multi-sectoral approach;
- strengthening child rights approach.

ESSENTIAL AWARD CRITERIA

The Commission will verify that the organisation satisfies the exclusion criteria, that the proposal is consistent with the objectives pursued by the Programme and will assess the proposal essentially on the basis of the following award criteria:

- (a) extent to which the proposed annual work programme of Framework Partners addresses the priorities announced by the Commission and is coherent with the outline work programme of the Framework Partnership Agreement;
- (b) quality of annual work programme, which must be clear, realistic and well detailed;
- (c) European added value of the annual work programme;
- (d) expected results, dissemination, sustainability and long-term impact;
- (e) cost-effectiveness.

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG JUST

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE INVITATION TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT

Call Reference (Topic)	Date	Total Budget Available
REC-RDAP-NETW-OG-2020	Q2 2020	€ 1 300 000
REC-RCHI-NETW-OG-2020	Q2 2020	€ 550 000

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS

80%

2.4. Procurement

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

SUBJECT MATTER OF THE CONTRACTS ENVISAGED – ACTIONS ENSURING THE PROTECTION OF RIGHTS AND EMPOWERING CITIZENS

The Commission intends to finance actions through contracts following public procurement (calls for tender and framework contracts).

Actions shall include: the organisation of conferences, expert meetings, seminars, communication activities; the development and maintenance of IT platforms and systems; the preparation of surveys and studies and impact assessments, in particular to monitor the proper implementation of existing legislation, accompany new legislation or respond to policy changes in the area covered by the Programme. Procurement contracts may cover in particular the following activities:

- (a) Specific objective: **to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, young people and women, as well as violence against other groups at risk, in particular groups at risk of violence in close relationships, and to protect victims of such violence (Daphne)**

Indicative number of specific contracts based on framework contracts envisaged: 3

- survey on gender-based violence (by DG ESTAT);
- assessment of EU actions to combat gender-based violence (Q4 2020).

- (b) Specific objective: **to promote and protect the rights of the child**

Indicative number of specific contracts based on framework contracts envisaged: 2

- European Forum on the rights of the child (Q2 2020);
- beneficiaries conference on EU funding for the rights of the child (Q3-Q4 2020);

- (c) Specific objective: **to contribute to ensuring the highest level of protection of privacy and personal data**

Indicative number of specific contracts based on framework contracts envisaged: 7

Indicative number of new contracts envisaged: 3

- studies on issues related to the transposition of the Police Directive 2016/680 and on the application/implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 (Q4 2020);
- awareness-raising campaign on new data protection rules complementing actions at national level in Member States (Q3-Q4 2020);
- multi-stakeholder expert group to support the application of the General Data Protection Regulation (Q1-Q4 2020);
- studies on the assessment of the level of data protection of third countries under the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 and Law Enforcement Directive 2016/680 (Q1-Q4 2020);
- supporting the practical application of the Data Protection Law Enforcement

Directive (EU) 2016/680, including through meetings of practitioners (Q1-Q4 2020).

(d) **Specific objective: to promote and enhance the exercise of rights deriving from citizenship of the Union**

Indicative number of specific contracts based on framework contracts envisaged: 3

Indicative number of new contracts envisaged: 2

- studies and research into specific areas concerning Union Citizenship (Network of Academics and others) (Q1-Q4 2020);
- E-tool on free movement - changes and maintenance (Q1-Q4 2020);
- promotion activities for EU citizenship rights (e.g. an event for the cooperation network on elections or related to the citizenship report) (Q1-Q4 2020).

(e) **Specific objective: to enable individuals in their capacity as consumers or entrepreneurs in the internal market to enforce their rights deriving from Union law, having regard to the projects funded under the Consumer Programme**

Indicative number of specific contracts based on framework contracts envisaged: 6

Indicative number of new contracts envisaged: 2

- national expert meetings on contract law (for the transposition of the directives on Digital content and Sales of goods) (Q2-4 2020);
- collection of data and market evidence in view to prepare the Commission's report on the application of the abovementioned directives due by 2024 (Q1 2020);
- workshops with stakeholders and Member States on liability and new technologies (Q2-3 2020);
- study and analytical activities on cloud computing contracts used by small and medium-sized enterprises (Q2 2020);
- content update of the consumer and marketing law database (Q3 2020);
- training for small and medium-sized enterprises for better understanding of and compliance with of consumer and marketing law (Q1 2020).

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG JUST and, where indicated, by DG ESTAT. Other administrative arrangement and delegation may be also used, if needed.

TOTAL BUDGET AVAILABLE

€ 3 825 000

3. PROMOTING NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUALITY - BUDGET LINE 33 02 02

3.1. Introduction

The work programme provides a budget of € 38 753 000 for actions covering the following four objectives of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme: (a) promote non-discrimination; (b) combat racism, xenophobia and homophobia; (c) protect the rights of persons with disabilities (d) promote gender equality.

The budget available for procurement and grants contracts and prizes is as follows:

- action grants (3.2):	€ 18 263 000
- operating grants (3.3):	€ 8 985 000
- procurement (3.4):	€ 11 155 000
- prizes (3.5)	€ 350 000
Total	€ 38 753 000

INDICATIVE BUDGET BREAKDOWN PER SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

To promote the effective implementation of the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and to respect the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds provided for in Article 21 of the Charter	€ 14 000 000
Action grants (3.2.1, 3.2.2)	€ 6 400 000
Operating grants (3.3.1, 3.3.2)	€ 3 535 000
Procurement (3.4)	€ 4 065 000
To prevent and combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance	€ 10 000 000
Action grants (3.2.3)	€ 7 930 000
Operating grants (3.3.1)	€ 1 350 000
Procurement (3.4)	€ 720 000
To promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities	€ 7 020 000
Operating grants (3.3.1)	€ 3 100 000
Procurement (3.4)	€ 3 570 000
Prizes (3.5)	€ 350 000
To promote equality between women and men and to advance gender mainstreaming	€ 7 733 000

Action grants (3.2.4)	€ 3 933 000
Operating grants (3.3.1)	€ 1 000 000
Procurement (3.4)	€ 2 800 000
TOTAL	€ 38 753 000

3.2. Action grants

3.2.1. Call for proposals to promote the effective implementation of the principle of non-discrimination

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

Specific objective: to promote the effective implementation of the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and to respect the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds provided for in Article 21 of the Charter

PRIORITIES

To tackle at least one of the following grounds of discrimination listed in Art. 19 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union: racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. Actions aim at:

- 1. Promoting diversity management** and inclusion at the workplace, both in the public and private sector - indicative budget € 500 000.

This entails the increasing number of Diversity Charters by EU Member States, their signatories, and concrete actions that promote diversity and inclusion at the workplace with regard to the six grounds of discrimination or their intersectionality.

- 2. Fighting against discrimination based on sexual orientation** in society and promoting the equality of LGBTI people through the implementation of the LGBTI List of Actions - indicative budget of € 1 000 000.

Concrete and practical actions raising awareness for LGBTI equality in education, health and employment and/or to train professionals in relevant areas important for advancing equality of LGBTI people, in particular proposals focusing on transgender equality and on intersex equality.

- 3. Fighting against discrimination based on racial or ethnic origin** and/or multiple discrimination - indicative budget € 1 000 000.

The focus is to contribute to the enforcement and effective implementation of Union non-discrimination legislation (Racial Equality Directive 2000/43/EC), such as victims' interest representation, independent monitoring, early warning and reporting.

- 4. Strengthening the fight against anti-gypsyism and various forms of discrimination of Roma** - indicative budget € 1 000 000.

Focus shall be on discrimination in (access to) education, employment, health and housing, such as spatial and schooling segregation, forced evictions, as well as multiple discrimination (of Roma youth, women, children, etc.); supporting transnational cooperation on fighting discrimination and promoting inclusion of EU-mobile Roma; fighting antigypsyism by combatting stereotypes and raising the general public's awareness about Roma history (including recognition of the Roma Holocaust); supporting capacity building of Roma and pro-Roma civil society active in the above mentioned areas.

5. Restricted to public authorities: promoting non-discrimination on the grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation - indicative budget € 1 000 000

This entails actions to prevent and combat discrimination on the ground, as well as initiatives aimed at empowering, supporting and protecting groups and individuals affected by forms of discrimination. It also aims at addressing underreporting and building trust between communities and public authorities. Actions may include capacity building of national, regional or local authorities, including equality bodies, enhancing coordination and cooperation to promote equal treatment, improve responses to discrimination, as well as ensuring better application and enforcement on the ground of EU policies and legislation in this field, in particular the Commission Recommendation C(2018) 3850 on standards for equality bodies.

6. Restricted to public authorities: collecting equality data - indicative budget € 500 000

To address common gaps and challenges in equality data across the EU, the European Commission Subgroup on Equality Data developed the guidelines on improving the collection and use of equality data (https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/combating-discrimination/tackling-discrimination/network-experts-field-anti-discrimination_en) and the compendium of practices on equality data (<https://fra.europa.eu/en/theme/racism-related-intolerances/racism-compendium-practices>).

The guidelines describe a number of concrete institutional and operational steps that EU Member States can take to enhance the collection and use of equality data. They suggest how to improve the availability and quality of the data and how to promote their effective use in developing evidence-based equality and non-discrimination policies and monitoring their effective implementation.

Furthermore, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights has also published an online compendium of nearly 40 practices from 15 countries on the collection and use of equality data (<https://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2019/better-data-better-equality>).

The actions aim to develop a coordinated approach for collecting and using equality data, including consultation with relevant stakeholders and affected communities when designing and implementing data collection; to identify who is at risk of discrimination; to enhance awareness of the importance of such data.

Proposals on hate speech and hate crime are not funded under this call for proposals, since these topics are addressed in the call for proposals to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Activities shall consist of:

- capacity building, antidiscrimination training of professionals and victims of (multiple) discrimination;
- mutual learning, exchange of good practices, cooperation, including identifying best practices which may be transferable to other participating countries;
- dissemination and awareness raising (including activities combatting stereotypes against Roma, promoting the recognition of the Roma Holocaust, such as

commemoration practices), social media or press campaigns;

- data collection, survey, monitoring and reporting implementation of non-discrimination legislation;

N.B.: activities supporting political parties regardless of their grounds or objectives shall not be funded.

EXPECTED RESULTS

1. Promoting diversity management and inclusion

- increased number of Diversity charters and of companies affiliated to a charter;
- increased business case of diversity through strengthened links between the academic/research community and the business world;
- more inclusive workplaces and societies;
- increased European wide tools measuring diversity and inclusion at the workplace.

2. Fighting against discrimination based on sexual orientation

- list of actions by the Commission to advance LGBTI equality are being implemented;
- increased reporting of cases of discrimination based on sexual orientation;
- increased awareness of challenges of LGBTI equality.

3. Fighting against discrimination based on racial and/or ethnic origin

- equal opportunities for people of all racial and/or ethnic origins is promoted;
- increased knowledge of EU and national non-discrimination legislation as well as administrative practices in the non-discrimination field, including practices and policies covering multiple discrimination;
- increased rights-awareness, protection and interest representation of victims of discrimination based on racial or ethnic origin;
- more effective implementation and enforcement of the legislation on non-discrimination as well as improved independent monitoring and reporting.

4. Strengthening the fight against discrimination of Roma

- decreased discrimination and anti-gypsyism;
- more effective implementation of the legislation on non-discrimination;
- more positive narrative and tolerant perception of Roma in the general public;
- increased contribution from national, regional or local activities to the development of policies fighting antigypsyism and discrimination;
- enhanced Roma participation in design, implementation and monitoring of policies.

5. Restricted to public authorities: promoting non-discrimination

- enhanced citizens' awareness of their right to equal treatment without discrimination;
- improved support to victims;

- enhanced cooperation promoting equal treatment/improved response to discrimination;
- decreased discrimination on the grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.

6. Restricted to public authorities: collecting equality data

- identification of main gaps and shortcomings in equality data collection;
- enhanced quality of equality data collection and improved methodological approach (e.g. definition and comparability of equality data) as well as the availability and accessibility of equality data;
- better inter-institutional cooperation in collecting equality data.

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible under the **first, second, third and fourth priority**, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

- applicants and partners must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the Programme, or an international organisation. Organisations which are profit-oriented must submit applications in partnership with public entities or private non-profit organisations;
- the project can be either national or transnational;
- the application must involve at least two organisations (applicant and partner);
- the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000 and higher than € 250 000.

To be eligible under the **fifth and sixth priority**, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

- applicants must be public authorities of one of the countries participating in the Programme; partners must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the Programme, or international organisations;
- the project can be either national or transnational;
- the application must involve at least two organisations (applicant and partner);
- the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000.

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG JUST

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CALL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT

Reference	Date	Amount
REC-RDIS-DISC-AG-2020	Q1 2020	€ 5 000 000

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS

80%

3.2.2. *Call for proposals limited/restricted to National Roma Contact Points*

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

Specific objective: to promote the effective implementation of the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and to respect the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds provided for in Article 21 of the Charter

PRIORITIES

National Roma Platforms are expected to promote and facilitate dialogue, mutual learning, cooperation, policy review between all national stakeholders. To encourage the inclusion of Roma people in the Platform, particularly women and youth, a Roma representative shall be nominated ensuring a link between the National and the European Roma Platforms. The aim of National Roma Platforms is to:

- empower National Roma Contact Points in the process of Roma integration;
- mobilise and ensure the continued engagement of all relevant stakeholders (i.e. high level public authorities, Roma and non-Roma communities, non-governmental organisations, entrepreneurs, trade unions, academia, etc.), in particular by providing a forum and encouraging self-mobilisation and cooperation of Roma and pro-Roma non-governmental organisations;
- strengthen multi-stakeholder accountability, commitment to, as well as ownership and transparency of the process of Roma integration;
- boost the commitment to and effective implementation of integration measures at the local level, improving the equal access of Roma to mainstream services and opportunities, strengthening community building between Roma and non-Roma;
- provide complementarity and increase synergies with other EU and/or national initiatives, such as the European Roma Platform and the Roma Civil Monitor project;
- address gaps and challenges in the implementation of the National Roma Integration Strategy specific to the national context, and to report at national and EU level;
- promote participation of Roma youth in the design and implementation of the National Roma Platform, such as by dedicated internship schemes.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Activities shall consist of:

- mapping of all relevant stakeholders working on Roma inclusion and assessing the need and opportunity to include them in the National Roma Platform in order to increase representativity and accountability;
- actions to set-up and reinforce national Roma platforms, involving all relevant stakeholders, with a focus on implementing and monitoring of National Roma Integration Strategies;
- meetings, working groups, seminars, events at national, regional or local levels, with

topical discussion as education, employment, health, housing, representation etc.

- dedicated discussion of the results of civil monitoring of National Roma Integration Strategies implementation;
- evaluation and review of National Roma Integration Strategies and Roma integration measures, exchange and transfer of practices that proved effective at the local level;
- transnational exchange between different National Roma Platforms to promote policy learning and transfer of good practices;
- exchange and participation of the nominated representative of the National Roma Platform in preparatory meetings on the European Roma Platform.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- increased number of the national Roma platforms seen as an integral component of the coordination and monitoring activities of the National Roma Contact Points to foster the process for dialogue, cooperation and coordination of stakeholders;
- increased capacity of national experts and stakeholders to address issues related to Roma integration, including legislative and administrative practises;
- strengthened cooperation and exchange of information between competent national authorities in relation to Roma integration;
- increased sustainability of Roma participation in policy processes.

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY AND AWARD CRITERIA

To be eligible, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

- (a) applicants must be National Roma Contact Points; only one application per Member State will be accepted;
- (b) the application must involve only one National Roma Contact Point (no partners);
- (c) the duration of the project should not exceed 24 months;
- (d) the EU grant applied for cannot be higher than € 200 000.

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG JUST

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE INVITATION TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT

Reference	Date	Amount
REC-RDIS-NRCP-AG-2020	Q1 2020	€ 1 400 000

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS

90%

3.2.3. Call for proposals to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance and to monitor, prevent and counter hate speech online

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

Specific objective: to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance

PRIORITIES

To support a comprehensive approach to the prevention and the fight against racism and xenophobia and other forms of intolerance such as Antisemitism, anti-Muslim hatred, homophobia, transphobia, antigypsism and Afrophobia, including online, and to support concrete actions addressing the racism and xenophobia faced by specific groups and communities, the following priorities shall be financed:

1. To prevent and combat racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance - indicative budget € 4 930 000

Focus on:

- actions to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance and their manifestations on the ground, in particular hate crime and hate speech;
- initiatives aimed at empowering, supporting and protecting groups, communities and individuals affected by manifestations of forms of intolerance, in particular hate crime and hate speech, with a particular focus on Afrophobia;
- measures to foster a better understanding and improved dialogue among different groups and communities, including by building on the role of community leaders, youth and multipliers, on how they can contribute to such dialogue;

Specific and targeted measures and initiatives aiming to step up the prevention and the fight against Antisemitism and to tackle racism against Muslims or individuals perceived as such will be preferred.

2. To prevent, report and counter hate speech online - indicative budget € 2 000 000

Focus on:

- prevention, education and awareness raising initiatives, in particular for youth, concerning hate speech and the promotion of tolerance narratives online;
- measures and initiatives resulting from the collaboration of key actors (e.g. public authorities, civil society and private companies) to report and counter hate speech online on social media platforms/internet companies;
- activities to increase knowledge and understanding of the ecosystems of hate speech online.

3. Restricted to public authorities: to improve responses to racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance at national, regional and local level - indicative budget € 1 000 000

Focus on:

- building capacity of national, regional or local authorities and enhancing interagency and multi-level coordination and cooperation to improve responses to racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance;
- ensuring better application on the ground of hate crime and hate speech legislation, including through training of law enforcement at national, regional or local level;
- improving hate crime recording and data collection practices in Member States, in particular building on the work of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights led sub-group on recording and data collection;
- improving support for victims of hate crime and hate speech at national, regional or local level, addressing underreporting, building trust between communities and public authorities.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

1. To prevent and combat racism, xenophobia, and other forms of intolerance, activities shall consist of:

- mutual learning and exchanges of good practices;
- coalition building, capacity building and training;
- community and victims' empowerment and support;
- dissemination and awareness raising initiatives;
- studies and analytical activities.

2. To prevent, report and counter hate speech online, activities shall consist of:

- data recording, reporting of hate speech incidents, analysis of trends, triggers and ecosystem of online hatred;
- awareness raising, multi-stakeholder actions and campaigns;
- promotion of digital skills and critical thinking, and education;

3. Restricted to public authorities: to improve responses to racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance at national, regional and local level, for:

- mutual learning and exchange of good practices between national, regional or local authorities;
- development of concrete tools, practices and interventions to improve responses to these phenomena, including but not limited to means of criminal law;
- designing and implementing strategies or plans of action;
- capacity building and training activities.

EXPECTED RESULTS

1. To prevent and combat racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance

- strengthened coalitions, cooperation and exchange of information among key actors such as civil society organisations, community based entities, equality bodies and national human rights institutions as well as national/regional/local authorities to address manifestation of racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, and in particular hate crime and hate speech;
- better implementation of hate crime and hate speech legislation, improved support to hate crime victims and increased number of reported incidents, improved hate crime recording and data collection;
- increased resilience, empowerment and rights awareness of groups, communities and individuals affected by manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, in particular hate crime and hate speech;
- effective development and implementation of prevention measures addressing manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance;
- increased awareness of the general population on the impact of racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance;
- better understanding and improved dialogue among different groups and communities;

2. To prevent, report and counter hate speech online

- increased knowledge on the phenomenon of hate speech online, in particular through systematic reporting and recording of hate speech cases and incidents online;
- strengthened cooperation between public authorities, civil society organisations and internet companies, in particular in the area of prevention, reporting, education and awareness raising about tolerance and against hatred online, targeting youth;
- increased awareness of the general public on online hate speech, including through the promotion of positive narratives and online campaigns.

3. Restricted to public authorities: to improve responses to racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance at national, regional and local level

- increased skills of public authorities to effectively investigate, prosecute and adequately sentence hate crime cases;
- improved support to hate crime victims, better awareness of the rights of victims of hate crime and hate speech and increased number of reported incidents;
- improved hate crime recording and data collection systems;
- improved knowledge and awareness of public authorities and law enforcement of the impact of racism, xenophobia, and other forms of intolerance, of current trends and better understanding of the various forms of intolerance and of the legal framework;
- strengthened cooperation and exchange of information among public authorities (in particular municipal and regional administrations), as well as between public authorities and other actors such as civil society organisations and community representatives to improve responses to racism, xenophobia and other forms of

intolerance;

- effective development and implementation of comprehensive frameworks, strategies or plans of action to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance.

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible under the **first** and **second priority**, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

- (a) applicants and partners must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the Programme, or international organisations. Organisations which are profit-oriented must submit applications in partnership with public entities or private non-profit-oriented organisations;
- (b) the project can be either national or transnational;
- (c) the application must involve at least two organisations (applicant and partner);
- (d) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000.

To be eligible under the **third priority**, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

- (a) applicants must be public authorities of one of the countries participating in the Programme; partners must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the Programme, or international organisations;
- (b) the project can be either national or transnational;
- (c) the application must involve at least two organisations (applicant and partner);
- (d) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000.

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG JUST

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CALL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT

Reference	Date	Amount
REC-RRAC-RACI-AG-2020	Q1 2020	€ 7 930 000

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS

80%

3.2.4. Call for proposals on closing gender gaps over the life-course: addressing gender equality and empowerment of women and girls through tackling gender stereotypes in education and early childhood care and in educational and career choices in a digitalised world

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

Specific objective: to promote equality between women and men and to advance gender mainstreaming

PRIORITIES

One of the fundamental issues to tackle in order to reach gender equality is the persistence of gender stereotypes. From a very young age onwards, children are exposed to gender roles that shape their self-perception and influence their academic and professional choices as well as expectations of their roles as women and men throughout their life. Furthermore, gender stereotypes keep on influencing choices with regard to employment and combination of work and private life. Digitalisation can in this respect both offer opportunities and challenges to address gender stereotypes.

This call for proposals shall focus on actions in order to raise awareness and tackle gender stereotypes in education, in particular in early childhood education and care and in schools, and in educational and occupational choices in a digitalised world. Therefore, priorities shall be on:

- 1. Tackling gender stereotypes in education and early childhood care**, focusing on measures such as those aiming at changing attitudes, behaviours and practices that hamper progress towards equality and restrict the potential of girls and boys. They shall target specifically childhood environments (kindergartens, pre-schools and schools), in terms of those who are delivering care and in the messages delivered, the choices of tools, pedagogical material, or the design of settings, etc.

One of the crucial elements is the awareness of professionals of the early childhood care and education sectors of their own unconscious bias affecting their interactions with boys and girls, and their active involvement in ensuring a gender-transformative environment for girls and boys and their families. Capacity-building and training activities are therefore encouraged.

- 2. Tackling gender stereotypes in educational and career choices in a digitalised world**, focusing on the opportunities and challenges of ongoing digitalisation on tackling gender stereotypes. Particularly, on how digitalisation can benefit all students and workers/employees (e.g. new forms of work, upskilling for workers), to positively impact gender equality and to help break gender stereotypes. Furthermore, proposals shall address how the risks of reproducing gender stereotypes through digitalisation (e.g. algorithms, artificial intelligence) can be mitigated.

By combatting harmful negative gender stereotypes and discriminatory practices in education and early childhood care, and in addressing the potential and pitfalls of digitalisation on educational and professional choices, proposals are to impact positively on girls and boys perception of gender roles.

The call for proposals aims to raise awareness of gender equality issues from an early age, to

fight differential treatment of girls and boys and of women and men according to gender assumptions in order to ultimately overcome gender stereotypes with regard to roles of women and men at home, at work and in society.

The call for proposals is in line with current policy developments at EU level, including the initiative on work-life balance for working parents and carers of April 2017, the Gender Pay Action Plan of November 2017 and falls under the first and second thematic priority areas of the European Commission Strategic Engagement for Gender Equality 2016-2019.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Activities shall include:

1. Tackling gender stereotypes in education and early childhood care

- activities tackling negative attitudes and stereotypes with regard to gender roles in early childhood education and care systems, and educational and career choices;
- awareness-raising, education and empowerment activities; in particular awareness-raising activities for professionals of pre-school and school systems on an education, work and life free of stereotypes, including gender roles and attitudes towards domestic work, care, work and public life.

2. Tackling gender stereotypes in educational and career choices in a digitalised world

- activities focusing on the impact of digitalisation on career and professional choices, highlighting its opportunities and tackling potential hindrances as well as mitigating the risks that certain digitalised instruments bring about in intensifying gender stereotypes (e.g. gender bias through use of algorithms for recruitment procedures);
- exchange of good practice, mutual learning, seminars, in particular, activities promoting good practice examples;
- training activities for professionals of childhood care in the education sector and in the world of work; or with regard to overcoming gender stereotypes and roles in early childhood environments and in a digitalised world.

It is strongly encouraged to involve a public authority, including regional and local authorities, to actively participate in the projects. This requirement will be assessed under the award criterion (b) quality of the proposed action.

To ensure complementarity with other EU funded actions, proposals may consider similar activities supported via other EU programmes such as the Framework Programme for research and innovation - Horizon 2020.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- gender stereotypes and negative gender roles are tackled, through awareness raising and training of those who are in daily contact with children, in early childhood education, care systems, schools and companies or bodies which foster educational and professional choices;
- increased knowledge and practices are shared with regard to more informed educational and occupational choices in a changing world due to digitalisation;

- both boys and girls and men and women develop their skills without stereotypes gender prejudices and feel more comfortable in an equal sharing of care and domestic work at household level, and they are able to develop their skills and training which will lead to less gender segregation in career choices and occupational choices.

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

- applicants and partners must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the Programme, or an international organisation. Organisations which are profit-oriented must submit applications in partnership with public entities or private non-profit organisations;
- the project can be either national or transnational;
- the application must involve at least two organisations (applicant and partner);
- the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000.

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG JUST

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CALL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT

Reference	Date	Amount
REC-RGEN-WWLB-AG-2020	Q1 2020	€ 3 933 000

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS

80%

3.3. Operating grants

3.3.1. Operating grants to Framework Partners active in the areas of non-discrimination, combating racism, xenophobia and homophobia, rights of persons with disabilities, promoting equality between women and men

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

Specific objectives:

- **to promote the effective implementation of the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and to respect the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds provided for in Article 21 of the Charter;**
- **to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance;**
- **to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities;**
- **to promote equality between women and men and to advance gender mainstreaming.**

PRIORITIES

These grants aim to support the annual work programme of European networks active in the area of non-discrimination and equality which have signed Framework Partnership Agreements with the Commission. The Commission will invite Framework Partners in writing to submit their proposal announcing the annual priorities.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

These grants will fund operating costs and those activities of the network which have EU added value and contribute to the implementation of the objectives of the Programme, among others: analytical activities, training activities, mutual learning, cooperation, awareness-raising and dissemination activities.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Networks are expected to contribute to achieving at least one of the following objectives:

- Building the capacity of national or regional organisations working in the areas covered by the grant;
- Network partners build and increase their capacity to develop coherent and coordinated activities to promote the relevant policy objectives;
- The network expands its reach, including new partners;
- The network's activities show a measurable increase in impact in the respective policy areas.

In the area of disability, networks are expected to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities both at national and EU levels, by contributing to the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and of the objectives of the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020 and to other relevant EU policies and initiatives such as the European Pillar of Social Rights.

ESSENTIAL AWARD CRITERIA

The Commission will verify that the organisation satisfies the exclusion criteria, that the proposal is consistent with the objectives pursued by the Programme and will assess the proposal essentially on the basis of the following award criteria:

- (a) extent to which the proposed annual work programme addresses the priorities announced by the Commission and is coherent with the organisation's 4 year Action plan annexed to the Framework Partnership Agreement;
- (b) quality of the annual work programme, which must be clear, realistic and well detailed;
- (c) European added value of the annual work programme;
- (d) expected results, dissemination, sustainability and long-term impact;
- (e) cost-effectiveness.

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG JUST and concerning the area of disability by DG EMPL.

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE INVITATION TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT

Reference	Date	Amount
REC-RDIS-NETW-OG-2020	Q2 2020	€ 2 335 000
REC-RRAC-NETW-OG-2020		€ 1 350 000
REC-RDIB-NETW-OG-2020		€ 3 100 000
REC-RGEN-NETW-OG-2020		€ 1 000 000

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS

80%

3.3.2. *Direct award of an operating grant to a de facto monopoly*

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

Specific objective: to promote the effective implementation of the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and to respect the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds provided for in Article 21 of the Charter

Art. 195(c) of the Financial Regulation

PRIORITIES

The focus shall be to promote equal treatment of all persons without discrimination on grounds of racial or ethnic origin or sex.

In accordance with Union acts on equal treatment, Member States set up independent bodies for the promotion of equal treatment, commonly known as "equality bodies", in order to combat discrimination based on race and ethnic origin as well as gender.

Equality bodies play a key role in promoting equality and ensuring effective application of equal treatment legislation by providing in particular an independent assistance to victims of discrimination, conducting independent surveys concerning discrimination, publishing independent reports and making recommendations on any issue relating to discrimination in their country. It is essential that the work of equality bodies is coordinated at Union level in this respect.

EQUINET, the European Network of Equality Bodies (registered in Belgium), was created in 2007. Its members are the national bodies for the promotion of equal treatment as established by art. 13 of Racial Equality Directive 2000/43/EC, art. 12 of Equal Treatment between men and women in goods and services Directive 2004/113/EC, art. 20 of Equal Treatment between men and women in employment Directive 2006/54/EC and art. 11 of Equal Treatment between men and women in self-employment Directive 2010/41/EU.

EQUINET is in an exceptional situation, being the only entity which ensures coordination of activities between equality bodies. This coordination activity by EQUINET is key for the good implementation of Union anti-discrimination law in Member States and should be supported via an operating for a de facto monopoly situation.

The Commission will invite EQUINET in writing to submit its proposal announcing the annual priorities for 2021.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

This grant aims to support the activities implemented in 2021 by the European Network of the Equality Bodies, for sharing experiences and good practices between them.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- increased capacity of national equality bodies experts to address issues related to non-discrimination and the implementation of EU legislation in the field;
- strengthened cooperation and exchange of information between Equality Bodies;
- improved knowledge on the legislation and administrative practices related to non-discrimination.

ESSENTIAL AWARD CRITERIA

Proposals will be assessed based on the following award criteria:

- (a) extent to which the proposed annual work programme addresses the priorities announced by the Commission;
- (b) quality of the annual work programme, which must be clear, realistic and well detailed;
- (c) European added value of the annual work programme;
- (d) expected results, dissemination, sustainability and long-term impact;
- (e) cost-effectiveness.

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG JUST

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE INVITATION TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT

Reference	Date	Amount
REC-RDIS-EQNT-OG-2020	Q3 2020	€ 1 200 000

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS

95%

3.4. Procurement

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

SUBJECT MATTER OF THE CONTRACTS ENVISAGED – ACTIONS PROMOTING NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUALITY

The Commission intends to finance actions through contracts following public procurement (calls for tender and framework contracts).

Actions shall include: the organisation of conferences, expert meetings, seminars, communication activities; the development and maintenance of IT platforms and systems; the preparation of surveys and studies and impact assessments, in particular to monitor the proper implementation of existing legislation, accompany new legislation or respond to policy changes in the area covered by the Programme. Procurement contracts may cover in particular the following activities:

(a) Specific objective: **to promote the effective implementation of the principle of non-discrimination**

Indicative number of specific contracts based on framework contracts envisaged: 12

Indicative number of new contracts envisaged: 3

- running of EU Platform of Diversity Charters, including organising an Annual forum of EU Diversity Charters, expert seminars, European Diversity month (Q3 2020);
- High Level Group of Non-discrimination, equality and diversity, including subgroups and good practice exchange seminars (Q2-Q4 2020);
- EU Roma platform or summit including preparatory meetings and stakeholders' consultations (Q2 2020);
- National Roma Contact Point meetings, events in EU Roma week (Q2 2020);
- actions necessary to prepare or accompany policy developments in non-discrimination areas, including EU Council Presidencies' and related events (Q1-Q4 2020);
- EU level LGBTI equality awareness campaign (Q1-Q4 2020);
- training seminars for legal practitioners and the judiciary in non-discrimination (Q4 2020);
- European network of legal experts in gender equality and non-discrimination (Q4 2020);
- preparatory activities related to the potential post-2020 EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies (Q1-Q4 2020);
- actions to prepare the implementation report of the Race Equality Directive (Q1-Q4 2020);
- study on the bodily integrity of trans and intersex people in the healthcare sector (Q4 2020);

- research on cross-border issues for rainbow families and conference (Q4 2020).

(b) Specific objective: **to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance**

Indicative number of specific contracts based on framework contracts envisaged: 6

- actions related to the implementation of the Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA on combating racism and xenophobia and to the effective prevention and fight against hate speech, hate crimes and intolerance on any grounds: (i) meetings of the High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance and related sub-groups; (ii) campaigns and awareness raising to promote tolerance and mutual respect; (iii) actions (e.g. seminars/workshops, trainings or studies) to support the developments of tools/practices to effectively prevent and combat hate crimes and intolerance, both online and offline; (iv) actions (e.g. seminars/workshops, studies, cultural initiatives or campaigns) of the Coordinators on Antisemitism and anti-Muslim hatred (Q1-4 2020);
- actions in support of the implementation of the Code of conduct on countering illegal hate speech online, including monitoring activities, studies, and collection of cases of hate speech online (Q2 2020).

(c) Specific objective: **to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities** (implementation by DG EMPL)

Indicative number of specific contracts based on framework contracts envisaged: 6

- work forum on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Q2 2020);
- organisation of the Access City Award (Q3 2020);
- European Day of Persons with Disabilities (Q3 2020);
- European disability expertise (Q4 2020);
- new European Disability Card (including Parking Card) - impact assessment on the feasibility at EU level (Q4 2020);
- communication and awareness campaign on the follow up to the current European Disability Strategy (Q3 2020).

(d) Specific objective: **to promote equality between women and men and to advance gender mainstreaming**

Indicative number of specific contracts based on framework contracts envisaged: 6

Indicative number of new contracts envisaged: 1

- presidency of the Council of the EU conference (Q1-4 2020)
- communication and awareness raising activities (Q1-Q4 2020);
- training seminars for legal practitioners and the judiciary in gender equality (Q4 2020);
- European network of legal experts in gender equality and non-discrimination (Q4 2020);
- Mutual Learning Seminar in Gender Equality (Q4 2020).

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG JUST and, where indicated, by DG EMPL. Other administrative arrangement and delegation may be also used, if needed.

TOTAL BUDGET AVAILABLE

€ 11 155 000

3.5. Prizes

LEGAL BASIS

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013

Specific objective: to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities

OBJECTIVES PURSUED

The Access City Award, launched in 2010, recognises and celebrates cities' willingness, capability and efforts to ensure accessibility in order to:

- contribute to guaranteeing and improving equal access to fundamental rights;
- contribute to improving the quality of life of their population and ensuring that everybody - regardless of age, mobility or ability - has equal access to all the resources and pleasures cities have to offer.

The award recognises and celebrates cities which proactively support accessibility for persons with disabilities and take exemplary steps to improve accessibility in the urban environment to the benefit of all. To recognise more strongly outstanding accessibility efforts of European cities, the Access City Award now includes prizes for the winners.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Prizes to the winners of the Access City Award.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The expected results of the Access City Award prizes will be to:

- support winning cities in their accessibility and inclusion efforts;
- encourage eligible cities to take part in the Access City Award competition, therefore boosting their interest and efforts in accessibility;
- increase interest in the Access City Award and the number of applications;
- increase visibility of the Award and of accessible cities.

The overall expected results of the Access City Award are to:

- showcase local initiatives strongly contributing to EU policy objectives related to accessibility and full inclusion of people with disabilities, in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- raise awareness on accessibility issues in cities, in the broadest sense;
- support a network of accessible cities, to facilitate the sharing of best practices;
- inspire cities to improve their accessibility.

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY AND AWARD CRITERIA

To be eligible, applicants must have been selected as winner, second place and third place of the Access City Award 2021, and must fulfil the eligibility criteria as outlined in the Participation rules. The award is open to: all EU cities of over 50 000 inhabitants; two or more cities with a combined population of over 50 000 inhabitants, if they are in EU countries with fewer than 2 cities with over 50 000 inhabitants.

Award criteria to select the winners of the Access City Award:

- (a) relevance to the objectives;
- (b) ownership, level of commitment;
- (c) impact;
- (d) quality and sustainability of results;
- (e) involvement of persons with disabilities and relevant partners.

IMPLEMENTATION

By DG EMPL.

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CONTEST AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT

Reference	Date	Amount
-	Q4 2020	€ 350 000