

# COMMISSION PROGRAMME FOR THE PREVENTION OF AND RESPONSE TO VIOLENT RADICALISATION

## 2007 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

following the

**Commission Decision C(2006) 5025 of 26 October 2006  
on Financing a Pilot Project containing a set of preparatory actions with a view to  
strengthening the fight against terrorism**

**(Action Grants)**

### **1. BACKGROUND AND MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE 2006 PILOT PROJECT**

In the context of terrorism, 'violent radicalisation' denotes a process whereby a person is radicalised (passive/subject) or becomes radical (active/actor) with regard to the use of terrorism or other forms of violence within a society. Understood as a process, it excludes simplistic notions of terrorists being inherently evil or of normal people suddenly snapping and turning to terrorism. It therefore, reflects a certain complexity as to how persons become, or turn to, violent radicals that use terrorist means to further political aims<sup>1</sup>.

Identifying and addressing the factors contributing to violent radicalisation is a very important priority of the Commission's counter-terrorism policy. The most important documents adopted by EU Institutions<sup>2</sup> have all referred to the need to identify and address the factors and causes that contribute to people taking the path of violence and terror. In its Communication on *Terrorist recruitment: addressing the factors contributing to violent Radicalisation*<sup>3</sup>, the Commission identified various existing EU policies that could play an important role in addressing the problem. That policy document was merely an initial contribution to the development of an EU Strategy<sup>4</sup> and Action Plan on combating radicalisation and recruitment which was adopted by the Council of Ministers in December 2005 whose implementation is now underway. Both the Commission's Communication and the EU Strategy recognise that terrorism underlined by an abusive interpretation of Islam

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1 In its Communication of September 2005 entitled "Terrorist recruitment: addressing the factors contributing to Violent Radicalisation", the Commission defined it as the phenomenon of people embracing opinions, views and ideas which could lead to acts of terrorism under Article 1 of the Framework Decision on Combating Terrorism (2002/475/JHA of 13 June 2002)

2 For instance, the European Council Declaration on Combating Terrorism of 25th March 2005 and the Council Declaration on the EU Response to the London Bombings of the 13th July 2005 following, respectively the Madrid and London attacks; the Plan of Action on Combating Terrorism adopted in June 2004 and revised every six months, the Commission's Communication on prevention, preparedness and response to terrorist attacks COM (2004) 698 adopted on 20th October 2004 and The Hague Programme adopted by the European Council in November 2004

3 COM (2005) 313 final adopted on 21st September 2005

4 The European Union Strategy for combating radicalisation and recruitment to terrorism

presents the biggest threat at the present moment. It therefore constitutes the main object of the present Call for Proposals.

The EU Strategy states that, to ensure its delivery, "*Member States will work, individually and together, with the support of the European Commission and other European Union bodies*". It also recognises the Commission's potential for support to the Member States through the "*channelling [of] its policies effectively*". The present Call for Proposals must therefore be seen in this light: that of supporting and complementing Member States' efforts in tackling violent radicalisation.

Since the adoption of the EU Strategy, and as part of its implementation of the 2005 Financing Decision for a (first) Pilot Project - Fight against Terrorism<sup>5</sup>, the Commission created an Expert Group on Violent Radicalisation made up of academics from diverse scientific disciplines and tasked with providing the Commission with policy-advice to better target its policies. The Group has already started work in the field.

In parallel, the Commission also contracted three studies following a Call for Tenders issued in March 2006 on:

- The factors that may possibly trigger or affect violent radicalisation processes, particularly among youth;
- The beliefs, ideologies and narrative of violent radicals; and
- The methods through which violent radicals mobilise support for terrorism and find new recruits.

For these studies the Commission laid a lot of emphasis on field work, the gathering of new empirical data and case studies as well as on the need to adopt inter-disciplinary and comparative approaches (minimum of three countries). Results of these studies are expected to be delivered to the Commission before the end of 2007.

In order to continue building upon this work, a new Commission Financing Decision was adopted on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2006 for a second Pilot Project. Its **general objective** is to support the prevention, preparedness, pursuit and response of the European Union to terrorism, in implementation of the European Union's Strategy on combating terrorism, the EU Strategy on combating radicalisation and recruitment to terrorism, as well as related Action Plans as regularly updated by the Commission and the Council.

A more **specific objective**, as defined in the description of the budget article 18 05 06 of the 2006 general budget of the European Union, is the engagement of experts and academics from various fields to support and complement the Commission's analysis of the factors contributing to violent radicalisation and recruitment to terrorism that will result in a Commission contribution to the Parliament and the Council.

The 2006 Financing Decision concerns a set of preparatory actions that cover both the award of subventions and calls for tenders. Therefore, through this Call for Proposals, the Commission will be co-financing projects that respond to this Work Programme (art 2.1 below) and aimed at addressing the problem of violent radicalisation.

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<sup>5</sup> Adopted on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2005

The total budget planned for grants related to this subject in the Work Programme of 2006 is 750.000 €

## **2. PROJECTS TO BE CO-FINANCED AND TARGET GROUPS**

The 2006 Pilot Project provides financial support for actions in the field of violent radicalisation and terrorism.

### **2.1. Projects to be co-financed**

Projects should fulfil at least one of the aims described below (in italics). Projects demonstrating a potential for transferability at EU level in addressing factors contributing to violent radicalisation will be given preference. In particular, the Commission would encourage projects that foster cooperation between researchers and the public sector and that transfer expertise in the field to those who may come into contact with radicalised or potentially radicalised individuals.

The Work Programme for 2006, annexed to the Commission Financing Decision C(2006)5025 of 26 October 2006, refers to the need to support projects carried out by municipalities, local authorities and non-governmental organisations that might be useful in stemming violent radicalisation. It points out that a high percentage of funding is required given that applicant entities are notably expected to be universities, research institutes or other non-profit organisations with limited budgets.

The Work Programme also makes reference to the EU Strategy on combating radicalisation and recruitment, which establishes that "*addressing the challenge is beyond the power of governments alone*". The Strategy emphasises not only disrupting activities of terrorist networks and individuals who draw people into terrorism, empowering mainstream voices and promoting more vigorously security, justice, democracy and opportunity for all. It also emphasises the need for the EU to develop its collective understanding of the issues surrounding violent radicalisation, while mindful of the specificities in the different Member States.

Furthermore, as recognised by the Commission's Communication "*although Europe has experienced different types of terrorism in its history, the main threat currently comes from terrorism that is underlined by an abusive interpretation of Islam*". Projects must therefore address principally violent radicalisation that leads to that type of terrorism.

More specifically, projects should address one of the following themes:

- *Projects aimed at competence building for professionals (for example, teachers, social welfare workers, policy advisors, civil servants, police, prisons staff etc), spokespersons, spiritual/political leaders and youth organisations in understanding and dealing with manifestations of violent radicalisation;*
- *Projects aimed at enhancing knowledge, particularly among youth (including within schools), on variations and interpretations regarding Islam and identity, and at raising awareness on the nature of violent radicalisation;*
- *Projects aimed at devising/promoting effective channels for addressing (perceived or real) grievances as well as alternative routes for people who show sympathy or demonstrate support for terrorism;*

- *Projects aimed at improving engagement with spiritual/political leaders in order to enhance and support their potential role in the prevention of and response to violent radicalisation;*
- *Projects aimed at facilitating cross-cultural dialogue between media professionals to support the positive role the media can play in countering violent radicalisation;*
- *Projects aimed at empowering voices that counter terrorist rhetoric, particularly through the challenging of arguments that justify the use of terrorism;*
- *Projects aimed at monitoring recruitment and grooming of terrorists over the internet.*

Trans-national projects of the type described above aimed at tackling violent radicalisation, which involve partners in at least two Member States or at least one Member State and an applicant country or a country within the Euro-Med region, will be given preference.

## **2.2. Target groups**

The Call for Proposals is addressed to those who deal with questions related to violent radicalisation that may lead to terrorism. This could be Member State authorities, academic and research institutes, schools, think-thanks, non-governmental organisations, media bodies, international organisations.

## **2.3. Eligible applicants**

Proposals for projects may be submitted by, and grants can be awarded to all legal persons - national, regional and local authorities of the EU Member States and to non-governmental organisations, public or private bodies (including university departments, research institutes, think-thanks, media bodies and international organisations), established in one of the Member States. Natural persons are not eligible.

Participants from applicant countries and non-EU countries may be involved and their costs eligible if the project justifies it. However, they are not permitted to submit projects.

## **2.4. Expected results**

The projects within the thematic priorities are expected to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the programme. The projects are intended to contribute:

- to the development of instruments (at EU level), strategies and activities/measures in the field of the effective prevention of and response to violent radicalisation (at both EU and MS level) and/or;
- to the development of better policy-making in the future at EU level and a common framework for the effective prevention of and response to violent radicalisation that may lead to terrorism.

In addition, the projects should achieve the following results:

- exchange and dissemination of information, experience, expertise and best practices among Member State authorities (or between authorities of Member States and applicant/EuroMed countries) and different institutes, organizations or

- bodies that are interested in the problem of violent radicalisation that may lead to terrorism;
- creation of informal contact networks between authorities;
- development and improvement of cooperation among academics, researchers, public authorities and non-governmental organisations.

### **3. AMOUNTS ALLOCATED FOR GRANTS**

#### **Maximum funding: 85% of the total eligible costs**

The total amount proposed for co-financed projects in 2007 on the basis of this Call for Proposals is EUR 750.000. In order to ensure an even distribution of the maximum total amount for the different projects, preference will be given to proposals with a total cost amount of between EUR 50.000 and EUR 150.000.

### **4. EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR PROPOSALS**

#### **4.1. Eligibility criteria**

To be eligible, a grant application must meet the following criteria:

- it must relate to the specific objective of the Pilot Project as referred to under Point 1 and to one of the themes as referred to under Point 2.1;
- it must be submitted using the grant application form made available by the Commission in electronic format; no other form will be accepted; all sections of the form must be completed;
- it must meet the formal requirements and be accompanied by **all** the documents listed in Point 5;
- it must submit a budget in Euro, balanced in income and expenditure. The amount of Community funding requested **shall not exceed 85% of the total eligible costs** of the project;
- It must meet the following conditions:
  - the project cannot already be completed and it must begin between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2007 and 31 December 2007.
  - the project must not last for more than one year

#### **4.2. Exclusion criteria**

Candidates shall be excluded from participating in this call for proposals if:

- they are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administered by the courts, have entered into an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;

- they have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgment which has the force of *res judicata*;
- they have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authority can justify;
- they have not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which they are established or with those of the country of the contracting authority or those of the country where the contract is to be performed;
- they have been the subject of a judgment which has the force of *res judicata* for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation or any other illegal activity detrimental to the Communities' financial interests;
- following another procurement procedure or grant award procedure financed by the Community budget, they have been declared to be in serious breach of contract for failure to comply with their contractual obligations;
- they are subject to a conflict of interest;
- they are guilty of misrepresentation in supplying the information required or fail to supply this information.

Candidates must sign the declaration on the last page of the application form. Candidates who have been found guilty of making false declarations or have been found to have seriously failed to meet their contractual obligations in an earlier Community procurement or grant award procedure may be subject to administrative or financial penalties or exclusion from Community contracts and grants in accordance with Art. 133 IR<sup>6</sup>.

#### **4.3. Selection criteria**

The following elements will be examined:

- the applicant's operational and professional capability to implement the proposed project, including evidence of its know-how and that of its partners to complete the project;
- the applicant's financial capability based on the submitted documents (such as the balance sheets showing the annual incomes and expenditures, cash flow, debts, and the amount of cash available).

Only proposals which meet the above selection criteria will be examined in detail.

#### **4.4. Award criteria**

Proposals that are in conformity with the programme's objectives will be assessed by the evaluation committee and they will be ranked on the basis of the following criteria:

- the inherent quality of the project in terms of its conception, organisation and presentation (35%);

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<sup>6</sup> Art. 133, Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (Official Journal L 357, 31/12/2002).

- whether the project has a potential for transferability at EU level and a European dimension in the case of trans-national projects (15%);
- whether the project fosters cooperation between researchers, the public sector and civil society (10%);
- compatibility with work undertaken or planned under the EU's policy priorities in the field of violent radicalisation and terrorism, notably the EU Strategy on combating radicalisation and recruitment (as referred to under Point 1) (10%);
- whether the project is complementary with other past, present or future activities, notably whether it is likely to contribute to the implementation of the EU Strategy on combating radicalisation and recruitment (10%);
- the amount of the subsidy (taking into consideration point 3 of this Call) requested under the programme and whether it is proportionate with the expected results (10%);
- the expected results of the project on the programme's objectives (10%).

## 5. PRACTICAL INFORMATION ABOUT SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted with the application form and model forward budget for the Commission Call for Proposals on the Prevention of and Response to Violent Radicalisation of 2007. These are available on the Europa web-site.

[http://ec.europa.eu/justice\\_home/funding/radicalisation/funding\\_radicalisation\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/radicalisation/funding_radicalisation_en.htm)

The applicant must fill in the fields indicated and send back the document on a **diskette or CD-ROM** and in **three paper copies (one signed original plus two copies)**.

Applications submitted on an application form that has been altered or used before, as well as forms completed by hand, will be disqualified, as will applications which are submitted unsigned or undated.

### 5.1. Documents to be submitted

The following documents must be submitted in triplicate:

- the application form for the Commission's Call for Proposals on Prevention of and Response to Violent Radicalisation, **duly completed, dated and signed by the person authorised** to enter into legally binding commitments on behalf of the applicant; the applicant may wish to transmit a translation of his application in another language;
- a timetable for implementation of the project;
- a forward budget, **dated and signed, presented on the standard budget form** for the Commission's Call for Proposals on Prevention of and Response to Violent Radicalisation, including a detailed breakdown of expected expenditure and revenue (the relevant budget form can be found on the Commission's website);

A single copy of the following documents is required:

- the financial identification form, dated and signed by the applicant, and signed and stamped by the bank concerned;
- the legal entity form, dated and signed by the applicant;
- the applicant organisation’s annual activity programme for 2006-2007 including the list of the planned activities and their timing, location and costs<sup>7</sup>;
- a report or description of the activities carried out by the organisation in 2005 and 2006<sup>7</sup>;
- an organisation chart and a description of the tasks of the staff, including the CVs of staff members responsible for carrying out the activities as specified in the project proposal;
- evidence that the applicant can enter into financial commitments on behalf of the university (applicable only to universities or university departments);

In addition to the above mentioned documents, private institutions or bodies should provide<sup>8</sup>:

- the latest financial statements (balance sheet, profit and loss account), including audited accounts when required under the national law;
- an external audit report if the amount of grant applied for exceeds 500 000 euros; this audit report shall certify the account of the last financial year available and give an assessment of the financial viability of the applicant (stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain his activity);
- the forward budget for 2007 showing a detailed breakdown of the body’s expected expenditure and revenue;
- evidence of legal status, including articles of association;
- a copy of any official document (e.g. Official Gazette, Register of companies, etc.) showing the contractor’s name and address and the registration number given to it by the national authorities;
- a copy of the VAT registration document, if applicable and if the VAT number does not appear on the official document referred to above;

In addition to the above mentioned documents, public bodies and authorities should provide:

- a copy of the resolution, law, decree or decision establishing the entity in question;
- or, failing that, any other official document attesting the establishment of the entity.

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<sup>7</sup> Public bodies need not provide these documents when their grant application relates to a project in their special area of responsibility.

<sup>8</sup> Ministries, law enforcement and judicial authorities do not need to provide these documents.

Applicants are free to provide any other documentation which they consider appropriate in support of their application.

## **5.2. Deadline for submitting applications**

Applications must be submitted in a sealed envelope by registered mail, by courier service, or by hand-delivery to the address indicated below:

### **By post or by courier service, to:**

European Commission  
Directorate-General Justice, Freedom, Security  
**Unit D4 Financial support and prevention of general crime:**  
**Call for proposals – Commission Call for Proposals for the Prevention of and Response to Violent Radicalisation**  
Office LX-46 2/106  
B-1049 Brussels

### **By hand delivery, to:**

European Commission  
**Directorate-General Justice, Freedom, Security**  
**Call for proposals - Commission's Programme for the Prevention of and Response to Violent Radicalisation**  
Office LX-46 2/106  
Mail Department  
Avenue de Bourget 1,  
B-1140 Brussels-Evere

Applications must be either:

- by registered mail or by courier service, posted or dispatched **not later than 16<sup>th</sup> April 2007** (as evidenced by the postmark or by the date of the deposit slip),
- received by hand-delivery (in person or by an agent) **not later than 16<sup>th</sup> April 2007 at 15.00** (Brussels time), in which case a receipt must be obtained as proof of submission, signed and dated by the official who took delivery.

**Any application received after the deadline or at the wrong address will be automatically rejected.**

## **5.3. Acknowledgement of receipt**

Following the opening of proposals, the Commission will send an acknowledgement of receipt to all applicants, indicating whether or not the application was received prior to the deadline and informing them of the reference number of their application.

## **6. FURTHER INFORMATION**

Applicants are invited to consult the “Guide to the 2007 Commission Call for Proposals on prevention of and response to violent radicalisation” at the following address:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/justice\\_home/funding/radicalisation/funding\\_radicalisation\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/radicalisation/funding_radicalisation_en.htm)

Questions may be sent by e-mail or by fax to the address or number listed below, indicating clearly the reference of the Call for Proposals:

e-mail address: JLS-CFP-07-RAD@ec.europa.eu

Fax: + 32 2 299 82 15

The Commission shall reply according to the code of good administrative behaviour within 15 working days from the receipt of the question.

In addition, the European Commission has the task of promoting equality between women and men and must aim in all its activities to eliminate gender inequalities (Articles 2 and 3 of the EC Treaty). In this context, women are particularly encouraged either to submit proposals or to be involved in their submission. As regards studies or research projects, the Commission would also like to draw your attention to the importance of a systematic breakdown by sex of all statistics used and of an analysis of the potentially different impact of policies on men and women, even if they appear at first sight to be gender neutral.

### **6.1. Examination of applications**

The Commission may contact applicants to request additional information at any time prior to taking its award decision. Failure to respond to such requests by the deadline set may lead to disqualification of the application. Applicants must take the necessary steps to ensure that they can be contacted rapidly up to the end of the selection process. Where the Commission contacts an applicant, this does not in any way constitute or reflect a pre-selection of the proposal on the part of the Commission.

The evaluation committee expects to complete its work by the end of May 2007. Applicants shall be informed of the outcome of their application within fifteen calendar days after the award decision has been taken, indicatively no later than 30 June 2007.

For beneficiaries of a grant under this programme, a pre-financing payment of 60% may be made after the signature of the grant agreement by both parties and in accordance with its terms. The Commission may require the beneficiary to lodge a guarantee in advance to limit the financial risks connected with the payment of pre-financing. The exact calculation of the final amount of the subvention will be done when the project has ended on the basis of the actual expenditure of the action and of supporting documents provided by beneficiary.

### **6.2. Ex-post publicity**

All grants awarded in the course of a financial year must be published on the Internet site of the Community institutions during the first half of the year following the closure of the budget year in respect of which they were awarded. The information may also be published by any other appropriate medium, including the Official Journal of the European Union. The following will be published:

- (a) the name and address of the beneficiaries;
- (b) the subject of the grant;
- (c) the amount awarded and the rate of funding of the costs of the project;

The European Commission may waive the above obligations if publication of the information could threaten the safety of the beneficiaries or harm their business interests. Beneficiaries of grants must clearly display acknowledgement of the support received from the EU.

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