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ANNEX 1

**ANNEX**

***to the***

**Commission Implementing Decision**

**concerning the adoption of the work programme for 2018 and the financing for the implementation of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme**

[…]

ANNEX

**to the Commission Implementing Decision on the adoption of the work programme for 2018 and on the financing of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme**

**Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme - Work Programme for 2018**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Annual Work Programme 2018 (AWP) 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 TEU, in the TFEU, in the Charter and in the international human rights convention to which the EU has acceded are promoted, protected and effectively implemented. It closely reflects the priorities established in the Commission's work programme for 2018.[1]

The new data protection legislation will be applicable as from May 2018. It will strengthen citizens' rights and cut costs and red tape for European business. Funding is foreseen to finance the meetings of expert groups and meetings of the Article 29 Working Party until May 2018 and to launch studies in the field of data protection, in particular on the transposition and implementation of the data reform package by the Member States.

Citizens should be more aware of their rights deriving from the citizenship of the Union, namely to move and reside freely in the Union and their right to vote and stand as candidates in elections to the European Parliament and to the municipal elections. A call for proposals and a campaign on citizens' rights has therefore been foreseen in this work programme to foster the successful inclusion and political participation of mobile EU citizens in civic and political life. In the run up to the 2019 European elections, there is a need for a specific focus on democratic participation and electoral rights. Information campaigns on EU citizenship rights are also needed, to raise awareness about electoral rights, and how rules should be applied, as well as to help citizens use their rights in practice.

Two calls will address the problem of gender-based violence and violence against children under the Daphne specific objective. The Commission is also engaging with civil society in its aim to promote gender equality, to combat violence against women and children, and it also funds European networks working towards this goal.

This work programme also takes account of two recent developments, where Justice and fundamental rights policies can make a contribution: the protection of refugees and migrants, and the surge of populism, extremism and intolerance. Strengthening child protection systems is one of the Commission's priorities under rights of the child and the focus on the careleavers is maintained for 2018. Child protection system actors need to be closely involved in dealing with children in migration.

This work programme also addresses the worrying increase of hate crime and hate speech by allocating funding to actions aiming at preventing and combating sexism, racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, tying in, among others, with the work of the Commission's coordinators on combating Antisemitism and anti-Muslim hatred as well as the High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance. This includes dedicated work in the area of countering online hate speech (implementation of the Code of Conduct on countering illegal hate speech online) and on assisting Member States developing a common methodology on recording and collecting data on hate crimes.

The Commission continues to promote gender equality. The funding under this work programme will continue to support the priorities and objectives highlighted in the Strategic engagement for gender equality 2016-2019. This year, funding will be directed in particular on promoting equal opportunities for women and men in public fora, in leadership positions in

[1] Commission Work programme 2018:
COM(2017) 650 final

politics and in the corporate sector, and on supporting public authorities and civil society in relation to the 'New Start to Support Work-Life Balance for Parents and Carers' initiative.

A call for action grants will support the implementation of the LGBTI List of Actions, initiatives promoting diversity management, youth and Roma integration. Under procurement, an important study on gender recognition legislation (or lack of) that affect transgender people's position on the labour market and other areas will be launched.

The promotion of Roma integration will pass through political dialogue with the Member States, close co-operation with the National Roma Contact Points-NRCP responsible for overseeing the National Roma Integration Strategies and the support to the National Roma Platform through a restricted call. Support to and co-operation with civil society organisations active on non-discrimination and Roma integration will be encouraged through operating and action grants.

Funds are also allocated to several actions aiming to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities. Many people with disabilities are often prevented from fully participating in society and in the economy because of physical or other types of barriers, and because of discrimination.

**OVERVIEW OF THE 2018 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS**

| Budget lines | Total Amount | % of the 2018 Programme funds |
|---|---|---|
| Budget line 33 02 01: Ensuring the protection of rights and empowering citizens | € 26 451 000 | 42,47 % |
| Budget line 33 02 02: Promoting non-discrimination and equality | € 35 831 000 | 57,53 % |
| **TOTAL** | € 62 282 000 | 100,00 % |

| Grants/Procurement | Total Amount | % of the 2018 Programme funds |
|---|---|---|
| Grants | € 49 411 000 | 79,33 % |
| Procurement | € 12 871 000 | 20,67 % |
| **TOTAL** | € 62 282 000 | 100,00 % |

At present, the countries participating in the Programme are: for budget line 33 02 01, all the Member States and Iceland; for budget line 33 02 02, all the Member States, Iceland and Liechtenstein. Should additional third countries conclude an agreement with the Union on their participation in the Programme as of 2018, this will be announced in the relevant call for proposals and/or on the Programme's website.

In accordance with Art. 2 of Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013, 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 and coherent implementation of Union law, and to wide public awareness about the rights deriving from it, their potential to develop mutual trust among Member States and to improve cross-border cooperation, their transnational impact, their contribution to the elaboration and dissemination of best practices or their potential to contribute to the creation of minimum standards, practical tools and solutions that address cross-border or Union-wide challenges.

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 and shall support gender mainstreaming, child rights mainstreaming and the mainstreaming of non-discrimination.

Coordination of activities implemented under this work programme and related EU policy areas, including the EU legal and policy framework on trafficking in human beings, as relevant, shall also be ensured.

Activities implemented under this work programme shall ensure consistency, complementarity and synergies with activities supported by other Union instruments including the Justice Programme, the "Europe for Citizens" Programme, the programmes in the areas of employment and social affairs; in the area of home affairs, such as the Internal Security Fund (including the Civil Society Empowerment Programme) and the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund; and in the areas of health and consumer protection; education, training, youth and sport, such as the Erasmus+ programme; information society; the external financing instruments, in particular the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II) for the Enlargement region, the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) for the Neighbourhood region, the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR), and the European Structural and Investment Funds.

All planned communication activities on citizens' rights will be coordinated with and aligned to the Commission's corporate communication campaign 'EU Empowers'.

### ESSENTIAL SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA FOR ACTION GRANT CALLS

The essential selection and award criteria to be used for all action grant calls described in this work programme, unless specified otherwise in the specific call section, are as follows:

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

   (a) the applicants' operational and professional capacity to implement and/or coordinate the proposed action and to maintain their activities during the period of implementation of the proposed action;

   (b) the applicants' financial capacity: the applicants should have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activities throughout the period during which the project is being carried out and to participate in its funding.

The verification of the financial and operational capacity shall not apply to International Organisations and public bodies.

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

   (a) relevance to the priorities of the call;

   (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.

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

### *2.1. Introduction*

On the basis of the five objectives of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme covered by this budget line, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for the year 2018 as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| - action grants (2.2): | € 20 600 000 |
| - operating grants (2.3): | € 1 952 000 |
| - procurement (2.4): | € 3 899 000 |
| | **€ 26 451 000** |

**INDICATIVE BREAKDOWN BY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Daphne – 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** | **€ 16 350 000** |
| Action Grants (2.2.1) | € 13 300 000 |
| Action Grants (subdelegation to Eurostat, 2.2.2) | € 1 500 000 |
| Operating Grants (2.3) | € 1 425 000 |
| Procurement (2.4) | € 125 000 |
| **To promote and protect the rights of the child** | € **5 175 000** |
| Action Grants (2.2.3, 2.2.4) | € 4 300 000 |
| Operating Grants (2.3) | € 527 000 |
| Procurement (2.4) | € 348 000 |
| **To contribute to ensuring the highest level of protection of privacy and personal data** | € **1 105 000** |
| Procurement (2.4) | € 1 105 000 |
| **To promote and enhance the exercise of rights deriving from citizenship of the Union** | € **3 621 000** |
| Action Grants (2.2.5) | € 1 500 000 |
| Procurement (2.4) | € 2 121 000 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **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** | **€ 200 000** |
| Procurement (2.4) | € 200 000 |
| **TOTAL** | **€ 26 451 000** |

### *2.2. Action grants*

#### *2.2.1. Call for proposals to prevent and combat gender-based violence and violence against children*

**LEGAL BASIS**

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

**Specific Objective: Daphne – 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**

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 01

**PRIORITIES**

1. **Prevention of gender-based violence (GBV):** The focus of this priority is on primary prevention, in particular **changing social norms and behaviour, in order to end tolerance of all forms of gender-based violence**. This includes concrete and practical awareness-raising, education and training activities to tackle prejudices and gender stereotypes and norms that encourage, condone or minimise violence, as well as to arm women and men with the tools to call out and stand up to violence through empowerment and bystander intervention programmes. Any form of gender-based violence can be covered under this priority, including specific forms, such as harmful practices. Proposals must explain which social norms and behaviours they aim to address and justify how activities encouraging or discouraging these attitudes and behaviours will directly contribute to the prevention of gender-based violence.

   (Indicative amount: € 2 900 000)

2. **Protection and support for victims and witnesses of domestic violence,** including through tackling under-reporting, promoting multi-disciplinary cooperation, and capacity building for relevant professionals. This involves the strengthening of child-centred and/or gender-specific responses to domestic violence (including child victims/witnesses of domestic violence), through capacity-building and multi-disciplinary strengthened cooperation and coordination among relevant actors, such as child protection and law enforcement professionals.

   This call aims to contribute to the implementation of:

   - the provisions of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention), particularly Chapters IV and V related to support and protection measures, (including the provisions on child victims/witnesses);
   - Directive 2012/29/EU establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime.

   (Indicative amount: € 2 900 000)

3. **The coordination and/or adaptation of support services for sexual and gender-based violence to include refugees and migrants (children, women, LGBTI persons, men and boys),** in particular to ensure their recovery from such trauma. The aim is not to create new or parallel services but to adapt them in an inclusive manner. This call will not fund operating or running costs, but is intended to build capacity and adapt frameworks to include people in migration, for example where outreach to new facilities and structures are needed or where the involvement of cultural mediators could help.

   (Indicative amount: € 2 400 000)

4. **Prevention and responding to cyber sexual- and gender-based violence,** such as revenge porn, extortion with the use of sexual imagery ("sextortion"), sexual or gendered online harassment/bullying, grooming, etc**.** This involves capacity-building for relevant professionals, awareness-raising with the general public, education and empowerment for (potential) victims in claiming their rights, as well as tackling prejudices and gender stereotypes and norms that encourage or condone violence.

   (Indicative amount: € 2 400 000)

5. **Promoting the embedding of child safeguarding policies across different settings and sectors,** such as sports clubs and organisations, extra-curricular activities and/or leisure/recreation clubs/organisations for children (including faith/church-led; scouts and girl guides, private schools), both as a means to protect and safeguard children as well as to equip staff with the necessary training and guidance. This covers activities such as the adoption and formalisation of appropriate child safeguarding and child protection policies, protocols and frameworks, capacity-building of professionals on child protection, and awareness-raising of existing standards, in line with the standards of the "Keeping Children Safe - Child Safeguarding Standards and how to implement them" guidance.[2] Activities could also include practical application of Keeping Children Safe standards to specific settings.

   (Indicative amount: € 2 700 000)

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

Project activities may include:

- mutual learning, exchange of good practices, cooperation, design and implementation of protocols, development of working methods which may be transferable to other regions or countries;
- capacity building and training for professionals;
- awareness-raising and education activities;
- empowerment of refugee/migrant communities and efforts to include them in support services.

While research is not excluded, the projects should be practical and should include a combination of elements to form a coherent whole.

***

[2] http://ec.europa.eu/justice/fundamental-rights/files/rights_child/standards_child_protection_kcsc_en.pdf

One public authority per participating country must be actively involved in the projects, as applicant or partner or by providing substantial support. The requirement will be assessed under the award criterion b) quality.

**ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

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

(a) the applicants 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 requested cannot be lower than € 75 000.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

- Increased awareness of prejudices and gender stereotypes and norms that contribute to the tolerance of violence;
- Change in attitudes and behaviour as regards the issue of gender-based violence (including lower tolerance and victim-blaming) among general population and particular groups, e.g. relevant professionals, witnesses and bystanders, vulnerable groups, etc;
- Increased likelihood of bystander intervention;
- Increased empowerment of potential victims and groups at risk of violence to claim their rights and to stand up to violence;
- Increased reporting of violence to the police and other services, with appropriate mechanisms in place to facilitate this;
- Increased capacity of stakeholders and relevant professionals to address issues related to gender-based violence, including through strengthened multi-agency cooperation and tackling of prejudices and gender stereotypes and norms;
- Improved child-centred and/or gendered responses to victims/witnesses of domestic violence, including through strengthened cooperation and coordination between and capacity-building for, among others, law enforcement and child protection professionals;
- Increased child protection systems specialist support for child victims/witnesses of domestic violence using a child-centred and child rights approach;
- Reduced risk of gender-based violence and violence against children;
- System-strengthening through capacity-building to ensure that structures for the prevention of and responses to violence against women, children and other groups particularly targeted are extended or adapted to also include refugees and migrants;
- Expansion/adaptation to ensure a coherent and coordinated approach to the provision

of support services for victims of sexual and gender based violence;

- Strengthened cooperation and exchange of information between competent European/national/regional/local authorities in relation to sexual and gender-based violence and to violence against children, including in cross-border situations, in line with the 10 Principles on integrated child protection systems;
- Strengthened prevention measures and responses to cyber gender-based violence;
- Embedding of child safeguarding standards across a range of different settings to better protect children from harm, abuse and violence.

**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-2018 | Q1 2018 | € 13 300 000 |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS**

80%

### *2.2.2. Direct award of action grant on social statistics including preparatory work covering gender-based violence statistics*

**LEGAL BASIS**

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

**Specific objective: Daphne – 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**

Art. 5 Regulation (EC) No 223/2009

Article 190(1)(d) of the Rules of Application

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 01

**PRIORITIES**

The aim is to support national statistical institutes regarding the development of a survey on gender-based violence.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

Support on social statistics including preparatory work covering gender-based violence statistics – grants to national statistical institutes or other national authorities to carry out a survey on gender based violence.

**ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY, SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA**

To be eligible, grant applications must be submitted by National Statistical Institutes or other national authorities in accordance with Article 5 of Regulation (EC) 223/2009 (see legal basis above). The National Statistical Institutes and the other national authorities included in the list referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article may receive grants without a call for proposals, in accordance with Article 190(1)(d) of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012 hereinafter "the Rules of Application").

The verification of the financial and operational capacity shall not apply to public bodies.

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 Eurostat based on a cross sub-delegation

**INDICATIVE PLANNING AND AMOUNTS**

| Reference | Date | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| JUST-2018-ESTAT Budget line: 33 02 01 | Q2-Q4 2018 | € 1 500 000 |
| JUST-2018-ESTAT Budget line: 33 02 02 | Q2-Q4 2018 | € 500 000[3] |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS**

| |
|---|
| 80% |

[3] This amount is included in the overview on p.29

### *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**

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 01

**PRIORITIES**

Projects shall support capacity building of professionals working for and with children on the rights of the child and child protection. Project activities shall focus on putting in place robust national or regional integrated mechanisms to support children ageing out of/leaving alternative care and they shall encompass a strong child participation component (in project conception and design/empowerment of children/the child's right to be heard/children's involvement in reviewing service delivery).

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

EU funding is not intended to cover operational or running costs, but to support the development of integrated, coherent and robust mechanisms and frameworks for children in alternative care, to support their ageing out of care. Projects are expected to be inclusive in nature, covering all children in state or corporate care. Children in families can generally rely on family support over relatively long periods and "corporate" or "state" parents should have commensurate support mechanisms in place for children in care. The projects should be practical projects fostering the exchanges of best practices, training and capacity-building for stakeholders.

One public authority per participating country must be actively involved in the projects, as applicant or partner or by providing support. The requirement will be assessed under the award criterion b) relevance.

**ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

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

(a) applicants and co-applicants 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 requested cannot be lower than € 75 000.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

- All children are better supported in preparing to leave care;
- Support and preparation measures start well before children age out/leave care;
- Ageing out of care systems are coherent and integrated and designed to ensure that children who are care leavers have a good support network and do not fall through cracks;
- Good practice is collected and shared (also across borders) with a view to being replicated.

**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-2018 | Q1 2018 | € 4 000 000 |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF ELIGIBLE COSTS**

80%

### *2.2.4. Direct award of action grant to NIDOS (Dutch guardianship authority) to establish and coordinate the European Guardianship Network in cooperation with the European Network of Guardianship Institutions (ENGI)*

**LEGAL BASIS**

| |
|---|
| Article 190(1)(f) of the Rules of Application<br>**Specific objective: to promote and protect the rights of the child** |

**BUDGET LINE**

| |
|---|
| 33 02 01 |

**PRIORITIES OF THE YEAR, OBJECTIVES PURSUED AND EXPECTED RESULTS**

Establishment and operation of the European Network of Guardianship Institutions.

At the 10th European Forum on the rights of the child, on the topic of the protection of children in migration, the Commission held a side event on guardianship on 28 November 2016.[4]

In its 12 April 2017 Communication on the protection of children in migration,[5] the Commission underlined the crucial role guardians play in guaranteeing access to the rights and in safeguarding the interests of all unaccompanied children, including those not applying for asylum. They can help build trust with the child and ensure his or her wellbeing, including for integration, in cooperation with other actors. Guardians can also help prevent that children go missing or fall prey to trafficking. As there are currently major shortcomings in the functioning of the guardianship systems in some Member States, particularly as regards the number of suitably qualified guardians available and the speed at which they are appointed, guardianship institutions should be strengthened where needed. Guardians need to be recruited in sufficient numbers, to be appointed faster and to be better equipped to fulfil their tasks. There is also a pressing need to develop and exchange good practices and guidance among guardians and guardianship authorities in the Member States. That is why the Commission undertook to establish and support a European guardianship network to develop and exchange good practices and guidance on guardianship in cooperation with the European Network of Guardianship Institutions.

The fundamental role of guardians for third country national unaccompanied children and to reinforce specific safeguards applicable to children was also recognised in the Commission's 2016 proposals to reform the Common European Asylum System. In addition the proposal for an Asylum Procedures Regulation aims to strengthen guardianship systems in Member States, while the new Dublin Regulation should secure rapid determination of the Member State responsible for the child's application for international protection.

NIDOS, the Dutch Guardianship Authority for unaccompanied children, has long recognised

[4] The Forum Report summarises the issues discussed http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/just/item-detail.cfm?item_id=34456

[5] COM(2017) 211 final

the need for cross-border cooperation at European level and had previously made efforts to set up the European Network of Guardianship Institutions (ENGI).[6] The NIDOS model is recognised for its expertise and experience, and for its considerable efforts to improve capacity in Europe and in EU neighbourhood countries, through sharing of expertise and training activities. NIDOS/ENGI has already coordinated some European-level (and EU-funded) projects that have contributed to more effective guardianship and works on a regular basis with EASO on capacity-building.

This action grant will be awarded directly without a call for proposals following an invitation from the Commission to NIDOS in line with the above mentioned objective for 2018 in accordance with Article 190 (1) (f) of the rules of Application. The direct awarding of the grant is justified by the specific characteristic of the action requiring the technical competence and a high degree of specialisation and experience in the area of guardianship. In addition, a specific leading role of NIDOS was reaffirmed by the Member States in a meeting convened by the Commission on 16 June 2017 which aimed to discuss the role, objective, mandate and working methods of the future network.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED**

The action grant to NIDOS to run ENGI will finance activities over a 24-month period which contribute to the implementation of the Commission Communication of 12.4.2017 actions on effective guardianship for all third country national unaccompanied children, in particular:

- exchange of information and expertise;
- shared capacity-building (training/guidance/shared tools and standards) sessions;
- actions focused on cross border and transnational work and challenges common to guardians in several Member States.

As guardians interact with a wide range of actors/authorities/agencies, experts and specialists may be included in network activities as appropriate with a view to facilitating effective guardianship and safeguarding the child's best interests and wellbeing.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

- The best interests and wellbeing of unaccompanied third country national children are better safeguarded;
- Guardianship is child-rights based;
- Guardianship is more effective and methodologies and practices are shared between organisations and authorities;
- Guardianship authorities/institutions have a platform and the information needed in order to carry out transnational or cross border tasks (e.g. contacts with guardianship and other authorities in another country for Dublin transfers, family reunion or reunification, children going missing, etc);
- Member States are supported in their obligations with regard to guardianship for unaccompanied children;

[6] https://engi.eu/

- The work of individual guardians is better supported under the remit of a guardianship authority or organisation;
- A validation framework for guardianship institutions is available for use among the network;
- Guardianship authorities and organisations contribute more effectively to policy discussions and decisions at national and European level.

**ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY, SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA**

1. To be eligible, grant applications must be submitted by the organisation mentioned above.
2. Grant applicants must meet the following selection criteria:

(a) the applicants' operational and professional capacity to implement and/or coordinate the proposed action and to maintain their activities during the period of implementation of the proposed action;

(b) the applicants' financial capability: the applicants should have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activities throughout the period during which the project is being carried out and to participate in its funding.

The verification of the financial and operational capacity shall not apply to International Organisations in accordance with Article 131 (3) of the Financial Regulation.

3. The proposal will be assessed based on the following award criteria:

(a) relevance to the priorities announced in the invitation from the Commission to submit a proposal;

(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.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG JUST

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

| Reference | Date | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| REC-RCHI-ENGI-AG-2018 | Q1 2018 | € 300 000 |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS**

80%

### *2.2.5. Call for proposals to improve the inclusion of mobile EU citizens and their political and societal participation and to support and enhance the democratic participation of mobile EU citizens, particularly in underrepresented groups*

**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**

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 01

**PRIORITIES**

1. The aim is to support Member States' efforts to address challenges arising from intra-EU mobility whilst also promoting and facilitating the effective exercise of the free movement rights by EU citizens and their family members. Project activities should foster the successful inclusion and participation of mobile EU citizens and their family members in the host EU country's civic and political life and their participation in the democratic life of the EU, particularly with a view to the 2019 European elections. Action grants will complement but not duplicate the work the Commission is funding in this domain following the publication of the 2017 Citizenship report, and of the work being funded through the European Parliament's pilot projects on e-voting and e-democracy.
2. Action is needed to support and enhance the democratic participation of mobile EU citizens, particularly underrepresented groups such as women and young people. This complementary call for action grants is to elaborate on the increased focus on the exercise of democratic rights in the run-up to the European elections, and of the work being funded through the European Parliament's pilot projects on e-voting and e-democracy, as a part of the Commission’s wider work on citizens’ participation.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

Development, exchanges and dissemination of best practices amongst national/regional/local authorities and civil society organisations. Support understanding of relevant national/regional/local rules and their interaction with EU citizenship rights. Directly support the participation of mobile EU citizens through information and advice. This could involve in particular (NB. The list is indicative and focusses on the intended outcome of the projects):

- inclusion policies / best practices which do not solely focus on one profile of EU mobile citizens but take into account both the different needs of these EU citizens as well as the challenges big/smaller cities, are facing when welcoming EU mobile citizens (e.g. housing, schooling, inclusion to the job market, involvement in community decision-making and volunteering etc.) and which promote multiculturalism;
- ways of fostering and supporting engagement in public debate (including through e.g. access to cross-border political information and facilitation of access to local political information) and participation in local and EU elections, including of young people,

women and EU citizens living in another EU country than their own. This can be achieved through digital, interactive, innovative tools and/or best practices (debates, campaigns, initiatives, information, events, administrative practice etc.);

- best practices/toolkits for newly arriving EU mobile citizens and their families, including on helping them settle down, find a job/training, participate in democratic life in the local community and create links in/with the local community;
- dissemination of practical information and advice on what are the rights, including voting rights, and responsibilities of EU mobile citizens in a given country/region/city and assistance in seeing them through.

**ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

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

(a) applicants and co-applicants 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 application must be transnational and involve organisations from at least two participating countries;

(c) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

- Increased capacity of national, regional and local experts to enable and facilitate the participation of mobile EU citizens in their host Member State;
- Increased capacity of national, regional and local experts to promote and welcome EU mobile citizens;
- Strengthened cooperation and exchange of information between competent national, regional and local authorities in relation to enabling mobile EU citizens' participation in their host MS and local communities;
- Alignment of the administrative practices in relation to the applicable EU rules in different Member States;
- Improvement in the information provided to support the participation of EU citizens in the political and social life of their host communities;
- Improvement in the 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.

**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-2018 | Q2 2018 | € 1 500 000 |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF ELIGIBLE COSTS**

| |
|---|
| 80% |

### *2.3. Operating grants*

#### *2.3.1. Operating grants to Framework Partners active in the Daphne or rights of the child areas*

**LEGAL BASIS**

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

**Specific Objectives:**

- **Daphne – 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;**
- **to promote and protect the rights of the child.**

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 01

**PRIORITIES**

These grants aim to support the annual work programme of European networks aiming at promoting and protecting the rights of the child or active in the area of preventing and combating all forms of violence against children, young people and women, as well as violence against other groups at risk, and 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.

**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 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.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

In the area of violence against women, networks are expected to contribute to achieving at least one of the following objectives:

- Building the capacity of national or regional organisations working to prevent and combat violence against 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 women, and enabling multi-disciplinary cooperation and mutual learning.

Expected results in the area of rights of the child are:

- Network partners contribute to the elimination of violence against children;
- Network partners build their capacity to develop coherent and coordinated activities to promote the protection of the rights of the child;
- The networks expand its reach, including new partners in a multi-sectoral approach;
- The networks demonstrate a stronger child rights approach;
- The networks' activities show a measurable increase in impact on children.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG JUST

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

| Call Reference (Topic) | Date | Total Budget Available |
|---|---|---|
| REC-RCHI-NETW-OG-2018<br>REC-RDAP-NETW-OG-2018 | Q3 2018 | € 1 952 000 |

**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 |

**BUDGET LINE**

| |
|---|
| 33 02 01 |

**SUBJECT MATTER OF THE CONTRACTS ENVISAGED**

In 2018 the Commission intends to undertake several actions through contracts following public procurement (calls for tender and FWC - framework contracts) or administrative arrangements, if necessary (for instance, administrative arrangement with the Joint Research Centre to ensure that behavioural insights are integrated in different DG JUST 's activities).

Conferences, expert meetings, seminars, communication activities may be organised, development and maintenance of IT platforms and systems may be supported, and surveys and studies and impact assessments may be undertaken as far as they are needed to monitor the proper implementation of existing legislation or to prepare, or accompany new legislation or to respond to policy changes in the area covered by the Programme. Procurement actions may cover in particular the following activities:

(a) Specific objective: **Daphne – 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**

- survey on gender-based violence (cross delegation to DG ESTAT of € 125 000) (Q2 2018).

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

- European Forum on the rights of the child and other actions related to the implementation of the EU Agenda on the rights of the child (Q2-Q4 2018, FWC);
- focus study on the rights of the child – promotion of alternatives to deprivation of liberty/detention (as a follow-up to the 2017 Forum on the rights of the child), (Q2-Q3 2018);
- online database on good practices (Q2 2018).

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

- analytical activities, namely studies on the level of data protection in selected third countries (adequacy assessment) and on other international transfer tools (e.g. certification mechanisms);
- awareness-raising campaign on new data protection rules complementing actions at national level in Member States (Q1 –Q2 2018);
- expert group on the GDPR and the Police Directive (FWC);
- supporting the work of the Article 29 Working Party (Q1-Q2 2018, FWC);

- multi-stakeholder expert group to support the application of the General Data Protection Regulation (FWC);
- studies, in particular on the transposition of the Directive 2016/680 and on the use of certain flexibility clauses by Member States under the Regulation 2016/679.

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

- studies and research into specific areas concerning Union Citizenship (Network of Academics and others);
- E-tool on free movement – changes and maintenance;
- EU campaign on EU citizenship rights as deliverable of the 2017 Citizenship report (publication, leaflets, website) and in view of the 2019 EU elections with focus on elections and consular protection;
- high-level event on democratic participation ahead of the 2019 EP elections (follow up of the 2015 elections report) (Q4 2018);
- study of the democratic participation of underrepresented group, and practices to support it (Q3 2018).

(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:**

- content update of the Consumer Law Database (Q3-Q4 2018);
- expert meetings focusing on the impact of robotics and artificial intelligence on consumers' rights.

*Indicative number of new contracts envisaged: 9*

*Indicative number of specific contracts based on existing framework contracts envisaged: 11*

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG JUST and, where indicated, by DG ESTAT based on a cross sub-delegation.

When needed, by DG T based on a co-delegation.

**TOTAL BUDGET AVAILABLE**

€ 3 899 000

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

### *3.1. Introduction*

On the basis of the four objectives of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme covered by this budget line, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for the year 2018 as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| - action grants (3.2): | € 16 950 000 |
| - operating grants (3.3): | € 9 909 000 |
| - procurement (3.4): | € 8 972 000 |
| | **€ 35 831 000** |

**INDICATIVE BREAKDOWN BY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE**

| **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE** | **Total Amount** |
|---|---|
| | |
| **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** | **€ 12 343 000** |
| Action grants (3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4) | € 5 500 000 |
| Operating grants (3.3.1) | € 2 621 000 |
| Operating grant to de facto monopoly (3.3.2) | € 1 000 000 |
| Procurement (3.4) | € 3 222 000 |
| | |
| **to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance** | **€ 9 116 000** |
| Action grants (3.2.5., 3.2.6, 3.2.7) | € 7 000 000 |
| Operating grants (3.3.1) | € 1 716 000 |
| Procurement (3.4) | € 400 000 |
| | |
| **to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities** | **€ 6 551 000** |
| Operating grants (3.3.1) | € 3 501 000 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Procurement (3.4) | € 3 050 000 |
| | |
| **to promote equality between women and men and to advance gender mainstreaming** | **€ 7 821 000** |
| Action grants (3.2.8, 3.2.9) | € 3 950 000 |
| Action grants to Eurostat (2.2.2) | € 500 000 |
| Operating grants (3.3.1) | € 1 071 000 |
| Procurement (3.4) | € 2 300 000 |
| | |
| **TOTAL** | **€ 35 831 000** |

### *3.2. Action grants*

#### *3.2.1. Call for proposals to support national or transnational projects on non-discrimination and Roma integration*

**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**

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 02

**PRIORITIES**

This call will aim to co-fund transnational projects tackling at least one of the following grounds of discrimination of Art. 19 TFEU: racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. They should aim at:

1. Fighting against discrimination based on sexual orientation in society and promoting the rights of LGBTI people.
2. Promoting diversity management in the public and private sector: identification of existing practices, measurement of diversity management benefits, and awareness-raising. The proposed activities may be linked to the launch and implementation of Diversity Charters.
3. Fighting against anti-gypsyism and discrimination of Roma through activities aiming to raise awareness and combat harmful stereotypes of Roma and thereby supporting their integration into mainstream society. Empowering Roma youth and promoting their participation in developing, implementing and monitoring policies affecting them. Supporting capacity building of Roma and pro-Roma civil society active at the local level.
4. Fighting against discrimination based on race and/or ethnic origin (excluding hate speech and related areas under par. 3.2.6).

Priority will be given to fund at least one project in each of the above-mentioned four priority areas, subject to eligibility and reaching sufficient quality threshold under award criteria.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

This call will fund activities on:

- data collection and survey; monitoring the implementation of non-discrimination legislation;
- training of professionals;
- mutual learning, exchange of good practices, cooperation, including identifying best

practices which may be transferable to other participating countries;

- dissemination and awareness raising activities (including at local level), such as seminars, conferences, campaigns or social media and press activities;
- capacity building and empowerment.

**ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

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

(a) applicant/s and co-applicants 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-oriented organisations;

(b) the application can be either national or transnational and must involve at least two organisations (applicant and partner);

(c) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 100 000 or higher than € 250 000.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

- Design, development and/or monitoring of national, regional, or local policies aimed to fight against discrimination and/or to promote equality at the workplace and/or in society;
- More effective implementation of the legislation on non-discrimination;
- Increased stakeholders' knowledge of EU, national, regional and local policies and legislation as well as administrative practices in the non-discrimination field;
- Implementation of the LGBTI List of Actions[7], including fighting stereotypes and increase reporting of cases of discrimination based on sexual orientation;
- Increased number of diversity charters and the number of companies affiliated to a charter;
- Strengthened links between the academic/research community and the business world to quantify the benefits of diversity;
- Support for the Roma integration process with particular regard to local action, Roma youth empowerment and civil capacity building.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG JUST

[7] http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/files/lgbti_actionlist_en.pdf

**INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CALL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT**

| Reference | Date | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| REC-RDIS-DISC-AG-2018 | Q1 2018 | € 3 600 000 |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS**

| |
|---|
| 80 % |

### *3.2.2. Restricted call for proposals to support National Roma platforms*

**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**

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 02

**PRIORITIES**

The priority of this restricted call for proposals for action grants is to support the setting up or reinforcing of national consultation processes in the Member States, through National Roma Platforms convened and managed by National Roma Contact Points (NRCPs).

NRCPs were appointed by Member States, in line with the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020 (http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/files/roma_nationalcontactpoints_en.pdf) to coordinate the development and implementation of the National Roma Integration Strategy, or integrated sets of policy measures within their broader social inclusion policies (thereafter: NRIS).

The Council Recommendation on effective Roma integration measures in the Member States confirms that NRCPs should facilitate the participation and involvement of Roma civil society in the implementation of NRIS and local action plans. The National Roma Platforms will contribute decisively to this process.

The National Roma Platforms are expected to encourage and facilitate dialogue and exchanges, promote mutual learning, cooperation and involvement in implementation and monitoring, reporting and policy review between all national stakeholders. Inclusion of Roma people, in particular Roma women and youth, in the Platform is strongly encouraged.

The objectives of the Platforms are:

- to empower the NRCPs in the process of Roma integration, to give them the necessary visibility towards all relevant stakeholders, whether at national, regional or local level, towards Roma and non-Roma communities;
- to ensure effective involvement of all relevant stakeholders (i.e. national, regional, local authorities, Roma and non-Roma communities including Roma youth and Roma women, Roma and pro-Roma non-governmental organisations (NGOs), private entrepreneurs, trade unions, professional associations, academia, Equality bodies, etc.) in decisions that affect Roma, taking into account the roles of each stakeholder;
- to improve multi-stakeholder participation, in particular participation of Roma in decisions that affect them;

- to strengthen multi-stakeholder accountability, commitment to, as well as ownership and transparency of the process of Roma integration;
- to boost the commitment to and effective implementation of integration measures at the local level with a view to improving the effective equal access of Roma to mainstream services and opportunities, as well as to local level community building between Roma and non-Roma;
- to address the gaps in the implementation of the National Roma Integration Strategy and the challenges which are specific to the national context;
- to feed reporting processes at national and EU level.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

This call will fund activities supporting active partnership between stakeholders in the development, implementation and monitoring of the National Roma Integration Strategies or integrated sets of policy measures in the Member States.

Member States using Commission support under the previous call (REC-RDIS-NRCP-AG-2017) to set up National Roma Platforms should set out how they intend to maintain and develop them.

Proposals of Member States that have not applied for support under the above mentioned previous call shall present the methodology to be used for the setting up or reinforcing and restructuring of National Roma Platforms, by inclusive and transparent involvement of all relevant stakeholders with a focus on implementation and monitoring of National Roma Integration Strategies and integrated set of measures, and for the implementation of their activities.

The National Roma Platforms should not be considered as one-off events or conferences but as an ongoing, joint process in which all relevant stakeholders work closely together towards better integration of Roma

Activities should support nationally led participatory multi-stakeholder processes of working meetings aimed at strengthening partnership across all levels, including government authorities, regional and local authorities, civil society organisations, including Roma youth and Roma women organisations, private sector, academia, etc. The use of participatory methodologies, including with the help of professional facilitators, is encouraged.

Activities may include meetings and events at national, regional or local levels of National Roma Platforms, including their preparation, organisation and follow-up activities.

Evaluation and review of NRIS 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.

**The following concrete activities might be included in the proposal:**

- activities aimed at making stakeholder participation effective, including the identification of stakeholders, capacity building actions, integration of their inputs in shaping policies relevant to Roma integration;
- working meetings aiming at ensuring proper communication with all stakeholders;

- activities focusing on empowerment and participation of Roma youth and women organisations;
- organisation of an opening "Kick Off" meeting with participation of all relevant stakeholders (with balanced geographical coverage) in order to explain the process as well as the Member State's approach towards Roma integration;
- organisation of topical discussions/focused group discussions/good practices working meetings, notably on education, employment, health, housing and anti-discrimination issues, which would address the needs/priorities/obstacles/challenges at national/ regional/local level;
- funding opportunities;
- Roma education and how best to advance the education of Roma children, involving educators, Roma parents, representatives of municipalities, social workers, Roma mediators, Roma assistants;
- the involvement of trade unions, private sector in increasing employability of Roma and on an integrated approach in the area of housing and health;
- activities aimed at facilitating dialogue between Roma and non-Roma communities and local authorities to explain the mutual benefits of Roma integration measures for both communities.

**The following types of activities will not be funded by the Commission:**

- activities supporting individual political parties;
- provision of financial support to third parties;
- legal actions before national or international courts regardless of their grounds or objectives.

This call focuses on national activities.

**ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

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

(a) the application must be summited by the officially appointed National Roma Contact Point. Only one application per Member State will be accepted;

(b) the EU grant applied for cannot be higher than € 65 000;

(c) the initial duration of the project should not exceed 12 months.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

- Increased number of the national Platforms seen as an integral component of the coordination and monitoring activities of the NRCPs to foster the process for dialogue, cooperation and coordination of stakeholders;
- Increased capacity of national experts to address issues related to Roma integration;
- Strengthened cooperation and exchange of information between competent national authorities in relation to Roma integration;

- Improved knowledge on the legislation and administrative practices related to Roma integration.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG JUST

**INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CALL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT**

| Reference | Date | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| REC-RDIS-NRCP-AG-2018 | Q1 2018 | € 1 000 000 |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS**

95 %

### *3.2.3. Direct award of action grant to Council of Europe on Roma women's access to justice*

**LEGAL BASIS**

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013 and Article 190(1)(f) of the Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012

**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**

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 02

**PRIORITIES**

Protection of Roma women is a political priority for both the Commission and Council of Europe and as also indicated in the Council Recommendation of 9 December 2013 on effective Roma integration measures in the Member States[8] as well as in mid-term strategic orientations of the Council of Europe on Roma inclusion[9]. Partnering-up with the Council of Europe on this particular area is of clear added value for the Commission, also in respect of avoiding duplication, maximising the impact and ensuring complementarity and synergy of interventions.

The pilot phase of the JUSTROM programme has been launched in October 2016. The Steering Committee of the JUSTROM programme took place on 13th of June 2017. It can be concluded that after 8 months, the JUSTROM programme has been successfully set up in 5 piloting countries (BG, EL, IT, IE, RO) and it goes right direction, in particular when reaching out the communities, enhancing their empowerment, building the partnership with national authorities and all authorities concerned as well as providing trainings to judiciary and law enforcement authorities and sensitising them on the multiple discrimination of Roma women. However, given the complexity of the issue, it will be crucial to continue with the efforts and narrow the focus to see substantive results in the future.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

The JUSTROM programme will continue to be implemented in five piloting countries (Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Ireland and Romania) in order to deepen the efforts already undertaken and narrow the focus of the activities, in particular when it comes to involving Equality bodies and National Roma Contact Points.

**Planned activities**

Empowering Romani women and girls to improve their access to justice, including:

- capacity building for Romani women's NGOs to raise awareness on multiple discrimination and of Romani women to enable them to initiate and pursue legal

[8] OJ C 378, 24.12.2013, p.1.
[9] SG/Inf(2015)16final

procedures;

- organisation and facilitation of Romani women's gatherings at local level to build confidence and self-esteem, identify challenges and enable participants to take action against abuse and discrimination and raise their awareness about discrimination and complaints mechanisms;
- enhancing the knowledge and skills of judiciary and law enforcement resources on the application of anti-discrimination standards with a focus on multiple discrimination of Roma women;
- facilitation of free legal information/legal aid through the "legal clinics";
- facilitation of free legal representation to Romani women in court proceedings;
- close cooperation and involvement of Equality bodies and National Roma Contact Points in dealing with anti-discrimination cases related to Roma as well as the implementation of the JUSTROM programme.

Partnership with implementing partners (Ministries, Equality Bodies, Human Rights Institutions, regional and local authorities):

- supporting the integration of anti-discrimination/Roma modules in academic curricula;
- work on improving reporting of Romani women of discrimination cases with the HRIs.

Capacity building of the legal and law enforcement professionals to respond effectively and adequately to the needs of Romani women and young girls, including those in prison:

- implementation of regional Trainings of Trainers for judges and prosecutors and police;
- building capacity and training of lawyers to provide legal aid and counsel to Romani women and young girls, including those in prison;
- improving training methodology for law enforcement and in-service training regarding vulnerable groups.

**ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY, SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA**

1. To be eligible, grant applications must be submitted by the organisations mentioned above.
2. Grant applicants must meet the following selection criteria:
   (a) the applicants' operational and professional capacity to implement and/or coordinate the proposed action and to maintain their activities during the period of implementation of the proposed action;
   (b) the applicants' financial capability: the applicants should have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activities throughout the period during which the project is being carried out and to participate in its funding.

The verification of the financial and operational capacity shall not apply to International Organisations in accordance with Article 131 (3) of the Financial Regulation.

3. Proposals will be assessed based on the following award criteria:
   (a) relevance to the objectives defined above;
   (b) quality of the proposed action;

(c) quality of mechanism to ensure coordination and consistency between organisations;

(d) expected results;

(e) cost-effectiveness.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

- Increased awareness of Romani women on discrimination, complaint mechanisms, the justice system and human rights institutions;
- Increased number of cases of discrimination against Romani women admitted by human rights institutions, equality bodies and courts;
- Strengthening involvement of existing structures in Member States, such as National Roma Contact Points and Equality bodies in dealing with anti-discrimination cases related to Roma;
- Enhanced skills of professional resources (thee judiciary, law enforcement and NGOs/human rights advocates) when it comes to the application of anti-discrimination standards with a focus on multiple discrimination, gender equality and Romani women;
- Increased synergy and coherence between the institutional frameworks of the EU and Council of Europe, national Roma integration strategies and civil society strategies regarding access to justice for, and the empowerment of, Romani women.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG Justice

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

| Reference | Date | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| REC-RDIS-ROWO-AG-2018 | Q1 2018 | € 700 000 |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS**

80%

### *3.2.4. Direct award of action grant to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)*

**LEGAL BASIS**

Art. 4 and 5 Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013 and Article 190(1)(f) of the Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012

**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**

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 02

**PRIORITIES**

This action grant will support the actions of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on a pilot sample testing of discrimination in access to employment of LGBTI persons. The indicative length of the project is 12 months.

Controlled field experiments offer robust evidence of discrimination in the labour market, using written correspondence tests and/or in person audit tests. Since discrimination in hiring decisions cannot usually be observed directly, researchers use fictitious candidates with equivalent, and thus exchangeable qualifications: An employer is presented with two substantially identical applications. The only difference is the characteristic of interest: for example the racial/ethnic origin of the applicant identified in different ways, for example their name.

This results in controlled experiments on discrimination in hiring decisions in real world settings. The impact of such situation testing reports has been significant, as reflected in legal measures, for example in France and Belgium, related to the admissibility of situational tests in the context of legal proceedings. The OECD project will be innovative in integrating the LGBTI dimension in this type of research.

The objective of the project is to prepare the ground and test the methodology for an upcoming two-year study (FRA/OECD in 2019 -2020) that will provide robust and comparable data based on a tested and scientifically validated experimental approach, applied by ILO and at national level, with significant political impact in Member States. This study will raise public awareness on the discrimination, hate speech and challenges that minorities face, and therefore on the importance to advance equality.

The cooperation between the Commission and the OECD allows for a far-reaching and innovative research on various grounds of discrimination (ethnic minorities including Roma, religion, LGBTI).

The project would complement FRA's large scale surveys by providing robust and comparable data based on a tested and scientifically validated experimental approach, applied by ILO since 1990's and at national level, with significant political impact in Member States.

OECD is a key player in the field of data collection with a relevant expertise in the various grounds of discrimination (ethnicity, LGBTI) with international expert' network to build an outstanding methodological approach in this innovative area of research.

The direct award of the grant is justified by the specific characteristics of the action, which require the OECD's technical competence, its high degree of specialisation and its administrative power. The OECD has a unique expertise, legitimacy and contacts with the data providers (MS administrations) to support the EU in this task.

Main target groups
Policy makers in different sectors and at different levels, equality bodies, ombudspersons, education and health sectors, municipalities and local administration, media, general public.

Partners
Cooperation with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

This grant will cover the following activities:

- analytical activities, such as data collection, surveys, research activities, etc;
- sample testing on a number of countries (to be defined);
- a report on the main findings, recommendations and conclusions for the upcoming 2-year study (FRA/OECD – 2019 -2020).

**ESSENTIAL AWARD CRITERIA**

The proposal of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) will be assessed based on the following award criteria:

(a) Relevance to the priorities announced in the invitation from the Commission to submit a proposal;

(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.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

Development of robust indicators and methodology for the 2-year research that will follow. OECD/FRA's study will build on this project to finalise key indicators of discrimination especially in order to test the LGBTI testing part which is very innovative.

The capacity, skills and knowledge of relevant institutions have been increased.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG Justice

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

| Reference | Date | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| REC-RDIS-OECD-AG-2018 | Q1 2018 | € 200 000 |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS**

| |
|---|
| 80% |

### *3.2.5. Call for proposals to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance*

**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**

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 02

**PRIORITIES**

Projects focusing on preventing and combating intolerance, improving responses to hate crime and hate speech, including but not limited to means of criminal law, supporting victims, fostering tolerance and social cohesion including through education, coalition building, intercultural and interreligious dialogue. Projects may focus on specific forms of intolerance, including:

- Antisemitism;
- anti-Muslim hatred and intolerance;
- homophobia and transphobia, also to contribute to the implementation of the Commission's List of Actions to advance LGBTI equality;
- other forms of intolerance, such as antigypsyism, xenophobia and anti-migrant hatred, Afrophobia, hate crimes against persons with disabilities.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

In relation to the above mentioned priorities, the call will fund activities on:

- mutual learning and exchange of good practices between Member States;
- development of tools and practices to improve responses to these phenomena, including but not limited to means of criminal law;
- supporting victims of hate crime and hate speech and addressing the issue of underreporting, including trust building between communities and national authorities;
- achieving strengthened cooperation between key actors (such as different national and/or local authorities, civil society organisations, targeted communities);
- capacity building and training activities;
- activities creating better understanding between communities, including through interreligious and intercultural activities and projects focusing on coalition building;
- dissemination and awareness raising activities.

**ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

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

(a) applicants and co-applicants 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;

(d) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

- Increased capacity of national and local authorities and civil society organisations and communities to address issues related to racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, including by training activities, mutual learning and exchange of good practices;
- Strengthened cooperation and exchange of information between competent national authorities and other key actors such as civil society organisations and community representatives in the area of preventing and combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance;
- Improved support to hate crime victims, better awareness of the rights of victims of hate crime and hate speech and increased number of reported hate crime and hate speech incidents;
- Effective prevention measures addressing manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance developed and implemented;
- Increased awareness of the general population on the impact of racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, of current trends and better understanding of the various forms of intolerance, in particular among multipliers and community leaders;
- Improved understanding between communities, enhanced interreligious and intercultural dialogue and increased coalition building;
- Curbing manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance across the EU, including incidents of hate crime and hate speech.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG JUST

**INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CALL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT**

| Reference | Date | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| REC-RRAC-RACI-AG-2018 | Q1 2018 | € 4 000 000 |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS**

| |
|---|
| 80% |

### *3.2.6. Call for proposals 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**

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 02

**PRIORITIES**

- Projects aimed at countering hate speech online on social platforms/Internet companies: development of monitoring and data collection tools, studies and analyses of the sociological landscape and trends on hate speech online and tools aimed at enhancing transparency (as a follow-up of the Code of Conduct on countering illegal hate speech online);
- Projects aimed at building capacity of civil society on notifying hate speech online to Internet companies, including, but not limited to, training on the legal framework (including to contribute to the implementation of the Code of Conduct on countering illegal hate speech online);
- Projects on developing online alternative and counter-narratives and promoting the development of critical thinking by Internet users (as a follow-up of the Code of conduct on countering illegal hate speech online and of the 2016 Annual Colloquium on Fundamental Rights);
- Projects aiming at tackling online hate speech against journalists, including but not limited to data collection on online abuse against media actors and analysing its effects on the democratic debate (as a follow-up of the 2016 Annual Colloquium on Fundamental Rights);
- Projects promoting the development of tools and practices to prevent (counter-narratives), monitor and combat online hate speech, including but not limited to means of criminal law (as a follow up of the 2015 Colloquium and the Dialogue with IT companies).

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

In relation to the above mentioned priorities, the call will fund activities on:

- development of online tools countering hate speech online and data collection;
- dissemination and awareness raising activities on hate speech online;
- mutual learning, exchange of good practices, including identifying best practices which may be transferable to other participating countries;
- capacity building and training activities.

**ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

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

(a) applicants and co-applicants 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;

(d) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

- Curbing increasing trends of illegal hate speech on the Internet;
- Improving data recording and establishment of trends, including on the chilling effects of illegal hate speech online, particularly when addressed to key democracy players, such as journalists;
- Strengthening cooperation between national authorities, civil society organisations and Internet companies, in the area of preventing and countering hate speech online;
- Empowering civil society organisations in their activities countering hate speech online and in the development of effective counter-narratives;
- Increasing awareness of the general public on online hate speech and boosting public perception of the issue.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG JUST

**INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CALL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT**

| Reference | Date | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| REC-RRAC-ONLINE-AG-2018 | Q1 2018 | € 1 500 000 |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS**

80%

### *3.2.7. Restricted call for proposals for public authorities on preventing and combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, and in particular hate crime and hate speech*

**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**

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 02

**PRIORITIES**

- Projects aimed at assisting Member States' authorities in developing tools, practices, actions and strategies to effectively prevent and combat racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance.
- Projects focussing on the implementation on the ground of relevant national legislation, in particular in the area of hate speech, hate crime and rights of victims of hate crime.
- Projects aimed at supporting Member States in improving their methodology and system for recording and collecting data on hate crime, in particular through the implementation of the common core elements developed by the dedicated sub-group of the EU High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance led by the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA).

Targeted projects in these areas will assist the Member States and practitioners in improving their responses to hatred and intolerance, including through the correct and full implementation of relevant national legislation, in particular rules transposing the Framework Decision on combatting Racism and Xenophobia by means of criminal law, and in developing tools and practices to effectively prevent and combat hate speech and bias-motivated crimes.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

In relation to the above mentioned priorities, the call will fund activities on:

- mutual learning and exchange of good practices between Member States;
- development of tools and practices to improve responses to these phenomena, including but not limited to means of criminal law;
- supporting victims of hate crime and hate speech and addressing the issue of underreporting, including trust building between communities and national authorities;
- capacity building and training activities;
- achieving strengthened cooperation and coordination between key actors (national and/or local authorities, civil society organisations, targeted communities etc.).

**ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

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

(a) lead applicants must be a public authorities of one of the countries participating in the Programme; co-applicants must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the Programme, or international organisations;

(b) the application must involve at least two organisations;

(c) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 75 000.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

- Increased capacity of competent public authorities to effectively investigate, prosecute and adequately sentence hate crime and hate speech cases;
- Improved knowledge and awareness of competent public authorities of the impact of racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, and in particular hate crime and hate speech, of current trends and better understanding of the various forms of intolerance and of the legal framework, including rights of victims of hate crime and hate speech;
- Improved methodologies on recording and collecting data on hate crimes, and enhanced comparability of data and statistics across the EU;
- Strengthened cooperation and exchange of information between competent national authorities as well as other key actors such as civil society organisations and community representatives in the area of preventing and combating hate crime and hate speech;
- Development and implementation of comprehensive strategies to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, including, where relevant, by focussing on specific grounds;
- Improved support to hate crime victims, better awareness of the rights of victims of hate crime and hate speech and increased number of reported hate crime and hate speech incidents;
- Curbing manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance across the EU, including incidents of hate crime and hate speech.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG JUST

**INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CALL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT**

| Reference | Date | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| REC-RRAC-HATE-AG-2018 | Q1 2018 | € 1 500 000 |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS**

| |
|---|
| 80% |

### *3.2.8. Open call for proposals to address:*

***A) equal participation of women and men in public fora, in leadership positions in politics and in the corporate sector;***

***B) to support public authorities and civil society in relation with the 'New Start to Support Work-Life Balance for Parents and Carers' initiative.***

**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**

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 02

**PRIORITIES**

A)

The aim of the call/topic is to support projects promoting equality for women and men in public debates, in leadership positions in politics and in the corporate sector

Women in the EU make up more than half of the population and of the electorate. Equal participation of women and men in public life and in politics is a matter of justice, respect for human rights and good governance. Gender balanced decision-making is also needed to reflect the composition of society, strengthen democracy and add new perspectives into the political debate. However, women continue to be under-represented in decision-making positions in politics at national and European level and progress has been slow and uneven, even if the situation varies greatly between Member States.

Moreover, women continue to be severely under-represented in leadership positions in the corporate sector, even if the economic and business case for gender balance in leadership is well established. Progress has been slow and mostly concentrated in countries that have adopted legislative measures to improve the situation. Supporting of initiatives by stakeholders such as awareness-raising; further development/dissemination of practical tools (European databases of qualified women, training programmes for women candidates, etc.); exchange of good practice and networking between key stakeholders are necessary to complement the Commission's legislative proposal on women on boards and to make further progress on the topic.

Women's voices and expertise are also under-represented in the media and in public debates and when women express themselves in these fora, they are often confronted with stereotypes and sexism. This contributes to further preventing women from participating in public debates.

For this reason, and in continuity with the current practice, activities will be implemented through an open call for proposals addressed to national ministries', NGOs or networks of NGOs, other non-profit organisations, social partners. The call aims to co-fund, *inter alia*, national/European information, awareness-raising, mentoring and training activities, further developing/dissemination of tools or strategies to support gender balance and networking

and testing and exchange of best practice between the relevant stakeholders.

B)

The aim of the call/topic is to support projects aiming at better enforcement of EU law on work-life balance and in particular of protection against dismissal and unfavourable treatment due to pregnancy or parenthood.

Protection against dismissal and unfavourable treatment is provided under EU law through the Maternity Leave Directive[10], the Part-time Work Directive[11], the Gender Equality Directive[12], the Directive on equal treatment between men and women engaged in an activity in a self-employed capacity[13] and the Parental Leave Directive[14]. The protection has been reinforced by the case-law of the European Court of Justice. Unfavourable treatment of women when they become pregnant and for women and men due to take leave is still being reported in many Member States[15]. It is therefore necessary to better inform workers and support them in the exercise of their rights to ensure that they are able to enforce them more effectively at the national level.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

Project activities may include:

A)

- awareness-raising, communication activities (campaigns, etc);
- capacity building, mentoring and training programmes for women candidates (and for journalists);
- seminars and conferences;
- develop/disseminate practical tools to increase gender balance;
- exchange of good practice and successful strategies and networking between stakeholders.

Activities should have an impact on equal opportunities for women and men in public life and in particular leadership positions in politics and in the corporate sector.

B)

- awareness-raising activities, communications campaign aimed at :
    - employers, underlining the economic benefits of unlocking and retaining the talent and experience of pregnant women and new mothers;
    - employers to better know and comply with their legal obligations;

[10] Council Directive 92/85/EEC
[11] Council Directive 97/81/EEC
[12] Directive 2006/54/EC
[13] Directive 2010/41/EU
[14] Council Directive 2010/18/EU
[15] Equinet (2016) Responses from Gender Equality Working Group on Gender-Related Discrimination; European Network of Legal Experts in the Field of Gender Equality (2012) Fighting Discrimination on the Grounds of Pregnancy, Maternity and Parenthood; UK Equality and Human Rights Commission (2016) Pregnancy and Maternity-Related Discrimination and Disadvantage.

- employees to better know their rights;

- testing, developing and disseminating creative approaches to :
  - attract, develop and retain women in the workforce before, during and after pregnancy;
  - facilitate the process to report and raise a complaint when a discriminatory practice occurs (clear complaints procedures, lower financial costs);
  - implement an efficient monitoring (of practices in companies such as recruitment practices and of early conciliation cases);
- analytical activities such as development of ex ante evaluation, impact assessment of measures aimed at :
  - tackling practices such as employers seeking information about women's pregnancy, motherhood or plans to have children that could be used to discriminate unlawfully during recruitment or white dismissal;
  - supporting small and medium-sized employers to spread the cost of providing enhanced maternity pay (where they wish to do so) and cover for maternity leave such as collective insurance schemes.

**ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

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

(a) applicants and co-applicants 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 transnational or national. Projects with a clear European dimension will be favoured;

(c) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than € 100 000.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

A)

- The relevant actors (governments, political parties, civil society, social partners, corporate sector, media, general public) are sensitized about the under-representation of women in leadership positions in politics at national and EU level and in private and public companies. They are informed on the benefits of balanced participation of women and men in leadership and on successful strategies to improve the situation. Practical tools are made available and used to support businesses and qualified women aspiring for leadership positions;
- Concrete actions are implemented by stakeholders to increase gender balance in politics at national level and/or at EU level. Sexism is less prevalent in politics and public debates;
- Concrete actions are implemented by stakeholders to increase gender balance in leadership in the corporate sector. Tools for sensitizing and supporting business and women aspiring for leadership positions to improve the situation are prepared,

disseminated and used by relevant stakeholders. The number of women candidates and recruited to leadership positions in the corporate sector is expected to increase.

B)

- Better enforcement of EU law on work-life balance and in particular of protection against dismissal and unfavourable treatment due to pregnancy or parenthood;
- Employers are aware of their legal obligations towards pregnant women and parents;
- Pregnant women and parents are better aware of their rights;
- Decrease in discriminatory practices due to pregnancy and parenthood.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG JUST

**INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE CALL AND INDICATIVE AMOUNT**

| Reference | Date | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| REC-RGEN-WWLB-AG-2018 | Q1 2018 | € 3 700 000 |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS**

80%

### *3.2.9. Action grant to monopoly – Presidency conference*

**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**

Article 190(1)(f) of the Rules of Application

Presidency Conferences, highly political in nature and requiring representation at the highest level both from national authorities and European representatives, are to be organised exclusively by the Member State holding the Presidency. Given the unique role of the Presidency in the framework of EU activities, a Presidency conference can be considered as an action with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its administrative powers.

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 02

**PRIORITIES**

The priority is to fund one Presidency conference which should aim to enhance awareness and promote the debate about key challenges and policy issues on equality between women and men among stakeholders and civil society at Member States' level.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

This grant aims to support one Presidency Conference in the area of equality between women and men.

**ESSENTIAL SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA**

The verification of the financial and operational capacity shall not apply to public bodies. Proposals will be assessed based on the following **award criteria:**

(a) extent to which the proposed activities address the Commission's priorities for equality between women and men;

(b) quality of the proposal, which must be clear, realistic and well detailed;

(c) open added value of the activities;

(d) financial quality of the proposal, including the existence of a clear, detailed, and reasonable budget, which is coherent with the proposed activities.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG JUST

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

| Reference | Date | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| REC-RGEN-PRES-AG-2018 | Q4 2018 | € 250 000 |

**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 and xenophobia, disabilities, or 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.**

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 02

**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.

**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.

**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 call;
- 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 to the objectives of the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020 and of other relevant EU policies and initiatives.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG JUST

REC-RDIB-NETW-OG-2018, by DG EMPL based on a co-delegation

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

| Reference | Date | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| REC-RDIS-NETW-OG-2018 | Q3 2018 | € 2 621 000 |
| REC-RRAC-NETW-OG-2018 | | € 1 716 000 |
| REC-RDIB-NETW-OG-2018 | | € 3 501 000 |
| REC-RGEN-NETW-OG-2018 | | € 1 071 000 |

**MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF CO-FINANCING OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS**

80%

### *3.3.2. Operating grant to a de facto monopoly – EQUINET*

**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**

Article 190(1)(c) of the Rules of Application

Article 13 of Directive 2000/43/EC; Article 12 of Directive 2004/113/EC; Article 20 of Directive 2006/54/EC

**BUDGET LINE**

33 02 02

**PRIORITIES**

The beneficiary of the grant will be EQUINET AISBL (registered in Belgium). EQUINET was created in 2007 and its members are national Equality Bodies as established by Article 13 of Directive 2000/43/EC; Article 12 of Directive 2004/113/EC and Article 20 of Directive 2006/54/EC. These articles provide that Member States will designate a body or bodies for the promotion of equal treatment of all persons without discrimination on grounds of racial or ethnic origin or sex. These bodies may form part of agencies charged at national level with the defence of human rights or the safeguarding of individuals' rights. As the designation of equality bodies by the Member States is required by the abovementioned articles, these organisations are well identified.

EQUINET is in a de facto monopoly situation, because this is the only network which can ensure coordination of activities and exchange of good practices between Equality bodies foreseen by Directives 2000/43/EC, 2004/113/EC and 2006/54/EC.

Member States must also ensure that the competences of these bodies include independent assistance to victims of discrimination in pursuing their complaints about discrimination, conducting independent surveys concerning discrimination and finally publishing independent reports and making recommendations on any issue relating to such discrimination.

The Commission considers that the national Equality Bodies play a key role in the actual implementation of Directives 2000/43/EC, 2004/113/EC and 2006/54/EC. This is comprehensive legislation taking a rights-based approach, so it will work only if citizens take cases to court. That is why there is a need for comprehensive support by the equality bodies, both in terms of direct support to the individuals and in terms of research and awareness-raising. The work with the Equality Bodies to date has shown a very varied level of knowledge and working methods among the 28 equality bodies. Consequently, European sharing of best practice is crucial to get a common level of protection of citizen's across the EU.

The Commission will invite EQUINET in writing to submit its proposal announcing the annual priorities for 2019.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

This grant aims to support the activities implemented in 2019 by the network of the equality bodies and encourage the sharing of experiences and good practices between them.

**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.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

- Increased capacity of national equality bodies experts to address issues related to non-discrimination;
- Strengthened cooperation and exchange of information between Equality Bodies;
- Improved knowledge on the legislation and administrative practices related to non-discrimination.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

By DG JUST

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

| Reference | Date | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| REC-RDIS-EQNT-OG-2018 | Q3 2018 | € 1 000 000 |

**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 |

**BUDGET LINE**

| |
|---|
| 33 02 02 |

**SUBJECT MATTER OF THE CONTRACTS ENVISAGED**

In 2018 the Commission intends to undertake several actions through contracts following public procurement (calls for tender and FWC - framework contracts) or administrative arrangements, if necessary (for instance, administrative arrangement with the Joint Research Centre to ensure that behavioural insights are integrated in different DG JUST 's activities).

Conferences, expert meetings, seminars, communication activities may be organised, development and maintenance of IT platforms and systems may be supported or surveys and studies and impact assessments may be undertaken as far as they are needed to monitor the proper implementation of existing legislation or to prepare, or accompany new legislation or to respond to policy changes in the area covered by the Programme. Procurement activities may cover in particular the following actions:

(a) specific objective**: Non-discrimination**

- running of EU Platform of Diversity Charters, including organising an Annual forum of EU Diversity Charters and expert seminars (FWC);
- High Level Group of Non-discrimination, equality and diversity, including Good Practice Exchange seminars (FWC);
- EU Roma platform, including preparatory meetings and stakeholders' consultations (Q4 2018, FWC);
- National Roma Contact Point meetings, including sub-working groups (Q1 & Q4 2018, FWC);
- ERA EU anti-discrimination law seminars (Q3 2018, new contract);
- European network of legal experts in gender equality and non-discrimination (Q4 2018, new contract);
- actions necessary to prepare or accompany policy developments in LGBTI areas (FWC);
- actions necessary to prepare or accompany policy developments in non-discrimination areas, including initiatives EU Council Presidencies' (FWC);
- report on elements of gender recognition legislation (or lack of) that affect transgender people's position on the labour market and other areas (Q2 2018, FWC and possibly AMI List experts);
- study on gender recognition legislation (or lack of) that affect transgender people's position on the labour market and other areas. (Q2 2018, new contract);

- report on good practises on multiple discrimination based on LGBTI and ethnicity; followed by a training to policy makers (Q3 2018, FWC and possibly AMI list experts);
- awareness raising activities to support the implementation of the List of Actions to Advance LGBTI Equality (FWC);
- external studies linked to the evaluation of the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies (Q2 2018);
- possible impact assessment to accompany the policy proposals for a post-2020 European approach on Roma inclusion (Q2 2018);

(b) specific objective: **Racism and xenophobia**

- actions related to the implementation of the Framework Decision on Racism and Xenophobia and to the effective prevention and combat of hate speech, hate crimes and intolerance on any grounds: (i) meetings of the High Level Group on combatting racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance and related sub-groups, (ii) awareness raising to prevent and counter hatred and intolerance, (iii) actions (i.e. seminars, workshops, expert meetings, capacity building activities) to support Member States in developing tools and practices to effectively prevent and combat hate crimes and intolerance; (iv) actions (in particular meetings) of the Coordinators on anti-Semitism and anti-Muslim hatred; (v) actions related to countering online hate speech.

(c) specific objective: **Disabilities** (implementation EMPL, based on a co-delegation)

- training of legal and policy practitioners on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Q4 2018, renewal);
- European network of academic experts in the field of disability (Q2 2018, renewal);
- Work Forum on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Q2 2018, FWC);
- European Day of Persons with Disabilities (Q4 2018, FWC);
- Access City Award (Q4 2018, FWC);
- evaluation of the outcomes of the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020 (Q3 2018);
- study to assess the implementation of the European Disability Card (Q2, 2018);

(d) specific objective: **Equality between women and men**

- Mutual Learning Programme (MLP) in gender equality (Q4 2018, new contract);
- European Training Seminars for Legal Practitioners and the Judiciary (Q4 2018, new contract);
- Network of Legal Experts in Equality Legislation (Q4 2018, new contract);
- follow-up activities related with the Colloquium (Q1-Q2 2018, FWC);
- communication activities (FWC).

*Indicative number of new contracts envisaged: 9*

*Indicative number of specific contracts based on existing framework contracts envisaged: 27*

**IMPLEMENTATION**

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| By DG JUST and, where indicated, by DG EMPL based on a co-delegation.<br>When needed, by DG T based on a co-delegation. |

**TOTAL BUDGET AVAILABLE**

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| € 8 972 000 |