



CITTÀ METROPOLITANA DI CATANIA

PS.01.05 Pianificazione strategica e Programmazione europea

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Class. 1.6

Luogo e data da firma digitale

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Oggetto: Avviso pubblico del bando europeo CERV-2026-DAPHNE per il finanziamento di progetti per prevenire e combattere la violenza di genere e sui minori. - Scadenza: 05/11/2026

Gentilissimi,

al fine di agevolare e velocizzare la fase di ricognizione e analisi delle **opportunità di finanziamento**, si trasmette in allegato una scheda sintetica relativa all'Avviso di cui all'oggetto, emanato dal Programma Cittadini, Uguaglianza, Diritti e Valori (CERV) dell'Unione Europea al fine di prevenire e combattere tutte le forme di violenza di genere contro donne e ragazze, bambini, giovani e altri gruppi a rischio (LGBTQI, persone con disabilità) e sostenere, proteggere tutte le vittime dirette e indirette di tali violenze con finanziamenti a cascata.

Il Servizio resta, in ogni caso, a disposizione per informazioni, contattando la seguente casella di posta elettronica: ufficio.europa@cittametropolitana.ct.it.

Cordiali Saluti

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Allegati:

- Circolare approvata
- Scheda sintetica avviso

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IL DIRIGENTE DEL SERVIZIO
Dott. Lorenzo Mari



CITTÀ METROPOLITANA DI CATANIA
PS.01 Pianificazione strategica e Programmazione europea

Scheda sintetica Avviso di finanziamento

Avviso pubblico del bando europeo CERV-2026-DAPHNE per il finanziamento di progetti per prevenire e combattere la violenza di genere e sui minori.

*“Call for proposals to prevent and combat gender-based violence and violence against children
CERV-2026-DAPHNE”*

Scadenza 03/11/2026 h.17:00 Brussels time

Fonte di finanziamento

Programma Cittadini, Uguaglianza, Diritti e Valori (CERV) dell'Unione Europea.

Gestore della linea di finanziamento e riferimenti

Commissione Europea, Direzione Generale per la Giustizia e i Consumatori (DG JUST). Regolamento (UE) 2021/692. Regolamento finanziario (UE, Euratom) 2024/2509. Work Programme 2026-2027 del programma CERV.

Finalità

Prevenire e combattere tutte le forme di violenza di genere contro donne e ragazze, bambini, giovani e altri gruppi a rischio (LGBTQI, persone con disabilità); Sostenere e proteggere tutte le vittime dirette e indirette di tali violenze. Promuovere un approccio olistico e integrato, anche online, assicurando prevenzione e supporto.

Beneficiari

Enti legali pubblici o privati (principalmente non profit), **autorità pubbliche e organizzazioni internazionali**, con requisiti specifici a seconda della priorità scelta fra 5 linee guida. **Priorità 1:** Sostegno a organizzazioni intermedie per il regranting e il capacity building delle CSO di base; **Priorità 2:** Protezione e supporto alle vittime di violenza di genere; **Priorità 3:** Prevenzione della violenza di genere (inclusa la cyberviolenza, programmi per autori di reato, campagne di sensibilizzazione); **Priorità 4:** Sostegno all'attuazione della Convenzione di Istanbul e della Direttiva VAW; **Priorità 5:** Rafforzamento dei sistemi integrati di protezione dell'infanzia. Per la verifica dei requisiti di ammissibilità al bando, si rimanda allo stesso.

Dotazione finanziaria complessiva

€ 21.000.000,00.

Importo massimo finanziabile

A secondo della priorità scelta.

- **Priorità 1 (organismi intermedi / enti che redistribuiscono finanziamenti):** importo massimo per singolo progetto **€ 2.500.000,00** (con una soglia minima di €1.000.000);
- **Priorità 2, 3, 4 e 5 (progetti operativi, prevenzione, servizi alle vittime e tutela dei minori):** importo massimo per singolo progetto **€ 600.000,00** (con una soglia minima di € 200.000).

In entrambi i casi il contributo UE copre fino al 90% dei costi totali ammissibili.

Categorie di spese ammissibili

Campagne di sensibilizzazione, formazione, capacity building, sviluppo di strumenti e servizi, scambio di buone pratiche, raccolta dati, supporto finanziario a terzi (solo priorità 1). **[Altro: lista non esaustiva, consultare Avviso].**

Presentazione della domanda

Entro le ore 17:00 del 5 novembre 2026, da presentare solo online tramite il Funding & Tenders Portal.

Informazioni a supporto della presentazione della domanda

Link <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/cerv> per scaricare l'Avviso e i relativi allegati.

Il Servizio è a disposizione per info e supporto alla mail: ufficio.europa@cittametropolitana.ct.it.



Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV)

Call for proposals

Call for proposals to prevent and combat gender-based violence
and violence against children
CERV-2026-DAPHNE

Version 1
07 July 2026



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EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers

JUST.H.3 – Budget, Programmes and Financial Management

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

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0. Introduction

This is a call for proposals for EU **action grants in the field of gender-based violence** under the **Citizens, Equality, Rights and Value Programme (CERV)**. The regulatory framework for this EU Funding Programme is set out in:

- Regulation 2024/2509 ([EU Financial Regulation](#))¹
- the basic act (CERV Regulation [2021/692](#))².

The call is launched in accordance with the 2026-27 Work Programme³ and will be managed by the **European Commission, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST)**.

CERV-2026-DAPHNE - Call for proposals to prevent and combat gender-based violence and violence against children

The call covers the following **topics**:

Priority Number	Topic	Priority Title
1	CERV-2026-DAPHNE-REGRANTING	Supporting intermediary organisations (providing financial support to civil society organisations) working in the fields of gender-based violence and violence against children
2	CERV-2026-DAPHNE-PROTECTION	Protecting and supporting victims and survivors of gender-based violence
3	CERV-2026-DAPHNE-PREVENTION	Preventing gender-based violence
4	CERV-2026-DAPHNE-CONVENTION-DIR	Supporting the achievement of the objectives of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence in the Union and the implementation of the Directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence
5	CERV-2026-DAPHNE-CHILDREN	Strengthening integrated child protection systems , including through cross-sectoral collaboration, and ensuring child-centred, coordinated responses to violence against children , contributing to the implementation of the Commission Recommendation on integrated child protection systems

Each **topic** corresponds to a policy **priority**.

¹ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast) ('EU Financial Regulation') (OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024).

² Regulation (EU) 2021/692 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (OJ L 156, 5.5.2021, p. 1).

³ [Commission Implementing Decision](#) on the financing of the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme and the adoption of the work programme for 2026-2027

Each proposal must address **only one** of the five topics under this call.

One entity can submit only **one proposal as coordinator/lead applicant**; however, they can also participate in other proposals as partners. The participation as partners is not limited.

We invite you to read the **call documentation** carefully, and in particular: this Call Document, the [Model Grant Agreement](#), the [EU Funding & Tenders Portal Online Manual](#) and the [EU Grants AGA — Annotated Grant Agreement](#).

These documents provide clarifications and answers to questions you may have when preparing your application:

- the [Call Document](#) outlines the:
 - background, objectives, scope, activities that can be funded and the expected results (sections 1 and 2)
 - timetable and available budget (sections 3 and 4)
 - admissibility and eligibility conditions (including mandatory documents; sections 5 and 6)
 - criteria for financial and operational capacity and exclusion (section 7)
 - evaluation and award procedure (section 8)
 - award criteria (section 9)
 - legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements (section 10)
 - how to submit an application (section 11)
- the [Online Manual](#) outlines the:
 - procedures to register and submit proposals online via the EU Funding & Tenders Portal ('Portal')
 - recommendations for the preparation of the application
- the [AGA — Annotated Grant Agreement](#) contains:
 - detailed annotations on all the provisions in the Grant Agreement you will have to sign in order to obtain the grant (*including cost eligibility, payment schedule, accessory obligations, etc*). Applicants are encouraged to explore previously funded projects and to build on already existing materials. Past projects and public deliverables are available on the Funding & Tenders Portal - "Projects and Results" section: [EU Funded projects | EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#).

1. Background

Gender-based violence is violence directed against individuals because of their gender, with women and girls making up the vast majority of victims.⁴ Gender-based violence remains one of our societies' biggest challenges and is deeply rooted in gender inequality. It is both a cause and consequence of gender inequalities. It is a violation of

⁴ According to a survey carried out by Eurostat: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-eurostat-news/w/ddn-20241125-3>, 31%, of women aged 18-74 experienced physical or sexual violence

human rights and the most brutal form of discrimination on the basis of sex, and results from unequal power relations between women and men.

Violence affects victims in a profound manner, having a direct impact on their ability to participate fully in all aspects of society. The human costs are of course tremendous, but the economic costs of gender-based violence are also alarmingly high. The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) has estimated that the cost of gender-based violence across the EU is €366 billion a year. Violence against women makes up 79% of this cost, amounting to €289 billion.⁵

According to a survey carried out by Eurostat in cooperation with the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) and the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)⁶, 1 in 3 women (30.7%) experienced physical violence or threats and/or sexual violence over their lifetime (since the age of 15), 1 in 6 (17.2%) have experienced sexual violence (including rape and other unwanted sexual acts), 1 in 5 have faced physical or sexual violence from their partner, a relative or another member of their household and 1 in 3 have been sexually harassed at work (2 out of 5 for younger women).

Over 90% of rape victims and over 80% of sexual assault victims are girls and women, while nearly all those imprisoned for sexual crimes are men (99%) (Eurostat 2019).

The Covid-19 pandemic underlined and exacerbated violence against women and particularly domestic violence, when the victims were locked down together with perpetrators.

Women in public life who hold leadership positions—whether in companies or politics—are particularly exposed to sexist attacks and harassment, including online abuse. In some cases, this can trigger their decision to leave their public roles. This further contributes to widening the gap between women and men in important senior leadership roles. According to data gathered by EIGE and FRA, 75% of women in qualified/management positions were sexually harassed⁷, 1 in 10 women was stalked/harassed through new technologies (and this proportion is increasing with the rise of artificial intelligence technologies).

So far, the measures taken by Member States have not led to an observable decrease in any of the forms of gender-based violence.

What is more, under-reporting persists.

The [Roadmap for Women's Rights](#), adopted on 5 March 2025 and broadly endorsed by all Member States and various EU institutions and stakeholders in October 2025, sets out the Commission's long-term vision for a gender equal society. It contains a declaration of eight women's rights principles as well as the objectives that need to be pursued to uphold and advance these principles. The Roadmap serves as a guiding compass for policymakers. Its Principle 1 "Freedom from gender-based violence" states that every woman and girl has the right to security and to be treated with dignity, both online and offline, in public and private life.

⁵ [Gender-based violence costs the EU €366 billion a year | European Institute for Gender Equality](#)

⁶ Survey results published on 25 November 2024, at the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-eurostat-news/w/ddn-20241125-3>

⁷ https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-media-memo-violence-against-women_en.pdf

The new [EU Gender Equality Strategy 2026-2030](#), which the Commission adopted on 5 March 2026, builds on the Roadmap and sets out the concrete actions which the Commission intends to deliver over the next five years to help achieve a more gender equal society. Regarding the fight against gender-based violence, the new Strategy has a strong emphasis on fighting cyberviolence, which disproportionately impacts women and girls. This includes measures to combat sexually explicit deepfakes and deep nudes and improve the protection of women online. Among concrete actions to help achieve these objectives, the European Commission will support full implementation of the [Directive \(EU\) 2024/1385 on combating violence against women and domestic violence](#)⁸ ("VAW Directive") adopted in May 2024.

The Directive criminalises female genital mutilation and forced marriage, as well as the most widespread forms of cyberviolence: the non-consensual sharing of intimate or manipulated material (including through AI), cyber harassment, cyber stalking, and cyber incitement to hatred or violence based on gender.

The VAW Directive contains targeted measures to ensure that victims of violence against women and domestic violence are granted access to justice, adequate protection and support, and that measures are taken to prevent this violence from happening in the first place.

The Directive also recognises children as victims who have suffered harm directly but also as witnesses to domestic violence. Child victims are to be provided with age-appropriate medical care and emotional, psychosocial, psychological and educational support. Such support must be tailored to the child's developmental needs and individual situation, and any other appropriate support tailored, in particular, to situations of domestic violence.

In this spirit, the 2026 Daphne call for proposals will continue focusing on facilitating the implementation of the VAW Directive, which needs to be transposed by Member States by 14 June 2027. **The priority will be to support actions helping to transpose and implement the requirements of the VAW Directive in the Member States.** It is worth recalling that under Article 41 of the VAW Directive, Member States are required to cooperate and hold regular consultations with civil society organisations, including non-governmental organisations, in particular concerning: i) the provision of adequate support to victims; ii) policymaking initiatives; iii) information and awareness-raising campaigns; iv) research and education programmes; v) training; and vi) the monitoring and evaluation of the impact of measures to support and protect victims.

The VAW Directive is based on the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence ("[Istanbul Convention](#)") to which the EU acceded in October 2023. To help fulfil EU obligations and commitments in this regard, the call is set to support the Convention's related provisions as well. The EU, as a whole, is indeed bound to implement the Convention and to abide by its monitoring process. Within this process, the EU submitted an [official report](#) in November 2025 on legislative and other measures taken to implement the provisions of the Convention.

Violence against children is understood to mean "all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation including sexual abuse" as listed in Article 19(1) of the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child\(UNCRC\)](#) and in alignment with the [United Nations Committee on](#)

⁸ Directive (EU) 2024/1385 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 on combating violence against women and domestic violence.

[the Rights of the Child's General comment No. 13 \(2011\)](#) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence.

A “child” means every human being below the age of eighteen years, as defined in Article 1 of the UNCRC.

Children may face different forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, physically, online, or in virtual worlds. The Commission Recommendation on integrated child protection systems concerns any forms of violence against children, offline as online, meaning all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, physically, online, or in virtual worlds, including domestic violence, human trafficking, gender-based violence, including female genital mutilation and child marriage, as well as all forms of bullying and corporal punishment. World vision estimates that more than one billion children around the world experience violence every year⁹, in different forms and different settings. Children can be victims, witnesses, as well as perpetrators of violence – starting from their own homes¹⁰, in school, in leisure and recreational activities, in the justice system, offline as well as online.

Exposure to violence can have long term and dramatic consequences on children’s physical and mental health. It may affect their ability to go to school, to interact socially and to thrive. It can lead to mental health issues, chronic diseases, self-harm tendencies, even suicide. Children in vulnerable situations can be particularly affected.

Combating violence against children is one of the main objectives of the Commission’s work on the rights of the child and a third thematic area of the [EU Strategy on the rights of the child](#) that was adopted on 24 March 2021. Under this Strategy, the Commission adopted, in April 2024, a [Recommendation on developing and strengthening integrated child protection systems in the best interest of the child](#). Focused on children’s needs, it encourages all relevant authorities and services to work together in a holistic way, from preventing abuse of and violence towards children, to protecting them, in a multidisciplinary and coordinated approach. It also presents how to better use existing EU tools (laws, policies, funding) to make child protection systems more integrated and robust by avoiding silos.

The Recommendation stresses the need for coordinated, effective child protection policies across Member States. It proposes a unified, child-centred framework to help Member States design national plans to safeguard children from all forms of violence. This includes cross-sector collaboration, covering mental health support, authorities at different levels and different actors, to prevent violence and provide timely and effective support for children. It also calls on national anti-bullying (including cyberbullying) plans.

Integrated child protection systems are key to preventing and protecting children from violence. An integrated approach means connecting prevention, early warning, reporting, cross-sectorial support, and monitoring, in a multidisciplinary approach, involving all actors in the field of child protection, including children themselves. An integrated approach puts the child at the centre and ensures that all relevant authorities and services work together to protect and support the child, in their best interests.

⁹ <https://www.unicef.org/eu/reports/report-our-europe-our-rights-our-future>

¹⁰ [In a recent UNICEF Report, violence is a reality for half of all children in the Europe and Central Asia region, perpetrated by and between caregivers, making home the most dangerous place of all: Ending violence against children in Europe and Central Asia | UNICEF Europe and Central Asia](#)

Some of the EU *acquis* refers to violence against children: [Child sexual Abuse Directive](#), [Trafficking in Human Beings Directive](#), [Victims' Rights Directive](#), among others.¹¹

In order to provide an adequate, child rights-based response to violence against children, a full picture of the phenomenon is needed. This includes having access to comparable, age- and sex-disaggregated data on violence against children, as well as monitoring the child protection system's performance.

The 5 policy priorities to be financed under this Call

With this call, divided into 5 priorities, we aim at financing projects that will:

- focus on various forms of gender-based violence and violence against children through **financial support to third parties**. The aim is to select intermediaries for projects with national or transnational scope to regrant and build the capacity of grassroots civil society organisations (CSOs) (**priority 1**),
- protect and support victims and survivors of gender-based violence (**priority 2**),
- prevent gender-based violence (**priority 3**),
- support the achievement of the objectives of the **Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence** in the Union and the implementation of the **Directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence** (**priority 4**)
- strengthen **integrated child protection systems**, including through cross-sectoral collaboration, and ensuring child-centred, coordinated responses to **violence against children**, contributing to the implementation of the Commission Recommendation on integrated child protection systems (**priority 5**).

The call recognises the need for proposals to equally address the specificities of the situation for women and men, girls and boys in all their diversity. To this end, applicants are advised to incorporate in their proposals an intersectional perspective that not only recognises gender and age differences as relevant, but also duly pays attention to other attributes such as disability status, religious belief, ethnic origin and sexual orientation.

2. Objectives — Themes and priorities — Activities that can be funded - Expected impact

Objectives

To fight gender-based violence and violence against children by:

- Preventing and combating, at all levels, all forms of gender-based violence against women and girls in all their diversity and domestic violence, including by promoting the standards laid down in the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence;
- Preventing and combating all forms of violence against children, young people and other groups at risk, such as LGBTQI persons and persons with disabilities;
- Supporting and protecting all direct and indirect victims of the forms of violence referred to in points (1) and (2), such as the victims of domestic

¹¹ See Annex II EU Strategy on the rights of the child: [childrights_annex2_2021_4_digital_0.pdf](#) ([europa.eu](#)).

violence perpetrated within the family or within intimate relationships, including children orphaned as a result of domestic crimes, and supporting and ensuring the same level of protection throughout the Union for victims of gender-based violence.

- Promoting a holistic and integrated approach to combating all forms of violence, including online violence, ensuring prevention, cross-sectoral cooperation, and child-centred support.

Policy initiatives supported:

- [the Roadmap for Women's Rights](#)
- [the new Gender Equality Strategy \(2026-2030\)](#)
- [the EU strategy on the rights of the child](#)
- [the Commission Recommendation on developing and strengthening integrated child protection systems in the best interests of the child](#)
- [the EU Strategy on victims' rights](#)
- [the Istanbul Convention, to which the EU acceded as of 1 October 2023](#)
- [the VAW Directive](#)
- [the Victim's Rights Directive as revised](#)
- [the Action Plan against cyberbullying](#)
- [the Digital Services Act](#)
- [the Artificial Intelligence Act](#)
- [the LGBTIQ+ Equality Strategy \(2026-2030\)](#)
- [the Enhanced Disability Strategy](#)
- [the EU Anti-Racism Strategy 2026-2030](#)
- [the EU Roma Strategic Framework for Equality, Participation and Inclusion \(2020-2030\)](#)

Themes and priorities (scope)

In view of the overall objectives stipulated above, the call will support the following priorities:

Priority 1 - Supporting intermediary organisations (providing financial support to civil society organisations) working in the fields of gender-based violence and violence against children

[Topic CERV-2026-DAPHNE-REGRANTING]

In line with the new Gender Equality Strategy 2026-2030 and the Commission Recommendation on integrated child protection systems, this priority aims to support the development of **integrated actions** to combat gender-based violence and/or violence against children, and to achieve **long-term and structural changes, especially at grassroots level, through the regranting scheme**. Therefore, this priority will select and support intermediaries which will regrant funding and build the capacities of grassroots civil society organisations (CSOs) active in the field.

Via the regranting scheme (*mandatory work package*), intermediaries are expected to reach **small and grassroots CSOs**, including those located in **remote and rural areas**, that are active in preventing and combating gender-based violence and/or violence against children. Priority will be given to organisations that tend to have more limited capacity and/or limited access to funding. Intermediaries are expected to explain in their proposal how they will reach these target groups.

Through this mechanism, EU funding should help to support, empower and build the capacity of independent civil society organisations active in **preventing and**

combatting diverse forms of **gender-based violence and/or violence against children**, in particular:

- **Domestic violence and sexual violence:** providing protection and support tailored to the specific needs of victims, including child victims of these forms of violence, including specific medical and psychological support, victim-centered and trauma-informed services, access to justice, increased accessibility of services in shelters or in other interim accommodations, also for those victims experiencing intersectional discrimination, in line with the requirements of Article 30 of the VAW Directive, including in remote or rural areas.
- **Gender-based cyber violence:** tackling cyber violence, such as cyber gender-based incitement to violence or hatred, cyber stalking, cyber harassment and bullying, non-consensual sharing of intimate or manipulated material (exacerbated by the use of artificial intelligence), extortion with the use of sexual imagery ('sextortion'), grooming, etc.
- **Harmful practices:** tackling female genital mutilation, intersex genital mutilation, forced abortion, forced sterilisation, child and forced marriage, honour-related violence, gynaecological and obstetric violence, and other harmful practices against women and girls, as well as forced medicalisation of trans people and conversion practices targeting intersex and LGBTIQ people.
- **Violence against children:** combating all forms of violence, by strengthening integrated, coordinated, inclusive, and child-centred mechanisms to prevent and respond to violence against children through enhanced cooperation between schools, social and healthcare services, child protection authorities, law enforcement, and civil society organisations and children themselves, promoting early identification, referral, and access to trauma-informed support services for child victims of violence, including domestic violence, online abuse, neglect, exploitation, and bullying.

Intermediaries must design their regranting calls in alignment with the **objectives and activities** of this priority, as well as with the values and principles it promotes. They must ensure that the **third parties** selected and the **activities** supported through regranting comply with the **scope** of the priority and with the values and principles of the call. Proposals can tackle either gender-based violence or violence against children, or they can tackle a combination of both.

Intermediaries must incorporate **capacity-building** programmes for grassroots civil society organisations (*mandatory work package*) with a view to achieving **sustainable changes** in the policies, practices and behaviours in the areas covered by the priority.

Proposals must include an effective, detailed monitoring and evaluation system to enable intermediaries to assess the **impact** of the regranting mechanism and the capacity-building programmes on the grassroots organisations reached. Proposals addressing this priority should pay attention to the specific needs and circumstances of women and men, girls and boys, in all their diversity.

Indicative funding available for this priority: EUR 8 000 000.

Projects can be either national or transnational.

Priority 2 - Protecting and supporting victims and survivors of gender-based violence

[Topic CERV-2026-DAPHNE-PROTECTION]

Under this priority, we are looking for projects that focus on setting up instruments for the protection and support of victims of gender-based violence, in particular:

- Setting up or adapting services in **one-stop shops** (in person and/or online) **or coordinated specialist-support centres**¹², so that the multiple support needs¹³ of victims of gender-based violence (including cyberviolence) are addressed at the same premises to the largest extent or provided in a coordinated manner. This includes the model of Children's houses ([Barnahus](#)) or other integrated multidisciplinary and interagency services for child victims of violence or the model of the Family Justice Centres. These centres should also have the capacity to provide targeted and gender-sensitive **support for groups at a heightened risk of violence due to their experiencing intersectional discrimination or due to their being in a vulnerable situation** (e.g. people with a migrant background, LGBTIQ persons, racial or ethnic minorities which include women at risk of harmful practices, Roma people, women or children with disabilities or facing mental health issues, pregnant women, women in detention, women living in rural areas, women living and/or working on the street, persons in prostitution, elderly women).
- Setting up or adapting services in easily accessible **rape crisis** or **sexual violence referral centres** in line with the requirements of Article 26 of the VAW Directive.
- Developing tools to tackle the need for **immediate protection and support** faced by victims of sexual and domestic violence, to prevent femicides, and allow effective investigation and prosecution. This could be achieved for example by:
 - designing **targeted training** and **innovative investigative tools** to help relevant authorities increase their capability to **swiftly identify and address (reported or suspected) instances of domestic violence** (to support Member States in complying with the requirements of Article 15 VAW Directive);
 - developing **tools** to help relevant authorities increase their capability to initiate the **individual assessment** of the risk emanating from the offender **at the earliest possible stage** (upon, or immediately after the victim's first contact with competent authorities), so that protection and support measures are immediately put in place, and further (domestic or sexual) violence is prevented (to support Member States comply with the requirements of Article 16 VAW Directive);
 - developing **guidelines** to help relevant authorities identify the enhanced protection and support needs of **victims experiencing intersectional discrimination** (to support Member States in complying with the requirements of Article 21(g) VAW Directive);

Indicative funding available for this priority: EUR 4 000 000.

Projects can be either national or transnational. We encourage projects to include consortium **partners who are specialised in victim support**, such as women's rights organisations and NGOs that provide specialist services to victims. This will be taken into account in the scoring under the award criterion 2 - Quality.

Applicants are encouraged to also involve a **public authority** in support of their project to help achieve the sustainability of project results and outcomes. These public

¹² See Article 25(4) of the Directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence.

¹³ Information and support on practical matters (housing, trainings, financial support), first-hand medical care, and referral to further specialised medical care, social services, psychological support, legal services and police services or information on and direction to such to services, as well as referral to services providing medical and forensic examinations, support to victims of cybercrimes referral to women's support services, rape crisis centres, sexual violence referral centres and shelters.

authorities can be national, regional or local Ministries/agencies/equality bodies responsible for gender equality and/or provision of services to victims of violence or perpetrators; police, judicial, health or education authorities etc., as relevant. The rationale for the choice must be documented and explained in Part B - Project description and implementation. This support can be expressed either via the involvement of a public authority in the consortium (either as beneficiary or as associated partner) or through a Letter of support from the public authority (Annex to the application). This will be taken into account in the scoring under the award criterion 3 - Impact.

Priority 3 - Targeted actions for the prevention of gender-based violence

[Topic CERV-2026-DAPHNE-PREVENTION]

Under this priority, we are looking for projects that focus on the prevention of gender-based violence through the development of:

- **Measures to prevent rape and to promote the central role of consent in sexual relationships** in line with the requirements of Art 35 of the VAW Directive. Actions actively engaging men and boys in awareness-raising campaigns and programmes are particularly encouraged.
- Measures to prevent **cyber violence** that strengthen the digital literacy skills of online users in line with the requirements of Article 34 (8) of the VAW Directive. Such measures also reinforce positive narratives on gender equality and on the role of women in public decision-making who are particularly at risk of online attacks. This also includes measures to prevent **cyber intimate partner violence**, empowering non-governmental organisations and other relevant actors to prevent and address cyber violence, including as trusted flaggers on online platforms. Actions may focus on the development of tools for reporting, flagging and/or removing harmful online violent content with gender connotation. Cooperation with and among national audiovisual regulatory bodies, non-governmental organisations, IT platforms, national authorities, equality bodies, and criminal justice systems is encouraged.
- **Perpetrator programmes** to prevent (re)offending, with a victim-centred approach and a focus on harmful stereotypes, peaceful conflict resolution in relationships and toxic masculinities (see Article 37 VAW Directive).
- **Measures to combat stereotypical portrayals of women and men in the media** in line with Article 36(8) VAW Directive) and/or to prevent **sexual harassment in the film and audiovisual industry**.

Indicative funding available for this priority: EUR 4 000 000.

Projects can be either national or transnational. We encourage projects to include consortium **partners who are specialised in gender-based violence**. This will be taken into account in the scoring under the award criterion 2 - Quality.

Applicants are encouraged to also involve a **public authority** in support of their project to help achieve the sustainability of project results and outcomes. These public authorities can be national, regional or local Ministries/agencies/equality bodies responsible for gender equality and/or provision of services to victims of violence or perpetrators; police, judicial, health or education authorities etc., as relevant. The rationale for the choice must be documented and explained in Part B - Project description and implementation. This support can be expressed either via the involvement of a public authority in the consortium (either as beneficiary or as associated partner), or through a Letter of support from the public authority (Annex

to the application). This will be taken into account in the scoring under the award criterion 3 - Impact.

Priority 4 - Supporting the achievement of the objectives of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence in the Union and the implementation of the Directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence

[Topic CERV-2026-DAPHNE-CONVENTION-DIR]

Under this Priority, which is restricted to public authorities acting as the sole applicant or as the leader of a consortium, the objective is to support and build the capacity of Member State authorities and other relevant actors in victim support, enabling them to put in place structural solutions for preventing gender-based violence. This will contribute to achieving the objectives of the VAW Directive and Istanbul Convention.

For the purposes of Priority 4 of this call, public authorities include government bodies, agencies, or other entities—funded or controlled by the state— as well as national, regional, or local level bodies responsible for performing public functions, managing public services, or exercising statutory powers (e.g. police, councils, and regulatory agencies).

Under this Priority, we are looking for projects that focus on:

- supporting the **training of judges, lawyers, law enforcement officials** (including professionals dealing with custody cases) and Court staff who deal with gender-based violence and domestic violence cases. Article 36(1) of the VAW Directive requires Member States to set up such training¹⁴ to enable them to identify, prevent and address instances of violence against women or domestic violence and to treat victims in a trauma-, gender- and child-sensitive manner.
- Supporting the **training of healthcare professionals, social services and educational staff**. Article 36 also requires Member States to promote or offer such training to healthcare professionals, social services and educational staff likely to come into contact with victims in order to enable them to identify instances of violence against women or domestic violence and to redirect victims to specialist support services.

Article 15 of the Istanbul Convention also calls on the Parties to provide or strengthen appropriate training for relevant professionals dealing with victims or perpetrators of all acts of violence.

Indicative funding available for this priority: EUR 2 000 000.

Projects can be either national or transnational. While the coordinators of proposals to be submitted under this Priority must be public authorities (relevant national, regional or local authorities), we also encourage the inclusion of consortium **partners specialised in victims' support**, such as women's rights organisations or NGOs that provide specialist services to victims. This will be taken into account in the scoring under the award criterion 2 - Quality.

¹⁴ "Member States shall ensure that officials likely to come into contact with victims, such as police officers and court staff, receive both general and specialist training and targeted information to a level appropriate to their contact with victims in order to enable them to identify, prevent and address instances of violence against women or domestic violence and to treat victims in a trauma-, gender- and child-sensitive manner."

Priority 5 – Strengthening integrated child protection systems, including through cross-sectoral collaboration, and ensuring child-centred, coordinated responses to violence against children, contributing to the implementation of the Commission Recommendation on integrated child protection systems

[Topic CERV-2026-DAPHNE-CHILDREN]

The overall aim of this priority is to contribute to **systemic changes** in the prevention, protection and support of children in cases of violence—through **integrated child protection systems**—in line with the Commission Recommendation on integrated child protection systems. Projects should foster systemic change by enhancing multidisciplinary cooperation among public authorities, professionals, and civil society. This cooperation should aim to prevent, detect, and respond to violence against children in a child-centred, coordinated, and rights-based manner, both within and between relevant authorities—including cross-border, national, regional, and local bodies—and key sectors such as:

- education,
- child protection,
- judicial authorities,
- psychosocial support and social services,
- health care professionals (including mental health),
- care professionals and educators,
- digital, sport, leisure, media and culture.

Projects should also closely involve families and children themselves, ensuring responses meet children's needs.

The involvement of such actors and stakeholders – and notably public authorities at local level - in the project is therefore **essential under this priority. The participation of a public authority is mandatory under this priority.**

The call emphasises collaboration between public authorities (local, regional, national) and other key stakeholders, including:

- Child protection, judicial, and law enforcement authorities
- Education, healthcare (including mental health), and social services
- Psychosocial support providers, digital/sport/leisure/culture sectors
- Families, children, and youth-led organisations

Projects should also ensure **meaningful child participation** in the design, implementation, and monitoring while adhering to **strict child safeguarding protocols.**

Projects can include the development of combined tools and measures for:

Strengthening Prevention Mechanisms

- Prevention of violence against children, including but not limited to awareness raising (including children's rights awareness and education), training, certification, standards and accreditation procedures for professionals and persons in contact with children, with a specific attention to children in vulnerable situations and at specific risk of violence;
- Development of **awareness-raising campaigns** (including on children's rights, digital safety, and gender-based violence) tailored to **children in**

vulnerable situations (e.g., children with disabilities, migrant backgrounds, in alternative care, or at risk of exploitation).

- Design of **training programmes, certification, and accreditation standards** for professionals (teachers, social workers, police, healthcare staff) to **recognise early signs of violence** and respond appropriately.
- Creation of **preventive tools** (e.g., school-based anti-bullying programmes, parent/guardian guidance, community-based initiatives).

Improving Early Detection and Reporting

- Early identification (that helps recognise and address early signs of violence) and reporting of cases of abuses, strengthening child-friendly referrals between relevant national actors (e.g. law enforcement, the judiciary, support service providers, health and social service professionals), multidisciplinary assessment;
 - Development of **child-friendly reporting mechanisms** (e.g., digital platforms, helplines, school-based systems) with clear **referral pathways** between authorities (police, social services, healthcare).
 - Strengthening of **multidisciplinary assessment protocols** to ensure **timely and coordinated responses** (e.g., joint case reviews involving social workers, psychologists, and law enforcement).

Enhancing Multidisciplinary Support for Child Victims

- Multidisciplinary support, through integrated response activities, involving medical, psychosocial, legal, care support, education, and close coordination between authorities and actors at all levels;
- Establishing integrated support hubs (physical or digital) offering medical, psychosocial, legal, and educational assistance in a one-stop-shop model.
- Improving cross sectoral cooperation for case management for child victims.
- Developing trauma-informed care models for children in alternative care, detention, or migration contexts.

Building Accountability and Monitoring Frameworks

- Setting up accountability mechanisms on the basis of indicators, (self-) evaluation, data collection, including the development of self-monitoring and evaluation tools on the performance of child protection systems, and data on violence against children.
- Design of indicators, self-evaluation tools, and data collection systems to measure the effectiveness of child protection systems (e.g., response times, recurrence rates).
- Supporting national/regional action plans on child protection, including anti-bullying (offline/online) strategies with cross-sectoral buy-in.

Supporting National Plans on integrated child protection systems

- Developing national plans to safeguard children from all forms of violence, emphasising collaboration across sectors, including mental health support,

authorities at different levels and different actors to prevent violence and support children timely and effectively, as well as national anti-bullying (including cyberbullying) plans.

Taking into consideration the overall framework on integrated child protection systems, this priority will help to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, and notably:

- (i) harassment and (sexual) violence, notably happening in the formal and informal educational context, in leisure, cultural, sportive, or any community or recreational activities, in the domestic context, where children might be in specific situations of vulnerability; and
- (ii) online and offline bullying, notably at school or in leisure activities, cyberbullying and affecting children with specific vulnerabilities (e.g. children in alternative or foster care, children with disabilities, including mental disabilities, Roma children, children with a migrant background), or link to their religion, belief, gender or sexual orientation.

Children should be given the opportunity to participate in a safe, meaningful and inclusive way at the different stages of the project's implementation and monitoring. Strong attention should be paid to child protection safeguards, given the sensitivity of the topic for any child, should it be in awareness-raising activities, or in any contact with child victims, witnesses or perpetrators.

Indicative funding available for this priority: EUR 3 000 000.

Projects can be either national or transnational. We encourage projects to include consortium **partners who are specialised in child protection**. This will be taken into account in the scoring under the award criterion 2 - Quality.

Activities that can be funded (scope)

Activities shall consist of one or more of the following types of activities.

The choice of activities should be driven by the call priority addressed by your project:

- Awareness-raising, including social media or press campaigns, outreach and empowerment activities, including communication activities and dissemination of information;
- Capacity-building and training for professionals and relevant stakeholders, in particular train-the-trainer programmes, training activities of national, regional and local authorities;
- Design and implementation of strategies, protocols, development of transferable working methods and tools, coordination of platforms and groups;
- Design of services and measures improving access to victim support services and development of guidelines and manuals for these support services
- Identification and exchange of good practices, cooperation, mutual learning, development of working and learning methods, including transferable mentoring programmes;
- Development of resources, toolkits and manuals to provide practical guidance for specialised support services;
- Analytical activities and the creation and implementation of tools or data bases/data collection strategies and systems.

- **(Mandatory only for priority 1)** Financial support to third parties and capacity-building by intermediaries – see following section for more details.

Practical projects developing and implementing specific measures are preferred. Measures should be developed and implemented with a view to be sustainable and aiming at systemic changes.

Projects that focus mainly on research will not be financed under this call. Although research is not excluded, any research activities included in the project must not be its main focus; instead, they must be closely linked to the project objectives. This will be taken into account in the scoring under the award criterion 3 – Impact.

All activities must avoid discrimination, victimisation and stereotyping.

Proposals in Priority 1 must include both categories of activities:

- a) Financial support to third parties (CSOs) by intermediaries**
- b) Capacity-building for CSOs by intermediaries**

a) Financial support to third parties (CSOs) by intermediaries

Applications for priority 1 can be submitted by a single applicant or a consortium, which can be either national or transnational in scope (i.e., it is possible that an intermediary based in one Member State organises regranting and capacity-building activities for CSOs in other Members States, if it has a relevant capacity and access to them).

Proposals should be based on and include a thorough assessment of the CSOs landscape (in the country(ies) covered), the challenges they face and their needs. The proposal must clearly specify why financial support to third parties is needed, how it will be managed and provide a list of the different types of activities for which a third party may receive financial support. The proposal must also clearly describe the results to be obtained.

Financial support to third parties is considered essential to achieve the objective of this Priority and must be reflected appropriately in the budget distribution. Intermediaries should devote most of their effort and funds to regranting, which would typically represent about **60-70%** of the grant.

Financial support to third parties includes the following: definition of selection and award criteria, publication of calls for proposals, evaluation of applications, awarding procedures, monitoring of implementation, including risk management, final evaluation of projects and payment.

Under section “2.1 Concept and methodology” in Part B of the application form, and reflected in Section 4.2 “Work Packages” for the technical details, intermediaries must describe the following points:

- (i) the **objectives and the results** that the third parties should achieve with the financial support. These must be in line with the objectives of the CERV Daphne strand¹⁵ and with the areas of intervention listed above, i.e. domestic violence and sexual violence, cyberviolence, harmful practices and violence against children;
- (ii) the **maximum amount** which may be given and the **criteria** for determining the exact amount of financial support as well as the objective and expected

¹⁵ Article 6 of [the CERV Programme Regulation \(EU\) 2021/692](#)

amount to be dedicated to the relevant activities in the field of gender-based violence for each third party;

(iii) the **types of organisations** which may receive financial support;

(iv) the different types of **activities** eligible for financial support, on the basis of a **fixed list**;

(v) the **procedure** for evaluating these third parties and for giving the financial support, the selection and award criteria;

(vi) the **communication** tools and channels through which they will ensure outreach to potential third parties.

These **six mandatory conditions** must ensure an objective and transparent selection procedure and must be strictly defined in the proposal, and consequently, in the grant agreement between the intermediary and the Commission.

Types of organisations/third parties that may receive financial support:

To be eligible for financial support, the third party must:

- be established in a Member State of the European Union (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs)); or countries associated to the CERV Programme or countries which are in ongoing negotiations for an association agreement and where the agreement enters into force before grant signature ([list of participating countries](#));
- be non-profit-making and be a grassroots civil society organisation (CSO) active in the field;
- respect EU values as laid down in Art.2 of the Treaty on European Union and the EU Charter of fundamental rights.

Natural persons are NOT eligible (with the exception of self-employed persons, i.e., sole traders, where the company does not have legal personality separate from that of the natural person).

The third parties cannot be affiliated entities of the intermediary.

Selection of third parties for financial support: Award criteria and evaluation procedure

The applicant is expected to describe in their grant application form the **procedure** and the **criteria** used to reach **small and grassroots CSOs**, including those located in remote and rural areas, that are active in preventing and combating gender-based violence and/or violence against children, with priority given to organisations that tend to have more limited capacity and/or limited access to funding.

Intermediaries must ensure that procedures comply with the principles of proportionality, sound financial management, equal treatment and non-discrimination. Attention must be paid to protection of rights and eventual risk of (re)victimisation of target groups, notably the most vulnerable groups.

Third parties that propose activities involving children¹⁶ must be requested to submit their child protection policy covering the four areas described in the [Keeping Children Safe Child Safeguarding Standards](#). This policy must be available online and transparent to everyone who comes in contact with the organisation. It must include clear

¹⁶ The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) defines a child as everyone under 18 unless, "under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier".

information about the recruitment of staff (including trainees and volunteers) and include background checks (vetting). It must also include clear procedures and rules to staff, including reporting rules, and continuous training.

The intermediaries are responsible for ensuring that third parties that have direct contact with children comply with the above requirements.

Intermediaries must explain in the application how they plan to ensure **transparency** with adequate publication of calls for proposals and prevent conflict of interests throughout the entire award procedure.

Calls for proposals should be published in **EU languages** relevant to the local context and must remain open for **at least two months**. **Open-ended calls** under which CSOs can apply at any time are also possible. Applicants for financial support to third parties should be able to submit applications in the language of the call for proposals.

Upon the intermediary's request to the European Commission, it is also possible to publish such calls for proposals on the [Funding and Tenders Portal](#).

Intermediaries could envision a **two-stage selection** process for CSOs with less capacity to receive assistance and better develop their ideas into fully-fledged projects.

Intermediaries should provide **support** to applicants in the process of preparing applications (e.g. pre-application information sessions, helpdesk etc.) respecting principles of equal treatment and absence of conflict of interest. They should use a uniform evaluation procedure and ensure that the proposals are evaluated in the same manner, independently from which partner in the intermediary consortium¹⁷ is organising the Call for Proposals. **Appeal mechanism** for unsuccessful proposals should be foreseen.

Intermediaries must publish the **outcome of the call(s)** on their websites, including a series of mandatory information as described in *Section 10* of this call (rf. mandatory deliverables).

Intermediaries must make sure during the evaluation of the proposals that there are no **risks of double funding** (i.e. check if proposals are already benefitting from other EU funding directly or through another intermediary) and that the third parties selected for funding comply with **EU values** and attention must be paid to protection of rights and eventual **risk of (re)victimisation** of target groups, notably the most vulnerable groups.

Only the most relevant applications of the highest quality and offering the best guarantees for success should be selected.

Financial support to third parties: Budget, duration and location

- The maximum amount of financial support **per each third party** is **EUR 60 000**.
- The maximum amount of financial support **per individual regranted project** is **EUR 60 000**.
- Third parties cannot be required to provide **any co-financing** for their projects.
- Third parties should be able to use simplified costs option, in particular **lump sums** funding.
- Activities carried out by third parties must take place in EU Member States (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs), in countries associated to the CERV Programme or in countries which are in ongoing negotiations for an association agreement and where the agreement enters into force before grant signature ([list](#)

¹⁷ The intermediary may be a consortium of several organisations, see section 6 Eligibility.

[of participating countries](#)); the activities must take place during the project implementation period. Only cost incurred during that period can be considered eligible.¹⁸

Activities implemented by the third parties

The **activities** implemented by the third parties must comply with the objectives of the CERV Daphne strand¹⁹ and the areas of intervention listed for priority 1 in *Section 2 Themes and Priorities*, including, but not limited to, domestic violence, cyberviolence, harmful practices and violence against children.

The following activities and their costs will **not be eligible** in third-party projects:

- the running costs of the organisation;
- activities that are not in line with EU values;
- activities that do not respect the European and international child rights legal instruments, including the UNCRC;
- activities that approve, promote or support any type of physical, psychological violence against women, children and other groups at risk.

b) Capacity-building for CSOs (by intermediaries)

Capacity-building for CSOs is considered essential to achieve the objective of this Call for proposals and must be reflected appropriately in the budget distribution.

Applicants must define and describe in their proposal their capacity-building programme, which should be implemented through:

- technical and methodological support for the preparation and implementation of activities of CSOs (e.g. helpdesk during their application phase, support on monitoring and reporting, etc.)
- training and building the capacity and sustainability of CSOs (for instance with coaching aimed at strengthening strategic thinking and managerial capacities of CSOs, fundraising training sessions, training on watchdog and advocacy methods, seminars on communication, including through social media and video-making, or strengthening policy research and analysis);
- knowledge building and thematic training for CSOs on EU values, law and policies on preventing and combating gender-based violence and violence against children;
- fostering and facilitating networking among CSOs and with relevant stakeholders with a view to promoting and protecting fundamental rights and values in the EU.

Capacity-building should go beyond standalone training activities and be designed as structured, continuous processes implemented within CSOs. Proposals should explain how these capacity building activities will strengthen CSOs' capacities over time, including through the use of feedback from implementation and results, and how they will lead to lasting transformation in organisational practices and structures.

Activities should be based on knowledge sharing among CSOs, including mentoring, coaching and on-the-job training. They should be results-oriented, sustainable, and

¹⁸ A typical duration of a third-party project could be around six to twelve months, with the third party having one month after the end of the project to submit their report to the intermediary

¹⁹ Article 6 of [the CERV Programme Regulation \(EU\) 2021/692](#)

aimed at strengthening CSOs' organisational capacities for more effective decision-making, increased accountability for their activities, and more active participation.

Management and control system

The regranting process carries a number of **risks**, such as those related to effective implementation of the project and achievement of its expected outcomes, and to the reputation of the European Commission, the intermediaries and the third-party projects. Therefore, the intermediaries are required to ensure the prevention, mitigation, detection and reporting on the risks²⁰ applicable to the implementation of their project and the third parties' projects. To this end, the applicant should put in place and describe in their grant application form a **solid management and control system**, to ensure the respect of the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

The management and control system shall cover in particular:

- project management and control set-up.
- the intermediary's procedures for the selection of third party CSOs and procedures for granting funds.
- the intermediary's procedures for effective cooperation with and support of the third party CSOs with the view of the successful implementation of third parties grants.
- the intermediary's system for preventing, detecting, mitigating, reporting on and remedying suspected or actual cases of conflict of interests in the selection procedures;
- the intermediary's system for preventing, mitigating, detecting²¹, reporting on and remedying suspected or actual cases of irregularities and frauds, and other cases such as those described in art [138 of the EU Financial Regulation](#);
- the intermediary's system for preventing, mitigating, detecting, reporting on and remedying risks to the effective implementation of the project and the achievement of its expected outcomes;
- the intermediary's system for preventing, mitigating, detecting, reporting on, and remedying reputational risks.

The beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 12 (conflict of interest), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the third parties receiving the support (recipients).

In the agreements with third parties, a clause must be added to ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25.4 of the [Model Grant Agreement](#) (e.g., granting authority, European Anti-Fraud Office OLAF, European Court of Auditors (ECA) Court of Auditors, European Public Prosecutor Office), European Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) and any persons mandated by them **can also exercise their rights towards the recipients of regranting** (e.g., checks, reviews, on-the-spot visits, audits, investigations).

²⁰ The concept of risk reflects an event that has a potentially negative impact, and the possibility that such an event will occur and adversely affects the organisation's assets, activities and operations. Risk management focuses on anticipating what might not go to plan and putting in place actions to reduce uncertainty to a tolerable level. This should involve a continuous process of assessing risks, reducing the potential that an adverse event will occur, and putting steps in place to deal with any event that does occur.

²¹ The European Commission is strongly committed to fight against fraud or other serious irregularities with a potentially negative impact for EU public funds. In this respect, successful applicants will be required to introduce Fraud Notification System on their project's website to allow for anonymous fraud reporting.

As regards reputational risks linked to the non-respect of EU values by the CSOs/third parties, the intermediary must demonstrate in the grant application form how they plan to ensure that their grantees have not:

- breached Union values
- promoted values contradictory to Union values
- engaged into activities contradictory to Union values.

In addition, the intermediary must include in their calls for proposals a requirement that the beneficiary signs a **Declaration of Honour** to this effect. The Declaration should state that breaches will make the (potential) beneficiary liable to exclusion, administrative sanctions or cancellation of funding.

Intermediaries must carry out a **due diligence** process whenever they have reason to doubt that an organisation does/will not comply with its stated objectives.²² The intermediary should explain how their evaluation procedures will incorporate the expertise necessary to ensure that only organisations respecting EU values will qualify for funding.

Selected intermediaries must apply regranting procedures to end beneficiaries, including risk-management measures where appropriate, taking into account the specific nature of their organisation and calls. These procedures should aim to minimise risks, particularly in the implementation of regranted projects. During project implementation, the European Commission may provide additional guidance on risk management, especially in relation to regranting.

Monitoring and Reporting

The applicant should put in place and describe in their grant application form a monitoring and reporting mechanism to meet the following minimum reporting requirements to the European Commission:

- **monitoring** of third parties' projects, including monitoring requirements and frequency. Intermediaries should describe the monitoring methods to be used, which may include, for example, technical progress reports, deliverables, field visits, phone calls or online meetings. They should also describe the criteria used to determine the level of monitoring (e.g. financial, risk-related or other criteria) and define thresholds that would trigger measures for a reinforced monitoring.
- report **standardised information** related to third-party projects (see section 10 Milestones & deliverables);
- identify and report about third-party projects considered as best practices;
- report on **irregularities** or emerging risks of the project and third parties projects, especially those which could lead to reputational damage;
- respond to ad-hoc **requests for information** from the European Commission;

²² This could be carried before or after the selection process, but before signing the grant agreement. It needs to be made clear in the call for proposals at which point this may occur and that eventual signature of a grant agreement may be subject to this due diligence process, including requests for additional information to facilitate transparency. The process could include a review of CSOs' online presence, including its social media channels and social media channels of its key personnel and trustees/board members, and verification of other sources available in their Member State, including annual reports, state registers, etc., as well as engaging on a dialogue with the concerned organisation.

- report back on the number of projects, country of implementation, as well as objective tackled (fighting gender-based violence and/or violence against children), as well as the related amounts regranted;
- establishing indicators, baselines and targets for measuring the **impact** of their project (see Section 10 on the mandatory impact report).

Expected impact

Priority 1 - Supporting intermediary organisations (providing financial support to civil society organisations) working in the fields of gender-based violence and violence against children

- Increased capacity of stakeholders and relevant professionals (including grassroots organisations) to address issues related to gender-based violence and/or violence against children;
- Strengthened multi-agency cooperation in prevention and response actions;
- Achievement of results aligned with those of other relevant priorities below (depending on the form of violence addressed).

Priority 2 - Protecting and supporting victims and survivors of gender-based violence

- Increased availability, accessibility and quality of victim support services, including those providing: (i) targeted and integrated support for victims with specific needs, such as victims of sexual violence, victims of violence in close relationships; and (ii) trauma support and counselling;
- Improved access to protection and support for victims in vulnerable situations, including refugees and migrants;
- Increased capacity of stakeholders and frontline professionals to respond effectively and with a gender-sensitive approach;
- Increased reporting of violence to the police and other services and an increased use of a gender-sensitive approach in the treatment of victims;
- Increased awareness of gender-based violence, including gender-based sexual violence, including in the context of migration and/or in the context of armed conflict;
- Prevention and response structures addressing violence against women, children (including as witnesses) and other targeted groups are extended or adapted to include refugees and other migrants;
- improved protection and support standards for victims of gender-based violence, including migrants and refugees;
- Improved coordination on gender-based violence in national and cross-border contexts;
- Strengthened victim protection, including in cross-border cases of violence, through the application of Directive 2011/99/EU on the European protection order.

Priority 3 - Preventing gender-based violence

- Increased promotion and support of initiatives to prevent gender-based violence;
- Increased awareness of prejudices, gender stereotypes and norms that contribute to the tolerance of gender-based violence;
- Increased awareness and involvement of men and boys in tackling gender-based violence against women;

- Increased capacity of stakeholders and relevant professionals to address issues related to gender-based violence, including in relation to cyber violence and domestic violence;
- Increased empowerment of victims and potential victims of violence to claim their rights and to stand up against violence;
- Shift in attitude and behaviour to gender-based violence, including cyberviolence (including a lower tolerance for and less victim-blaming);
- Improved detection and reporting of early signs of violence, with increased intervention and support for victims;
- Increased use of treatment programmes for perpetrators of violence;
- Improved prevention of violence, including cyberviolence, and greater safety for those at risk, especially women and children.

Priority 4 - Supporting the achievement of the objectives of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence in the Union and the implementation of the Directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence

- Increased capacity of stakeholders, including Member States authorities and other bodies, to successfully implement provisions of the Convention and the Directive.

Priority 5 – Strengthening integrated child protection systems including through cross-sectoral collaboration, and ensuring child-centred, coordinated responses to violence against children, contributing to the implementation of the Commission Recommendation on integrated child protection systems

- Improved effectiveness and coordination of integrated child protection systems that are fully aligned with children's rights, best interests, and individual needs.
- Strengthened multisectoral prevention, early identification, protection and multidisciplinary support to children suffering from all forms of violence and in need of specialised care and recovery.
- Better integrated support services for child victims, including trauma-informed, multidisciplinary care.
- Enhanced detection and reporting systems, with clearer referral pathways and reduced response times for child victims.
- Increased capacity of multisectoral actors in contact with children and professionals to prevent, detect and respond to violence against children and strengthen child protection, including increased cooperation among relevant services, responsible actors at different levels and sectors.
- Strengthened cross-sectoral cooperation between public authorities, in particular at local, regional and national level, in close cooperation with private and public stakeholders, particularly civil society organisations, leading to more efficient integrated child protection responses.
- Increased child participation in shaping policies and services, ensuring child-centred approaches.
- Enhanced accountability and monitoring mechanisms and evidence-based assessment of violence against children and of the responsiveness and effectiveness of child protection systems.
- Improved policy recommendations for national/regional child protection plans, including anti-bullying and cyberbullying.

Mainstreaming

Projects funded under this call shall seek to **promote equality between genders and the rights of the child**, as outlined in the EU Gender Equality Strategy and the EU

Strategy on the Rights of the Child. Gender and rights of the child mainstreaming means integrating a gender and rights of the child perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of a project, as appropriate. Consequently, when relevant, the applicant shall take the necessary steps to ensure that gender equality and child-related issues are taken into account by paying attention to the context and gender-specific needs, and of vulnerabilities of children. Applicants are advised to explain explicitly in their proposals how gender and children's rights will be mainstreamed and how relevant risks will be addressed. It is, for example, essential that projects do not silence, stereotype, stigmatise, lay the blame on or discriminate against any group. Projects should contribute to empowering children and women in all their diversity and to ensuring that they achieve their full potential and enjoy the same rights as men/any other child. For more information, please also refer to the section Ethics and EU values under point 6.

Child participation

For projects addressing children²³, activities should be designed and implemented **in direct cooperation with children**, to make sure that the action is well tailored to children's needs. All proposals are expected to respect the child's right to participate²⁴ and all project activities must clearly integrate and protect the child's right to be heard²⁵. Proposals must make children's involvement central and integral in every stage of the project's design, implementation and evaluation. As a good practice, organisations that already work with children could consult them on the project proposal and include reflections/references to this process in the applications. Voice of children can be also brought in based on available reports and documents recording children's opinions and needs. All actions and activities, both at design, consultation and implementation phase, shall ensure that actions are adequate to the age and gender specific needs of children. Thus, applicants should conduct and include in their proposal an analysis, which maps the potential different impact of the project and its activities on children, including from a gender perspective. Thereby, unintended negative effects of the intervention on children of all ages should be forestalled (do no-harm approach).

Child Protection Policies

Applications should clearly indicate which partner(s) will directly work with children (in person or online) and provide the necessary safeguards (see also section 5 "Admissibility and documents" and section 6 "Ethics and EU values"):

- Private entities **directly involving children** in the activities of the project must provide a **Child Protection Policy (CPP)** covering the four areas described in [Keeping Children Safe Child Safeguarding Standards](#). The CPP must be available online and transparent to everyone who comes in contact with the organisation. It must include clear information about the recruitment of staff (including trainees and volunteers) and include background checks (vetting). It must also include clear procedures and rules to staff, including reporting rules, and continuous training.
- Public entities (e.g. local authorities, ministries, etc.) can satisfy this obligation by submitting a declaration on honour from their legal representatives stating that the child protection measures of the public entity are in line with the principles and standards described in the [Keeping Children Safe Child Safeguarding Standards](#).

²³ As per the UNCRC definition, a child is a human being below the age of eighteen years

²⁴ Aligned with Article 24 of the Charter, relevant EU law and the UN Convention on the rights of the child

²⁵ As set out in UNCRC Article 12 and General Comment No 12

The Child Protection Policy should be submitted as a supporting document to the application and provided at the latest during the Grant Preparation Process for selected projects (GAP).

The CPP will be assessed under the award criterion 2 - Quality and in particular under ethics and EU values (i.e. failure to provide a diligent child protection policy will entail a lower score of the proposal under "quality" and could prevent the grant agreement signature).

Bibliography

Policy documents/background information:

A – Gender-based violence:

- [EU Gender Equality Strategy 2026-2030](#)
- [Roadmap for Women's Rights](#)
- [EU LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025](#)
- [Directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence](#)
- [Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence \(Istanbul Convention\)](#)

Support for victims:

- [Directive 2012/29/EU establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime](#)
- [EU campaign on victims' rights](#)

Role of men/Masculinities:

- [Opinion on men, boys, and gender equality by the Advisory Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men](#)
- [The role of men and boys in advancing gender equality and breaking gender stereotypes - EU Mutual Learning Programme in Gender Equality, Ireland, 16-17 February 2023](#)
- [#EndGenderStereotypes campaign](#)

Gender-based cyber-violence:

- [Sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliaments in Europe](#). Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)
- European Parliament's Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs, [Cyber violence and hate speech online against women](#)
- [Council of Europe resources on cyberviolence](#)
- European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)'s report on [cyber violence against women and girls](#)
- [2023 Communications campaign on gender stereotypes](#)
[#EndGenderStereotypes](#)

Gender mainstreaming

- <https://eige.europa.eu/gender-mainstreaming>
- [Gender analysis | EIGE \(europa.eu\)](#)

Behavioural insights and experimentation

- Sara Rafael Almeida, Joana Sousa Lourenço, Dessart François Jacques, and Emanuele Ciriolo. [Insights from behavioural sciences to prevent and combat violence against women. Literature review \(2016\)](#)

Data and reports:

- [Results of the Eurostat EU survey on gender-based violence \(2024\)](#)
- [Results of the European Fundamental Rights Agency \(FRA\) survey on women's experiences of violence](#)
- [European Fundamental Rights Agency \(FRA\) Crime, safety and victims' rights – Fundamental Rights Survey](#)
- [Report on "Attitudes Towards Violence Against Women in the EU"](#)
- [Report on "FGM in Europe – An analysis of court cases"](#)
- [European Institute for Gender Equality \(EIGE\)'s studies on gender-based violence](#)
- [Eurobarometer on gender-based violence](#);

B - Rights of the child:

- [EU strategy on the rights of the child](#)
- Report: [Our Europe, Our Rights, Our Future](#)
- [Database on projects funded under REC and CERV programmes](#)
- [United Nations Convention on the rights of the child](#)

Child safeguarding policies:

- [Keeping Children Safe Standards](#)
- [Comic Relief's safeguarding framework](#)

Violence against children:

- [Recommendation on developing and strengthening integrated child protection systems in the best interests of the child | European Commission](#)
- [Recommendation on developing and strengthening integrated child protection systems in the best interests of the child | European Commission](#)
- [Mapping Child Protection Systems in the EU – Update 2023 | European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights](#)
- [Child's General comment No. 13 \(2011\) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence](#)
- [UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children](#)

Child Participation:

- [EU Children's Participation Platform | European Union \(europa.eu\)](#)
- [General Comment no 12 \(2009\) on the right of the child to be heard](#)
- [Report from the study on child participation in EU political and democratic life and its accessible version.](#)
- [Council of Europe Recommendation on the participation of children and young people under the age of 18 \(2012\)](#)
- Council of Europe: [child participation assessment tool](#)
- [The Lundy model of child participation](#)
- [Inclusion Europe participation rights children with disabilities](#)

3. Available budget

The estimated available call budget is **EUR 21 000 000**.

We reserve the right not to award all available funds or to redistribute them between the call priorities, depending on the proposals received and the results of the evaluation.

4. Timetable and deadlines

Timetable and deadlines (indicative)	
Call opening:	07 July 2026
<u>Deadline for submission:</u>	<u>3 November 2026 – 17:00 CET</u> <u>(Brussels)</u>
Evaluation:	November 2026 - May 2027
Information on evaluation results:	May 2027
GA signature:	June - July 2027

5. Admissibility and documents

Proposals must be submitted before the **call deadline** (see *timetable section 4*).

Proposals must be submitted **electronically** via the Funding & Tenders Portal Electronic Submission System (accessible via the Topic page in the [Calls for proposals](#) section). Paper submissions are NOT possible.

Proposals (including mandatory annexes and supporting documents) must be submitted using the forms provided *inside* the Submission System (⚠ NOT the documents available on the Topic page — they are only for information).

Proposals must be **complete** and contain all the requested information and all required annexes and supporting documents:

- Application Form Part A — contains administrative information about the participants (future coordinator, beneficiaries and affiliated entities) and the summarised budget for the project (*to be filled in directly online*)
- Application Form Part B — contains the technical description of the project (*template to be downloaded from the Portal Submission System, completed, assembled and re-uploaded*)
- KPI tool — contains additional project data regarding the project's contribution to EU programme key performance indicators (*to be filled in directly online, all sections to be completed*)
- **Mandatory annexes and supporting documents** (*some templates are available to be downloaded from the Portal Submission System, completed, assembled and re-uploaded*):
 - detailed budget table (*template available in the Portal Submission System – to be re-uploaded filled out in the format .xlsx*) (**mandatory**)
 - CVs (standard) of core project team (**mandatory**)

- activity report of last year of the coordinator (**mandatory** - public bodies are exempted). For **priority 1**, activity report of last year of the coordinators **and the partners**, if applicable (for proposals submitted by a consortium)
- list of previous projects of the coordinator (key projects for the last 4 years) - *template available in Part B; recently established organisations are expected to provide an empty form in case they did not implement any key projects in the past*. For **priority 1**, list of previous projects of **the coordinator** (for proposals submitted by a single applicant) **and the partners** (for proposals submitted by a consortium) **are mandatory**
- for participants with activities involving children (below the age of 18) (**mandatory**): child protection policy covering the four areas described in the [Keeping Children Safe Child Safeguarding Standards](#) (for private bodies: copy of their policy; for public bodies only: child protection policy declaration – template available in the Portal Submission System)

 Please note that an annual activity report is NOT a financial audit report or balance sheet, but a report highlighting the activities and projects of your organisation.

Please be aware that since the detailed budget table serves as the basis for fixing the lump sums for the grants (and since lump sums must be reliable proxies for the actual costs of a project²⁶), the costs you include must comply with the basic eligibility conditions for EU actual cost grants (see [AGA – Annotated Grant Agreement, art 6](#)). This is particularly important for purchases and subcontracting, which must comply with best value for money (or if appropriate the lowest price) and be free of any conflict of interests. If the budget table contains ineligible costs, the grant may be reduced (even later on during the project implementation or after their end).

At proposal submission, you will have to confirm that you have the **mandate to act** for all applicants. Moreover, you will have to confirm that the information in the application is correct and complete and that all participants comply with the conditions for receiving EU funding (especially eligibility, financial and operational capacity, exclusion, etc). Before signing the grant, each beneficiary and affiliated entity will have to confirm this again by signing a declaration of honour (DoH). Proposals without full support will be rejected.

Your application must be **readable, accessible and printable** (please check carefully the layout of the documents uploaded).

Proposals are limited to maximum **70 pages for Priority 1 and 45 pages for the other priorities** (Part B). Evaluators will not consider any additional pages.

You may be asked at a later stage for further documents (*for legal entity validation, financial capacity check, bank account validation, etc*).



For more information about the submission process (including IT aspects), consult the [Online Manual](#).

6. Eligibility

Eligible participants (eligible countries)

In order to be eligible, the applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

²⁶ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/horizon/lump-sum/guidance>

- be legal entities (public or private bodies)
 - be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:
 - EU Member States (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs))
 - non-EU countries:
 - countries associated to the CERV Programme or countries which are in ongoing negotiations for an association agreement and where the agreement enters into force before grant signature ([list of participating countries](#)).
- ⚠ Please check the list regularly, to get the latest status on countries in the process of association
- activities must take place in any of the eligible countries

Beneficiaries and affiliated entities must register in the [Participant Register](#) — before submitting the proposal — and will have to be validated by the Central Validation Service (REA Validation). For the validation, they will be requested to upload documents showing legal status and origin.

Other entities may participate in other consortium roles, such as associated partners, subcontractors, third parties giving in-kind contributions, etc (*see section 13*).

Specific cases and definitions

Natural persons — Natural persons are NOT eligible (with the exception of self-employed persons, i.e., sole traders, where the company does not have legal personality separate from that of the natural person).

International organisations — International organisations are eligible. The rules on eligible countries do not apply to them.

Entities without legal personality — Entities which do not have legal personality under their national law may exceptionally participate, provided that their representatives have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf, and offer guarantees for the protection of the EU financial interests equivalent to that offered by legal persons²⁷.

EU bodies — EU bodies (with the exception of the European Commission Joint Research Centre) can NOT be part of the consortium.

Programme Contact Points — Are eligible as coordinator or beneficiary in this call, if they have procedures to segregate the project management and the information provision functions and if they are able to demonstrate cost separation (i.e. that their project grants do not cover any costs which are covered by their other grant). This requires the following:

- use of analytical accounting which allows for cost accounting management with cost allocation keys and cost accounting codes AND application of these keys and codes to identify and separate the costs (i.e. to allocate them to either one of the two grants)
- recording of all real costs incurred for the activities that are covered by the two grants (including the indirect costs)
- allocation of the costs in a way that leads to a fair, objective and realistic result.

²⁷

See Article 200(2)(c) EU Financial Regulation [2024/2509](#).

Associations and interest groupings — Entities composed of members may participate as 'sole beneficiaries' or 'beneficiaries without legal personality'²⁸.  Please note that if the action will be implemented by the members, they should also participate (either as beneficiaries or as affiliated entities, otherwise their costs will NOT be eligible).

Countries currently negotiating association agreements — Beneficiaries from countries with ongoing negotiations (*see above*) may participate in the call and can sign grants if the negotiations are concluded before grant signature (with retroactive effect, if provided in the agreement).

EU restrictive measures — Special rules apply for entities subject to [EU restrictive measures](#) under Article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU) and Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU)²⁹. Such entities are not eligible to participate in any capacity, including as beneficiaries, affiliated entities, associated partners, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties (if any).

 For more information, see [Rules for Legal Entity Validation, LEAR Appointment and Financial Capacity Assessment](#).

Consortium composition

For **priority 1 and 4**, proposals can be submitted by either a single applicant (monobeneficiary) or by a consortium.

For **priorities 2, 3, and 5**, proposals must be submitted by a consortium of **at least 2 applicants (beneficiaries; not affiliated entities nor associated partners)**, which complies with the following conditions:

- the beneficiaries must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the eligible countries, or an international organisation. Organisations which are profit-oriented cannot submit applications as lead applicants, but only in partnership with public entities, private non-profit organisations, or international organisations.

Other conditions:

- The lead applicant (i.e. "Coordinator") cannot submit more than one application under this call for proposals, across all priorities/topics.

In case of multiple proposals submitted by the same lead applicant, all the proposals will be rejected and will not be evaluated further.

NB: Consortia that consist only of a coordinator and (i) one or more affiliated entities or (ii) one or more associated partners are **ineligible**. Please be careful when filling part A of the application form and make sure you add a partner to your consortium.

For priorities 1, 2, 3 and 5: lead applicants must be non-profit making. Organisations which are profit-oriented cannot submit applications as lead applicants, but only in partnership with public entities, private non-profit organisations, or international organisations.

For priority 4: lead applicants must be public authorities either at national, regional or local level. See section 2 – Themes and priorities (description of Priority 4). Co-applicants (partners), if any, must be public entities, private non-profit, private for-profit organisations, or international organisations.

²⁸ For the definitions, see Articles 190(2) and 200(2)(c) EU Financial Regulation [2024/2509](#).

²⁹ Please note that the EU Official Journal contains the official list and, in case of conflict, its content prevails over that of the [EU Sanctions Map](#).

For **priority 1**, applicants must:

- a. have a recent proven experience of at least 3 years in implementing CSO capacity building activities in the fields of gender-based violence and/or violence against children;
- b. have a recent proven experience in awarding and managing grants in the fields of gender-based violence and/or violence against children.

If the proposal is submitted by a consortium, the consortium must fulfil both points a. and b. This means that they can be either both fulfilled by at least one member, or separately by different members of consortia.

Involvement of public authority

For **priority 1**, the involvement of a public authority is not required.

For **priority 2 and 3**:

Applicants are encouraged to involve a public authority in support of their project to help achieve the sustainability of project results and outcomes. These public authorities can be national, regional or local Ministries/agencies/equality bodies responsible for gender equality and/or provision of services to victims of violence or perpetrators; police, judicial, health or education authorities etc., as relevant. The rationale for the choice must be documented and explained in Part B - Project description and implementation. This support can be expressed either via the involvement of a public authority in the consortium (incl. as associated partner), or through an Annex to the application (Letter of support from the public authority). This will be assessed under the award criterion 3 - Impact.

For **priority 4, the lead (or sole) applicant must be a relevant public authority** active either at national, regional or local level³⁰. Co-applicants (partners) can be other organisations, such as private non-profit, or private for-profit ones. Partnerships with relevant NGOs active in the area of victims support or women's rights organisations are encouraged.

For **priority 5**, the involvement of a public authority (at municipal/local, regional or national level) in the consortium is **mandatory either as lead or co-applicant** (see section 6 "Eligibility").

Eligible activities

Eligible activities are the ones set out in section 2 above.

In addition, the participation to one in-person meeting in Brussels with the European Commission can be foreseen under the work package for management and coordination for a maximum of two people.

Applications will only be considered eligible if their content corresponds wholly (or at least in part) to the topic description for which they are submitted.

Financial support to third parties is allowed only for priority 1.

³⁰ For the purposes of this call's Priority 4, public authorities include government bodies, agencies, or other, funded or controlled by the state, national, regional, or local level bodies responsible for performing public functions, managing public services, or exercising statutory powers (e.g. police, councils, and regulatory agencies).

Proposals should consider the results of projects supported by other EU funding programmes. The complementarities must be described in the project proposals (Part B of the Application Form).

Projects must comply with EU policy interests and priorities. Projects must also respect EU values and European Commission policy regarding reputational matters (*e.g. activities involving capacity building, policy support, awareness raising, communication, dissemination, etc*)³¹.

Geographic location (target countries)

Proposals must relate to activities taking place in the eligible countries (*see above section 6*).

Projects under all priorities can be either national or transnational.

Duration

- For priority 1: Projects duration must be of 36 months.
- For priorities 2 to 5: Projects must range between 12 and 24 months.

Extensions are possible, if duly justified and through an amendment to the grant agreement.

Project budget

- **For Priority 1:** Project budgets (requested grant amount) **cannot be lower than EUR 1 000 000, and higher than EUR 2 500 000** per project.
- **For Priorities 2, 3, 4 and 5:** Project budgets (requested grant amount) **cannot be lower than EUR 200 000, and higher than EUR 600 000** per project.

The grant awarded may be lower than the amount requested.

Ethics and EU values

Projects must comply with:

- highest ethical standards and
- EU values based on Article 2 of the Treaty on the European Union and Article 21 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and
- other applicable EU, international and national law (including the General Data Protection Regulation [2016/679](#)).

Projects must seek to promote gender equality and non-discrimination mainstreaming in accordance with the [Gender Mainstreaming Toolkit](#). Project activities should contribute to the equal empowerment of women and men in all their diversity, ensuring that they achieve their full potential and enjoy the same rights. They should also seek to reduce levels of discrimination suffered by particular groups (as well as those at risk of multiple discrimination) and to improve equality outcomes for individuals³². Proposals should integrate gender and non-discrimination considerations in proposals and target a gender-balanced representation in project teams and activities. It is also important that individual data collected by the beneficiaries are broken down by sex ([sex-disaggregated data](#)), disability or age whenever possible.

Applicants must show in their application that they respect ethical principles and EU

³¹ See, for instance, Guidance on funding for activities related to the development, implementation, monitoring and enforcement of Union legislation and policy.

³² [Non-discrimination mainstreaming– instruments, case studies and way forwards](#)

values based on Article 2 of the Treaty on the European Union and Article of the 21 EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

Participants with activities involving children must moreover have a child protection policy covering the four areas described in the [Keeping Children Safe Safeguarding Standards](#) (see **section 2** on “**Child protection policies**” and **5** “**Admissibility and documents**”).

Eligibility criteria recap for CERV-2026-DAPHNE						
Priority	Budget	Duration	Regranting	Scope	Involvement of public authority	Single applicant vs Consortium
1	1M – 2.5M EUR	36 months	Mandatory	National/transnational	Not mandatory	Both single applicant and consortium can apply
2	200k – 600k EUR	12 - 24 months	n/a	National/transnational	Recommended	Only consortium
3	200k – 600k EUR	12 - 24 months	n/a	National/transnational	Recommended	Only consortium
4	200k – 600k EUR	12 - 24 months	n/a	National/transnational	Public authority must be the only applicant or the lead applicant	Both single applicant and consortium can apply
5	200k – 600k EUR	12 - 24 months	n/a	National/transnational	Mandatory	Only consortium

7. Financial and operational capacity and exclusion

Financial capacity

Applicants must have **stable and sufficient resources** to successfully implement the projects and contribute their share. Organisations participating in several projects must have sufficient capacity to implement all projects.

The financial capacity check will be carried out on the basis of the documents you will be requested to upload in the [Participant Register](#) during grant preparation (*e.g. profit and loss account and balance sheet, business plan, audit report produced by an approved external auditor, certifying the accounts for the last closed financial year, etc*). The analysis will be based on neutral financial indicators, but will also take into account other aspects, such as dependency on EU funding and deficit and revenue in previous years.

The check will normally be done for all coordinators, except:

- public bodies (entities established as public body under national law, including local, regional or national authorities) or international organisations
- if the individual requested grant amount is not more than EUR 60 000 (n/a).

If needed, it may also be done for affiliated entities.

If we consider that your financial capacity is not satisfactory, we may require:

- further information
- an enhanced financial responsibility regime, i.e. joint and several

responsibilities for all beneficiaries or joint and several liability of affiliated entities (*see below, section 10*)

- prefinancing paid in instalments
- (one or more) prefinancing guarantees (*see below, section 10*)

or

- propose no prefinancing
- request that you are replaced or, if needed, reject the entire proposal.



For more information, see [Rules for Legal Entity Validation, LEAR Appointment and Financial Capacity Assessment](#).

Operational capacity

Applicants must have the **know-how, qualifications** and **resources** to successfully implement the projects and contribute their share (including sufficient experience in projects of comparable size and nature).

This capacity will be assessed together with the 'Quality' award criterion, on the basis of the competence and experience of the applicants and their project teams, including operational resources (human, technical and other) or, exceptionally, the measures proposed to obtain it by the time the task implementation starts.

If the evaluation of the award criterion is positive, the applicants are considered to have sufficient operational capacity.

Applicants will have to show their capacity via the following information:

- general profiles (qualifications and experiences) of the staff responsible for managing and implementing the project
- description of the consortium participants
- activity report of last year of the coordinator (= lead applicant); for priority 1, of all partners (if submitted by a consortium)
- list of previous projects (key projects for the last 4 years) (template available in Part B).

Additional supporting documents may be requested, if needed to confirm the operational capacity of any applicant.

Public bodies, Member State organisations and international organisations are exempted from the operational capacity check.

Exclusion

Applicants which are subject to an **EU exclusion decision** or in one of the following **exclusion situations** that bar them from receiving EU funding can NOT participate³³:

- bankruptcy, winding up, affairs administered by the courts, arrangement with creditors, suspended business activities or other similar procedures (including procedures for persons with unlimited liability for the applicant's debts)
- in breach of social security or tax obligations (including if done by persons with unlimited liability for the applicant's debts)

³³ See articles 138 and 143 of EU Financial Regulation [2024/2509](#).

- guilty of grave professional misconduct³⁴ (including if done by persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control, beneficial owners or persons who are essential for the award/implementation of the grant)
- committed fraud, corruption, links to a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or human trafficking (including if done by persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control, beneficial owners or persons who are essential for the award/implementation of the grant)
- shown significant deficiencies in complying with main obligations under an EU procurement contract, grant agreement, prize, expert contract, or similar (including if done by persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control, beneficial owners or persons who are essential for the award/implementation of the grant)
- guilty of irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of Regulation No [2988/95](#) (including if done by persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control, beneficial owners or persons who are essential for the award/implementation of the grant)
- created under a different jurisdiction with the intent to circumvent fiscal, social or other legal obligations in the country of origin or created another entity with this purpose (including if done by persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control, beneficial owners or persons who are essential for the award/implementation of the grant).
- intentionally and without proper justification resisted³⁵ an investigation, check or audit carried out by an EU authorising officer (or their representative or auditor), OLAF, the EPPO, or the European Court of Auditors.

Applicants will also be rejected if it turns out that³⁶:

- during the award procedure they misrepresented information required as a condition for participating or failed to supply that information
- they were previously involved in the preparation of the call and this entails a distortion of competition that cannot be remedied otherwise (conflict of interest).

8. Evaluation and award procedure

The proposals will have to follow the **standard submission and evaluation procedure** (one-stage submission + one-step evaluation).

An **evaluation committee** (assisted by independent outside experts) will assess all applications. Proposals will first be checked for formal requirements (admissibility, and eligibility, *see sections 5 and 6*). Proposals found admissible and eligible will be

³⁴ 'Professional misconduct' includes, in particular, the following: violation of ethical standards of the profession; wrongful conduct with impact on professional credibility; breach of generally accepted professional ethical standards; false declarations/misrepresentation of information; participation in a cartel or other agreement distorting competition; violation of IPR; attempting to influence decision-making processes by taking advantage, through misrepresentation, of a conflict of interests, or to obtain confidential information from public authorities to gain an advantage; incitement to discrimination, hatred or violence or similar activities contrary to the EU values where negatively affecting or risking to affect the performance of a legal commitment.

³⁵ 'Resisting an investigation, check or audit' means carrying out actions with the goal or effect of preventing, hindering or delaying the conduct of any of the activities needed to perform the investigation, check or audit, such as refusing to grant the necessary access to its premises or any other areas used for business purposes, concealing or refusing to disclose information or providing false information.

³⁶ See Article 143 EU Financial Regulation [2024/2509](#).

evaluated for each topic against the operational capacity and award criteria (see *sections 7 and 9*) and then ranked according to their scores.

For proposals with the same score (within a topic or budget envelope), a **priority order** will be determined according to the following approach:

Successively for every group of *ex aequo* proposals, starting with the highest scored group, and continuing in descending order: the *ex aequo* proposals within the same topic will be prioritised according to the scores they have been awarded for the award criterion 'Relevance'. When these scores are equal, priority will be based on their scores for the criterion 'Quality'. When these scores are equal, priority will be based on their scores for the criterion 'Impact'.

All proposals will be informed about the evaluation result (**evaluation result letter**). Successful proposals will be invited for grant preparation; the other ones will be put on the reserve list or rejected.

 No commitment for funding — Invitation to grant preparation does NOT constitute a formal commitment for funding. We will still need to make various legal checks before grant award: *legal entity validation, financial capacity, exclusion check, etc.*

Grant preparation will involve a dialogue in order to fine-tune technical or financial aspects of the project and may require extra information from your side. It may also include adjustments to the proposal to address recommendations of the evaluation committee or other concerns. Full compliance will be a pre-condition for signing the grant.

If you believe that the evaluation procedure was flawed, you can submit a **complaint** (following the deadlines and procedures set out in the evaluation result letter). Please note that notifications which have not been opened within 10 days after sending are considered to have been accessed and that deadlines will be counted from opening/access (see also [Funding & Tenders Portal Terms and Conditions](#)). Please also be aware that for complaints submitted electronically, there may be character limitations.

9. Award criteria

The **award criteria** for this call are as follows:

- **Relevance:** extent to which the proposal matches the priorities and objectives of the call including adherence to EU values; clearly defined needs and robust needs assessment (if relevant presents a high quality overview and analysis of the targeted CSOs sector in the target country(ies), region(s), including the identification of key challenges); clearly defined target group, with gender perspective being appropriately taken into account; contribution to the EU strategic and legislative context (if applicable, extent to which capacity-building and financial support to third parties are balanced, well-proportioned, well-structured and relevant to address the identified needs; and contributing to the EU strategic and legislative context); European/trans-national dimension; impact/interest for a number of countries (EU or eligible non-EU countries); possibility to use the results in other countries (potential for transfer of good practices); potential to develop mutual trust/cross-border cooperation, building synergies and avoiding duplication with previous projects (40 points)
- **Quality:** clarity and consistency of project; logical links between the identified problems, needs and solutions proposed (logical frame concept); methodology for implementing the project with gender perspective being appropriately taken

into account (organisation of work, timetable, allocation of resources and distribution of tasks between partners, risks & risk management, monitoring and evaluation); ethical issues, measures and policies to guarantee child safeguarding (for activities involving children) and compliance with EU values are addressed; feasibility of the project within the proposed time frame; financial feasibility (sufficient/appropriate budget for proper implementation) including financial support to third parties (if applicable); cost-effectiveness (best value for money) (40 points)

- **Impact:** ambition and expected long-term impact of results on target groups/general public; appropriate dissemination strategy for ensuring sustainability and long-term impact; potential for a positive multiplier effect; sustainability of results after EU funding ends (20 points)

Award criteria	Minimum pass score	Maximum score
Relevance	25	40
Quality — Project design and implementation	n/a	40
Impact	n/a	20
Overall (pass) scores	70	100

Maximum points: 100 points.

Individual threshold for the criterion 'Relevance': 25/40 points.

Overall threshold: 70 points.

Proposals that pass the individual threshold for the criterion 'Relevance' AND the overall threshold will be considered for funding — within the limits of the available call budget. Other proposals will be rejected.

Particular attention will be paid to the **consortium size and composition**.

This aspect will be thoroughly assessed under the Quality criterion, to ensure that the consortium size and composition are justified and suitable to deliver the proposed results effectively and efficiently. Applicants are expected to justify that the size and structure of the consortium are appropriate to the project's objectives, activities and budget, including demonstrating an appropriate distribution of tasks and resources reflecting their expertise in the field of the call. Consortia should not be bigger than what is strictly necessary for the good implementation of the project.

The partnership should be coherent and well-balanced, bringing together organisations with **complementary and relevant expertise in the thematic areas** addressed by this call, namely gender-based violence and violence against children.

10. Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements

If you pass evaluation, your project will be invited for grant preparation, where you will be asked to prepare the Grant Agreement together with the EU Project Officer.

This Grant Agreement will set the framework for your grant and its terms and conditions, in particular concerning deliverables, reporting and payments.

The Model Grant Agreement that will be used (and all other relevant templates and guidance documents) can be found on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

Starting date and project duration

The project starting date and duration will be fixed in the Grant Agreement (*Data Sheet, point 1*). The starting date should be after grant signature (normally within 6 months). A retroactive starting date can be granted exceptionally for duly justified reasons but never earlier than the proposal submission date.

Project duration: *see section 6 above*

Milestones and deliverables

- **Work packages for all priorities (1, 2, 3, 4, 5):**

Activities must be grouped into **work packages** which are major sub-divisions of the project (e.g.: Project Management and Coordination; Communication and Dissemination, etc.).

For each work package, an objective and lists of tasks/activities, milestones and deliverables must be defined. The deliverables and milestones must be **quantifiable** and **measurable**.

The coordination and management costs of WP1 should not exceed 10% of the proposal total costs. Under lump sum funding, project coordination is simplified as there are no costs reporting obligations. Only for priority 1, a higher percentage may be exceptionally justified, since WP1 includes tasks related to the management of the regranting in addition to project coordination tasks.

- **Work packages for priority 1 only**

Activities must be organised in the following **mandatory** work packages:

WP 1 – Project management, including management of the regranting, monitoring and risk management, reporting and evaluation.

WP 2 – Financial support to third parties. This work package includes only the estimated amount to regrant, limited to budget category D.1 Financial support to third party.

WP 3 – Capacity-building programme and activities.

WP 4 – Communication and dissemination

- **Deliverables mandatory for all priorities:**

- Progress report not linked to payment at mid-term;
- Report on the EU Survey on Justice, Rights, and Values.

Beneficiaries will have to ask attendees in events to participate in the EU Survey on Justice, Rights and Values. This survey allows the granting authority to collect data on training, mutual learning and awareness-raising events of all projects financed under the CERV programme. The beneficiaries will receive a weblink to the survey, to be forwarded to the attendees. They will have access to the survey results for their project and can use it for their project evaluation.

- **Deliverables mandatory only for Priority 1:**

WP1

Call document and application templates

Two progress reports (not linked to payment) at months 13 and 25

Impact report at the end of the project implementation which describes and analyses the actual impact the project has achieved in line with the requirements set out in this call for proposals at section 2 'Expected impact', notably a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the project impact on third parties (small and grassroots CSOs)

WP2

Two identity fiches per regranting call. One should be reported soon after the award procedure is closed, and the second one should be reported once all third-party projects are evaluated and closed. Both files should be submitted in excel format, with at least the following entries:

Identity Fiches (Award)

To be submitted shortly after completion of the award procedure. The fiche must contain at least the following information: name of the third party, country where the third party is based, budget awarded to the third party, title and duration of the project and , and project abstract including a quantitative and qualitative description of planned activities, services and target group.

Identity Fiches (Final)

To be submitted once all third-party projects have been completed and evaluated. The fiche must contain at least the following information: name of the third party, country where the third party is based, final amount paid to the third party, title and duration of the project, summary report of the project, including a quantitative and qualitative description of activities implemented, services provided, and target groups reached.

WP4

Intermediaries must publish all the information related to third-party projects on a dedicated webpage within their website. The webpage must be publicly accessible, present information in a user-friendly and accessible format, contain all the mandatory information included in the identity fiches (WP2). The aim is to provide transparent information on the third parties and their projects. The following deliverables must be submitted:

Webpage I – due date: upon publication of the regranting call. The deliverable will contain a description of the webpage (e.g. hyperlink, screenshots, languages and key features).

Webpage II – due date: following the award of projects. The deliverable will show the update of the webpage where all the mandatory information of the 'Identity Fiche (award)' must be made available to ensure transparency regarding third party projects awarded.

Webpage III – due date: month 36 at final reporting stage. By the end of the project, the webpage must be updated with all the mandatory information collected in the Identity Fiche (final report), ensuring that the final implementation results of third party projects are publicly available.

Applicants are encouraged to consult webpages developed under previous DAPHNE projects with financial support to third parties as examples by searching the projects funded under the call CERV-2023-DAPHNE: [EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#).

The milestones and deliverables for each project will be managed through the Portal Grant Management System and will be reflected in Annex 1 of the Grant Agreement.

Form of grant, funding rate and maximum grant amount

The grant parameters (*maximum grant amount, funding rate, total eligible costs, etc*) will be fixed in the Grant Agreement (*Data Sheet, point 3 and art 5*).

Project budget (requested grant amount): see section 6 above.

The grant will be a lump sum grant, meaning it will reimburse a fixed amount unlinked to actual costs. The amount will be fixed by the granting authority on the basis of the estimated project budget and a funding rate of 90%.

Budget categories and cost eligibility rules

The budget categories and cost eligibility rules are fixed in the Grant Agreement (*Data Sheet, point 3, art 6 and Annex 2*).

Budget categories for this call:

- Lump sum contributions³⁷

Specific cost eligibility rules for this call:

- the lump sum amount must be calculated in accordance with the methodology set out in the lump sum decision and using the detailed budget table provided (if any)
- the lump sum calculation should respect the following conditions:
 - for lump sums based on estimated project budgets: the estimated budget must comply with the basic eligibility conditions for EU actual cost grants (see AGA – Annotated Grant Agreement, art 6)
 - for lump sums based on estimated project budgets: costs for financial support to third parties are not allowed
 - project websites: communication costs for presenting the project on the participants' websites or social media accounts are eligible; costs for separate project websites are not eligible
 - personnel costs:
 - volunteers' unit costs³⁸ are allowed (without indirect costs).

The details and the breakdown of the 'Other' cost items from headings A.1 and C.3 should be provided in the 'any comments' sheet of the detailed budget table.

Reporting and payment arrangements

The reporting and payment arrangements are fixed in the Grant Agreement (*Data Sheet, point 4 and art 21 and 22*).

After grant signature, you will normally receive a **prefinancing** to start working on the project (float of normally **80%** of the maximum grant amount; exceptionally less or no

³⁷ Decision of 30 September 2022 authorising the use of lump sums for actions under the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (2021-2027).

³⁸ Commission Decision of 10 April 2019 authorising the use of unit costs for declaring personnel costs for the work carried out by volunteers under an action or a work programme (C(2019)2646)

prefinancing). The prefinancing will be paid 30 days from entry into force/financial guarantee (if required) — whichever is the latest.

In addition, you will be expected to submit one or more progress reports not linked to payments.

Payment of the balance: At the end of the project, we will calculate your final grant amount. If the total of earlier payments is higher than the final grant amount, we will ask you (your coordinator) to pay back the difference (recovery).

All payments will be made to the coordinator.

 Please be aware that payments will be automatically lowered if you or one of your consortium members has outstanding debts towards the EU (granting authority or other EU bodies). Such debts will be offset by us — in line with the conditions set out in the Grant Agreement (see art 22).

Please also note that you are responsible for keeping records on all the work done.

Prefinancing guarantees

If a prefinancing guarantee is required, it will be fixed in the Grant Agreement (*Data Sheet, point 4*). The amount will be set during grant preparation and it will normally be equal or lower than the prefinancing for your grant.

The guarantee should be in euro and issued by an approved bank/financial institution established in an EU Member State. If you are established in a non-EU country and would like to provide a guarantee from a bank/financial institution in your country, please contact us (this may be exceptionally accepted, if it offers equivalent security).

Amounts blocked in bank accounts will NOT be accepted as financial guarantees.

Prefinancing guarantees are normally requested from the coordinator, for the consortium. They must be provided during grant preparation, in time to make the prefinancing (scanned copy via Portal AND original by post).

If agreed with us, the bank guarantee may be replaced by a guarantee from a third party.

The guarantee will be released at the end of the grant, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Grant Agreement (art 23).

Certificates

Depending on the type of action, size of grant amount and type of beneficiaries, you may be requested to submit different certificates. The types, schedules and thresholds for each certificate are fixed in the Grant Agreement (*Data Sheet, point 4 and art 24*).

Liability regime for recoveries

The liability regime for recoveries will be fixed in the Grant Agreement (*Data Sheet point 4.4 and art 22*).

For beneficiaries, it is one of the following:

- limited joint and several liability with individual ceilings — *each beneficiary up to their maximum grant amount*
- unconditional joint and several liability — *each beneficiary up to the maximum grant amount for the action*

or

- individual financial responsibility — *each beneficiary only for their own debts.*

In addition, the granting authority may require joint and several liability of affiliated entities (with their beneficiary).

Provisions concerning the project implementation

IPR rules: *see Model Grant Agreement (art 16 and Annex 5):*

- rights of use on results: Yes

Communication, dissemination and visibility of funding: *see Model Grant Agreement (art 17 and Annex 5):*

- additional communication and dissemination activities: Yes

Other specificities

- n/a

Non-compliance and breach of contract

The Grant Agreement (chapter 5) provides for the measures we may take in case of breach of contract (and other non-compliance issues).



For more information, see [AGA — Annotated Grant Agreement](#).

11. How to submit an application

All proposals must be submitted directly online via the Funding & Tenders Portal Electronic Submission System. Paper applications are NOT accepted.

Submission is a **2-step process**:

a) create a user account and register your organisation

To use the Submission System (the only way to apply), all participants need to [create an EU Login user account](#).

Once you have an EULogin account, you can [register your organisation](#) in the Participant Register. When your registration is finalised, you will receive a 9-digit participant identification code (PIC).

b) submit the proposal

Access the Electronic Submission System via the Topic page in the [Calls for proposals](#) section (or, for calls sent by invitation to submit link provided in the invitation letter), open your desired call and start submission.

Submit your proposal in 4 parts, as follows:

- Part A includes administrative information about the applicant organisations (future coordinator, beneficiaries, affiliated entities and associated partners³⁹) and the summarised budget for the proposal. Fill it in directly online.

³⁹ [See](#) section 13 for more information on consortium roles and the roles of coordinator, affiliated entities and associated partners.

- Part B (description of the action) covers the technical content of the proposal. Download the mandatory word template from the Submission System, fill it in and upload it as a PDF file.
- KPI tool contains additional project data. Fill it in directly online and complete all sections.
- Annexes (*see section 5*) are to be uploaded as PDF files (single or multiple depending on the slots). Uploading Excel is sometimes possible, depending on the file type. Once it has been filled out, the detailed budget table must be re-uploaded in the format *.xlsx*.

The proposal must keep to the **page limits** (*see section 5*); excess pages will be disregarded.

Documents must be uploaded to the **right category** in the Submission System, otherwise the proposal may be considered incomplete and thus inadmissible.

The proposal must be submitted **before the call deadline** (*see section 4*). After this deadline, the system is closed and proposals can no longer be submitted.

Once the proposal is submitted, you will receive a **confirmation e-mail** (with date and time of your application). If you do not receive this confirmation e-mail, it means your proposal has NOT been submitted. If you believe this is due to a fault in the Submission System, you should immediately file a complaint via the [IT Helpdesk webform](#), explaining the circumstances and attaching a copy of the proposal (and, if possible, screenshots to show what happened).

Details on processes and procedures are described in the [Online Manual](#). The Online Manual also contains the links to FAQs and detailed instructions regarding the Portal Electronic Exchange System.

Use of artificial intelligence (AI) in proposals

When considering the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools for the preparation of the proposal, it is imperative to exercise caution and careful consideration. The AI-generated content should be thoroughly reviewed and validated by the applicants to ensure its appropriateness and accuracy, as well as its compliance with intellectual property regulations. Applicants are fully responsible for the content of the proposal (even those parts produced by the AI tool) and must be transparent in disclosing which AI tools were used and how they were utilised.

Specifically, applicants are required to:

- Verify the accuracy, validity, and appropriateness of the content and any citations generated by the AI tool and correct any errors or inconsistencies.
- Provide a list of sources used to generate content and citations, including those generated by the AI tool. Double-check citations to ensure they are accurate and properly referenced.
- Be conscious of the potential for plagiarism where the AI tool may have reproduced substantial text from other sources. Check the original sources to be sure you are not plagiarizing someone else's work.
- Be respectful of personal data and confidential information by not entering these on AI platforms that are not managed on proprietary servers.
- Acknowledge the limitations of the AI tool in the proposal preparation, including the potential for bias, errors, and gaps in knowledge.

12. Help

As far as possible, ***please try to find the answers you need yourself***, in this and the other documentation (we have limited resources for handling direct enquiries):

- [Online Manual](#)
- Topic Q&A on the Topic page (for call-specific questions in open calls; not applicable for actions by invitation)
- [Portal FAQ](#) (for general questions).

Please also consult the Call and Topic pages regularly, since we will use them to publish call updates, including an invitation to the info session for applicants (if any) after the opening of the call. (For invitations, we will contact you directly in case of a call update).

Contact

For individual questions on the Portal Submission System, please contact the [IT Helpdesk](#).

Non-IT related questions should be sent to the following email address: the [CERV Contact Point](#) of your country (if established) or otherwise EC-CERV-CALLS@ec.europa.eu

Please indicate clearly the reference of the call and topic to which your question relates (*see cover page*).

13. Important



IMPORTANT

- **Do not wait until the end** — Complete your application sufficiently in advance of the deadline to avoid any last minute **technical problems**. Problems due to last minute submissions (*e.g., congestion, etc*) will be entirely at your risk. Call deadlines can NOT be extended.
- **Consult** the Portal Call and Topic pages regularly. We will use them to publish updates and additional information on the call (call and topic updates).
- **Funding & Tenders Portal Electronic Exchange System** — By submitting the application, all participants **accept** to use the electronic exchange system in accordance with the [Portal Terms & Conditions](#).
- **Registration** — Before submitting the application, all beneficiaries, affiliated entities and associated partners must be registered in the [Participant Register](#). The participant identification code (PIC) (one per participant) is mandatory for the Application Form.
- **Consortium roles** — When setting up your consortium, you should think of organisations that help you reach objectives and solve problems.

The roles should be attributed according to the level of participation in the project. Main participants should participate as **beneficiaries** or **affiliated entities**; other entities can participate as associated partners, subcontractors, third parties giving in-kind contributions. **Associated partners** and third parties giving in-kind contributions should bear their own costs (they will not become formal recipients of EU funding). **Subcontracting** should normally constitute a limited part and must be performed by third parties (not by one of the beneficiaries/affiliated entities). Subcontracting going beyond 30% of the total eligible costs must be justified in the application.

- **Coordinator** — In multi-beneficiary grants, the beneficiaries participate as consortium (group of beneficiaries). They will have to choose a coordinator, who will take care of the project management and coordination and will represent the consortium towards the granting authority. In mono-beneficiary grants, the single beneficiary will automatically be coordinator.
- **Affiliated entities** — Applicants may participate with affiliated entities (i.e. entities linked to a beneficiary which participate in the action with similar rights and obligations as the beneficiaries, but do not sign the grant and therefore do not become beneficiaries themselves). They will get a part of the grant money and must therefore comply with all the call conditions and be validated (just like beneficiaries); but they do not count towards the minimum eligibility criteria for consortium composition (if any). If affiliated entities participate in your project, please do not forget to provide documents demonstrating their affiliation link to your organisation as part of your application.
- **Associated partners** — Applicants may participate with associated partners (i.e. partner organisations which participate in the action but without the right to get grant money). They participate without funding and therefore do not need to be validated.

- **Consortium agreement** — For practical and legal reasons it is recommended to set up internal arrangements that allow you to deal with exceptional or unforeseen circumstances (in all cases, even if not mandatory under the Grant Agreement). The consortium agreement also gives you the possibility to redistribute the grant money according to your own consortium-internal principles and parameters (for instance, one beneficiary can reattribute its grant money to another beneficiary). The consortium agreement thus allows you to customise the EU grant to the needs inside your consortium and can also help to protect you in case of disputes.
- **Balanced project budget** — Grant applications must ensure a balanced project budget and sufficient other resources to implement the project successfully (*e.g., own contributions, income generated by the action, financial contributions from third parties, etc*). You may be requested to lower your estimated costs, if they are ineligible (including excessive).
- **Completed/ongoing projects** — Proposals for projects that have already been completed will be rejected; proposals for projects that have already started will be assessed on a case-by-case basis (in this case, no costs can be reimbursed for activities that took place before the project starting date/proposal submission).
- **No-profit rule** — Grants may NOT give a profit (i.e. surplus of revenues + EU grant over costs). This will be checked by us at the end of the project.
- **No cumulation of funding/no double funding** — It is strictly prohibited to cumulate funding from the EU budget (except under 'EU Synergies actions'). Outside such Synergies actions, any given action may receive only ONE grant from the EU budget and cost items may under NO circumstances be declared under two EU grants; projects must be designed as different actions, clearly delineated and separated for each grant (without overlaps).
- **Combination with EU operating grants** — Combination with EU operating grants is possible, if the project remains outside the operating grant work programme and you make sure that cost items are clearly separated in your accounting and NOT declared twice (see [AGA — Annotated Model Grant Agreement, art 6.2.E](#)).
- **Multiple proposals** — Applicants cannot submit more than one proposal as coordinator (=lead applicant) under this call. See eligibility conditions.
- **Resubmission** — Proposals may be changed and re-submitted until the deadline for submission.
- **Rejection** — By submitting the application, all applicants accept the call conditions set out in this Call document (and the documents it refers to). Proposals that do not comply with all the call conditions will be **rejected**. This applies also to applicants: All applicants need to fulfil the criteria; if any one of them doesn't, they must be replaced or the entire proposal will be rejected.
- **Cancellation** — There may be circumstances which may require the cancellation of the call. In this case, you will be informed via a call or topic update. Please note that cancellations are without entitlement to compensation.
- **Language** — You can submit your proposal in any official EU language (project abstract/summary should however always be in English). For reasons of efficiency, we strongly advise you to use English for the entire application. If you need the call documentation in another official EU language, please submit a request within 10 days after call publication (for the contact information, see *section 12*).

- **Transparency** — In accordance with Article 38 of the [EU Financial Regulation](#), information about EU grants awarded is published each year on the [Europa website](#).

This includes:

- beneficiary names
- beneficiary addresses
- the purpose for which the grant was awarded
- the maximum amount awarded.

The publication can exceptionally be waived (on reasoned and duly substantiated request), if there is a risk that the disclosure could jeopardise your rights and freedoms under the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights or harm your commercial interests.

- **Data protection** — The submission of a proposal under this call involves the collection, use and processing of personal data. This data will be processed in accordance with Regulation [2018/1725](#). It will be processed solely for the purpose of evaluating your proposal, subsequent management of your grant and, if needed, programme monitoring, evaluation and communication. Details are explained in the [Funding & Tenders Portal Privacy Statement](#).