



## ENRF Briefing Note on the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) work programme 2021-2022



Being part of a new [Justice, Rights and Values Fund](#) together with the [Justice programme](#), the new [CERV programme](#) aims to protect and promote the rights and values as enshrined in the EU Treaties, the [Charter of Fundamental Rights](#), and the international human rights conventions. Its main objective is to contribute to sustain and further develop open, rights-based, democratic, equal and inclusive societies based on the rule of law, with the biggest-ever EU fund for promoting and protecting fundamental rights inside the EU - over 1,55 billion euro for the next 7-years period.

For the **2021-22 period, €292 million** are available to translate the EU objectives into practical results on the ground by providing unparalleled funding opportunities to civil society organisations active at local, regional, national and transnational level engaged in upholding EU values and rights.

Public authorities and organisations in the EU Member States are invited to present projects' proposals to receive EU financial support in a wide range of activities eligible for funding: trainings, capacity building, exchanges of good practices, awareness-raising and media campaigns, surveys and studies.

The [work programme 2021-2022](#) will finance actions promoting non-discrimination and gender equality, the rights of the child, European remembrance and citizens' engagement, as well as to combat racism and gender-based violence.

The CERV programme, replacing the previous Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme and the Europe for Citizens programme, is based on **4 strands**:

- 1. Union values** - protect and promote Union values which are common to all Member States and on which the European Union is founded: respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. This strand will place civil society organisations at the heart of its priorities by funding projects which promote and raise awareness on EU values and EU fundamental rights and by providing financial support to local, regional and transnational civil society organisations.
- 2. Equality, Rights and Gender Equality** - promote rights, non-discrimination, equality, including gender equality, and advance gender and non-discrimination mainstreaming.
- 3. Citizens' engagement and participation** - promote citizens engagement and participation in the democratic life of the Union and exchanges between citizens of different Member States and to raise awareness of the common European history.
- 4. Daphne** - fight violence, including gender-based violence.

To help in this development, all the EU Member States will establish a national contact point for the CERV programme, which will provide guidance, practical information and assistance to applicants, stakeholders and beneficiaries of the programme. From its side, the European Commission will establish a Civil Dialogue Group, aiming to be an open and informal forum for discussion and to exchange experiences and good practices.

The first calls for proposals for 2021 (for the 4 CERV strands) are now published in the Funding & tender opportunities portal. See below:

› **Strand 1 (Union Values):**

- [Call for proposals for 4-year framework partnership agreements to support European networks, civil society organisations active at EU level and European think tanks in the areas of Union values](#) (Closing date: 22 June 2021)
- [Operating grants to framework partners active in the area of Union values](#) (Closing date: 29 June 2021)

› **Strand 2 (Equality, Rights and Gender Equality):**

- [Call for proposals to promote equality and to fight against racism, xenophobia and discrimination](#) (Closing date: 15 June 2021)
- [Call for proposals to protect and promote the rights of the child](#) (Closing date: 07 September 2021)
- [Call for proposals limited/restricted to national Data Protection Authorities on reaching out to stakeholders in data protection legislation](#) (Closing date: 09 September 2021)

› **Strand 3 (Citizens' engagement and participation):**

- [Call for proposals on European remembrance](#) (Closing date: 22 June 2021)

› **Strand 4 (Daphne):**

- [Call for proposals to prevent and combat gender-based violence and violence against children](#) (Closing date: 15 June 2021)



More calls will open in the upcoming weeks. You can find them in the [Funding & Tender Portal](#).

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