



Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values

Eurodiaconia Funding Network Meeting 2025

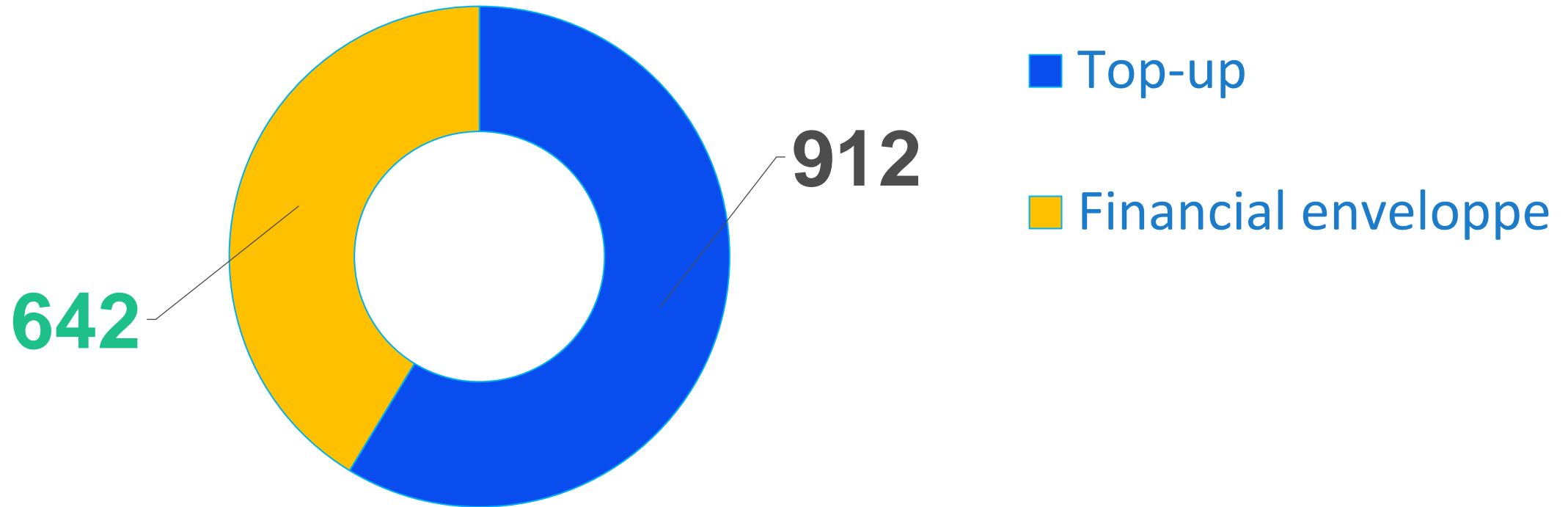
***European Executive Agency on Culture
and Education (EACEA)***

24 September 2025



Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) total budget 2021-2027

Budget: 1.55 billion euro



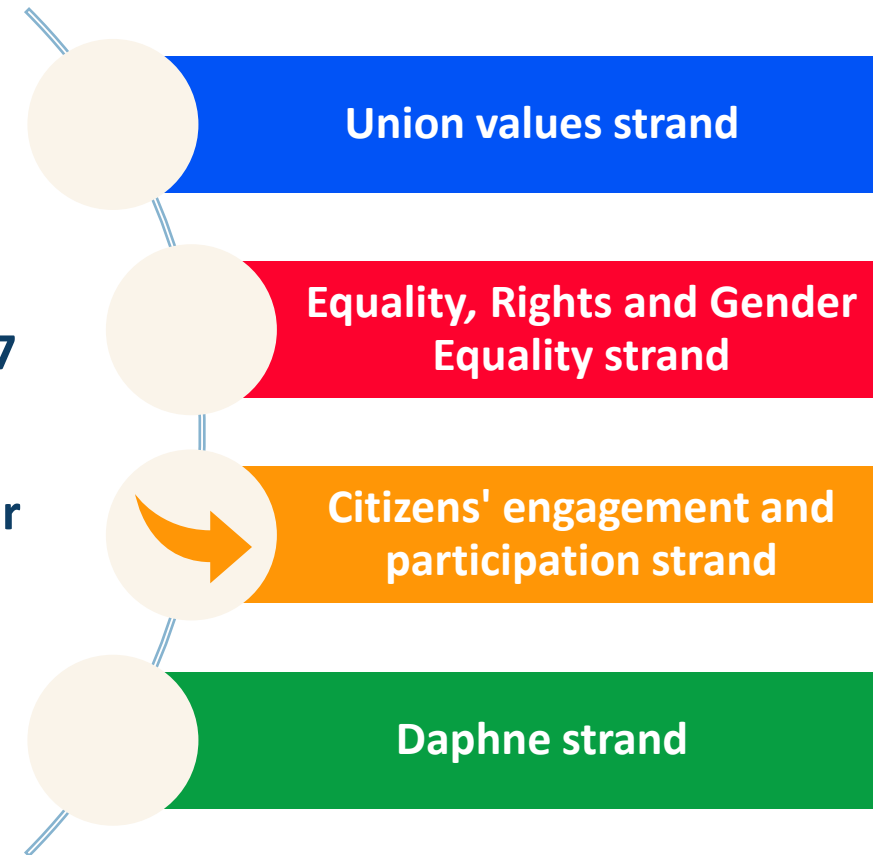
CERV objectives, budget and structure

To protect and promote rights and values as enshrined in the EU **Treaties and the EU Charter**

Supporting civil society organisations and other stakeholders active at local, regional, national and transnational level,

Encouraging civic and democratic participation, in order to sustain and further develop open, rights-based, democratic, equal and inclusive societies based on the rule of law

2021-2027
1 550
Million Eur



CERV programme structure

Union Values

Protect and promote Union values by providing financial support to civil society organisations, active at local, regional, national and transnational level.

Equality and rights

- promote rights, non-discrimination, equality, including gender equality, and advance gender and non-discrimination mainstreaming
- combating racism, xenophobia and all forms of intolerance
- protect and promote the rights of the child
- protect and promote the rights of people with disabilities
- protect and promote EU citizenship rights and the right to the protection of personal data

Citizens' engagement

- raise awareness of the common European history
- promote citizens' engagement and participation in the democratic life of the Union
- promote exchanged between citizens of different Member states

Daphne

- preventing and combating gender based violence against women and girls and domestic violence
- preventing and combating all forms of violence against children, young people and other groups at risk
- supporting and protecting victims

Budget by strands

Union Values

€ 690 million

Equality, rights and gender equality

Daphne (gender-based violence)

€ 470 million

Citizens' engagement and participation

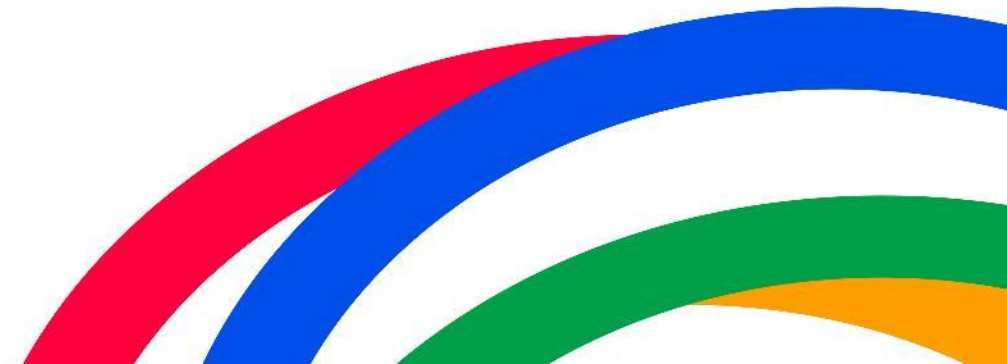
€ 395 million

CERV Political Priorities





**Citizens'
engagement
and
participation
call #CIV25**



Specific priorities

Priority 1:

Promoting exchanges on future Union policy priorities and challenges



Priority 2:

Countering disinformation, information manipulation and interference in the democratic debate



Priority 3:

Promoting citizens' active engagement and democratic participation



Each project application under the call must address **only ONE priority**

P1: Promoting exchanges on future Union policy priorities and challenges

GOALS:

- deeper **understanding of the EU's priorities and democratic challenges**,
- to gather input and ideas from citizens on how to address them
- **promote a greater sense of belonging to the European Union and of EU values.**

Examples of activities that could be supported under this priority include:

- Organising public debates, workshops, or conferences on specific EU policy areas
- Using online platforms or social media campaigns to engage citizens in discussions on EU policies and priorities
- Developing educational materials or toolkits to engage and help citizens understand EU policies and their impact on daily life
- Facilitating exchanges between citizens from different EU countries to share experiences and perspectives on EU policies.

P2: Countering disinformation, information manipulation and interference in the democratic debate

GOALS:

- **identify**, prevent and mitigate risks of interference on sovereignty, values and interests of Member States and the EU.
- **promote democratic resilience**

Examples of activities that could be supported under this priority include:

- Engaging citizens in developing and disseminating tools, knowledge exchange platforms, and resources to help citizens prebunk, detect and debunk disinformation and information manipulation
- Organising media literacy training programs and/or implementing toolkits for citizens, particularly for young people, helping them critically evaluate online information
- Engaging citizens in public awareness campaigns to highlight the risks of disinformation and information manipulation and encourage the responsible use of AI
- Organising trainings, exchanges of best practices, engaging relevant actors in reporting and monitoring of Strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPPs) and actions supporting independent media outlets and journalists against SLAPPs

P3: Promoting citizens' active engagement and democratic participation

GOALS:

- supporting turnout in elections of all groups of society
- participating in decision-making, engaging in civic activities, and exercising rights and responsibilities as EU citizens.

Examples of activities that could be supported under this priority include:

- Developing and facilitating **citizen-led initiatives** through debates, voicing opinions, and other citizens' engagement activities
- Developing, implementing and disseminating **educational programs or materials to teach citizens about their rights and responsibilities as EU citizens, and how to participate in democratic processes**
- Supporting **free, fair and inclusive electoral processes** by conducting awareness campaigns, engagement programmes, workshop, conferences
- Supporting the **development of tools and platforms to facilitate citizen engagement and participation in decision-making**
- Facilitating cooperation between **citizens and public authorities, including local councillors, to promote participatory democracy.**

Indicative budget and duration



Budget

EUR 33 000 000



Duration

12-24 months



Grant

Lump sum
Funding rate of 90%

Types of activities



Design and
implementation of
strategies/protocols



Communication tools



Seminars and
Training activities



Development of
guidelines/tools
for specialised
support



Workshops/
conferences



Identification and
exchange of
good practices



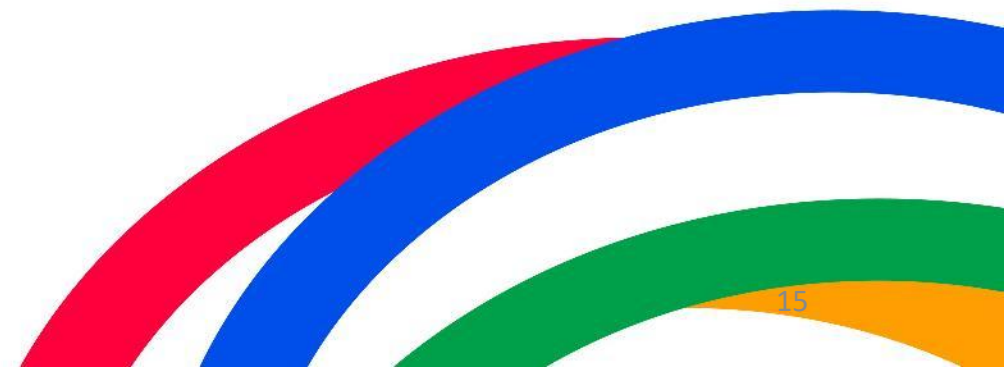
Awareness
raising



Experts'
meetings



Call for proposals CERV-2025- CHAR-LITI



Why a specific call for proposals on the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights?



- Declared in 2000 and came into force in 2009.
- Need to unlock the Charter's full potential.
- **2020 strategy to strengthen the application of the Charter.**
- Promote rights and values by **building primarily civil society organisations capacity and awareness** on the Charter and by carrying out activities to **ensure that the Charter is upheld.**

Specific priorities

Each application must address only ONE of these Priorities:

Capacity building and awareness raising on the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights

Strategic litigation

Protecting EU values and rights by combating hate crime and hate speech

Promoting rights and values by empowering the civic space

Supporting an enabling environment for the protection of whistleblowers

2025 Call - Budget

- **Budget split per priority*:**

CERV-2025-CHARLITI-CHARTER	EUR 3 600 000
CERV-2025-CHARLITI-CIVIC	EUR 3 500 000
CERV-2025-CHARLITI-LITIGATION	EUR 2 400 000
CERV-2025-CHARLITI-SPEECH	EUR 6 000 000
CERV-2025-CHARLITI-WHISTLE	EUR 2 500 000

*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.

Eligibility criteria

Single applicant or consortium

Coordinator: non-profit private body (EU)

Co-applicants: non-profit or profit public or private bodies (EU)

Beneficiaries must be established in **one of the eligible countries**

Activities must take place in any of the eligible countries

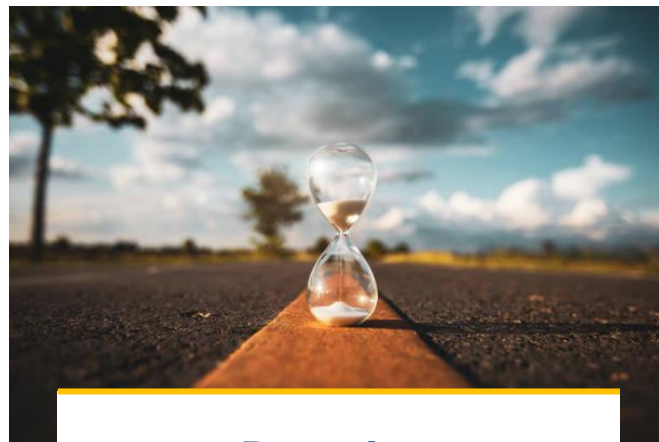
- **List here:** [list-3rd-country-participation_cerv_en.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)

Budget and duration



Budget

18.000.000 EUR



Duration

12-24 months



Grant

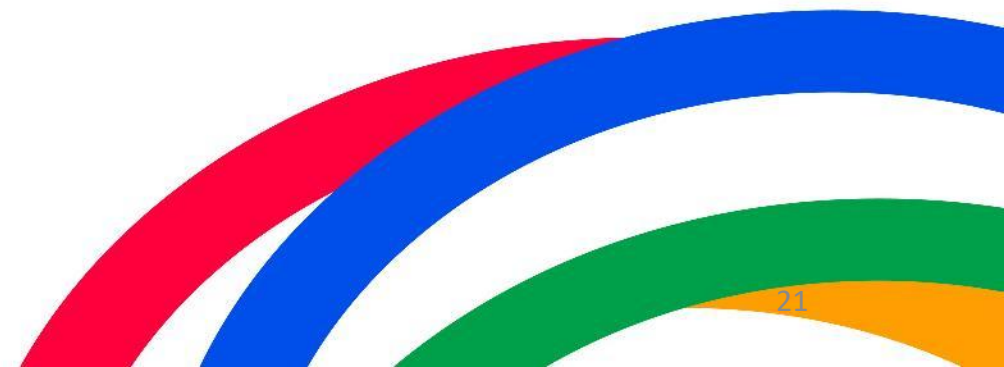
Budget-based

Min EUR 75 000

No Max



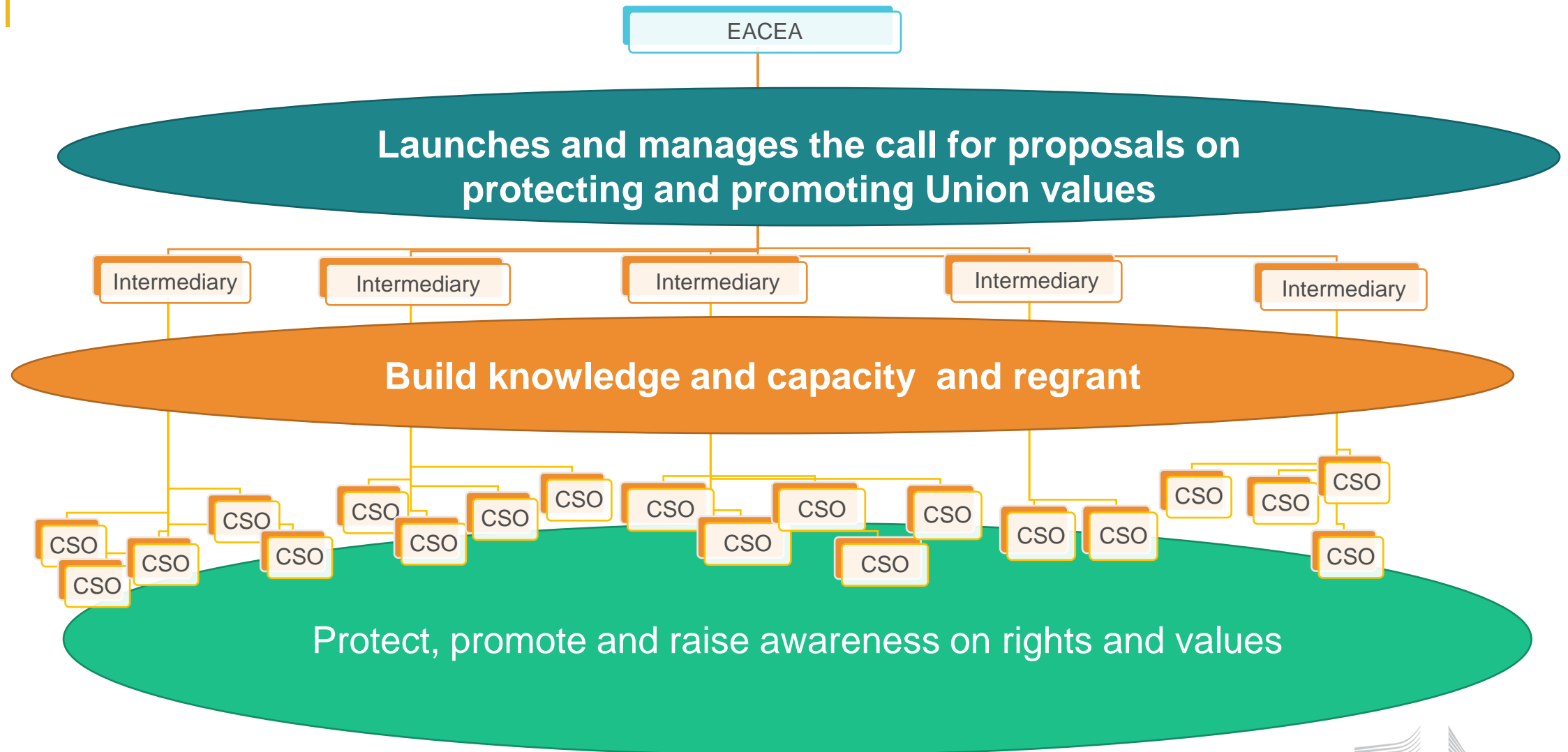
Call for proposals CERV-2024- CITIZENS- VALUES



Specific policy initiatives Union Values



Main features of the call

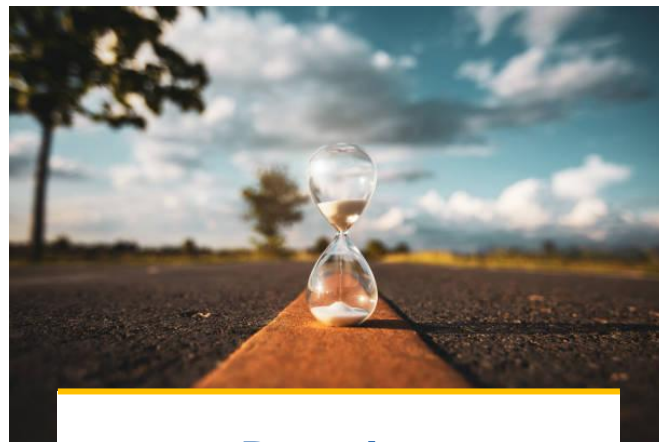


Indicative budget and duration



Budget

74.500.000 EUR



Duration

36-48 months

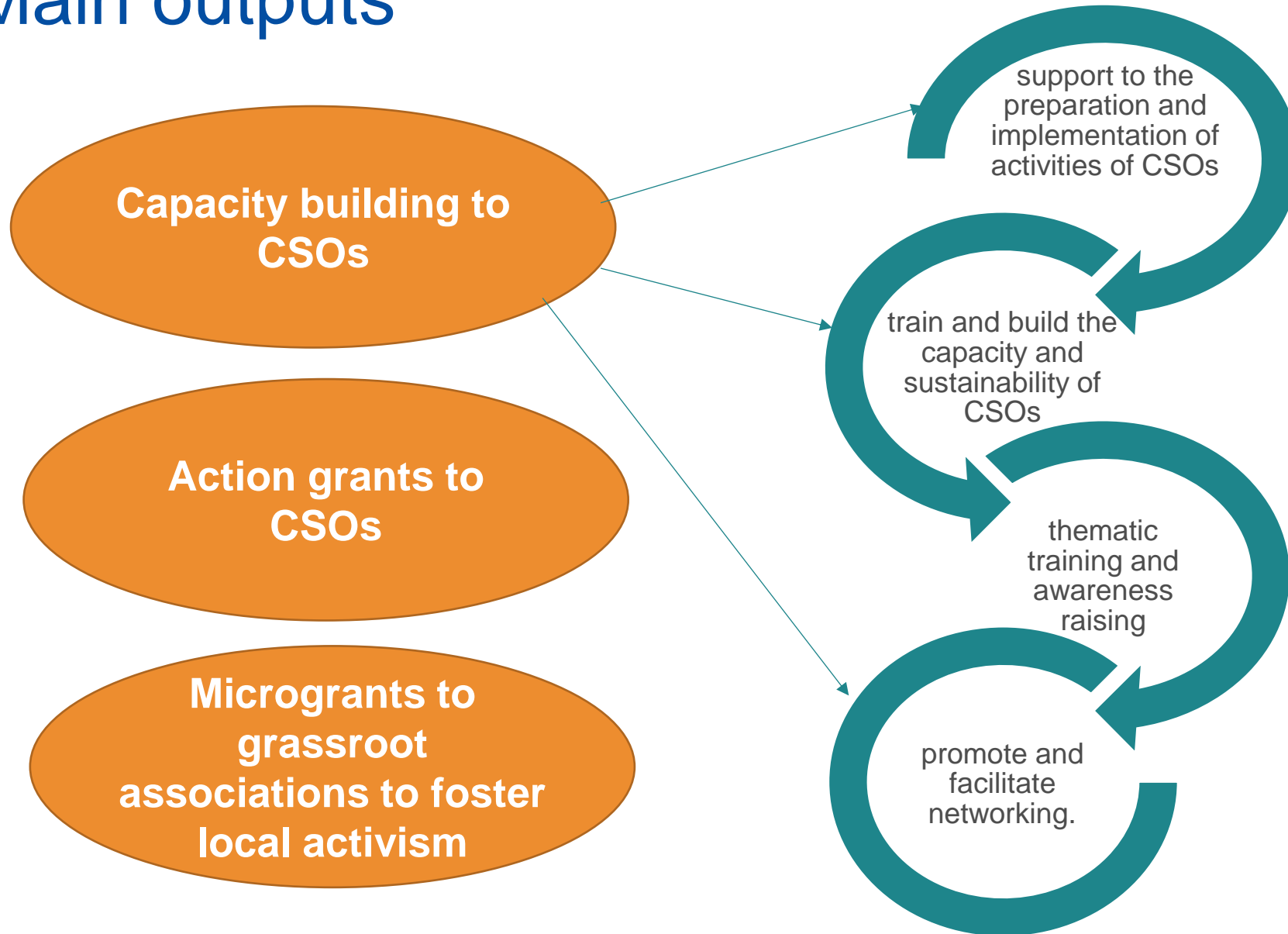


Project budgets

(maximum grant amount) are expected to range between EUR 2 500

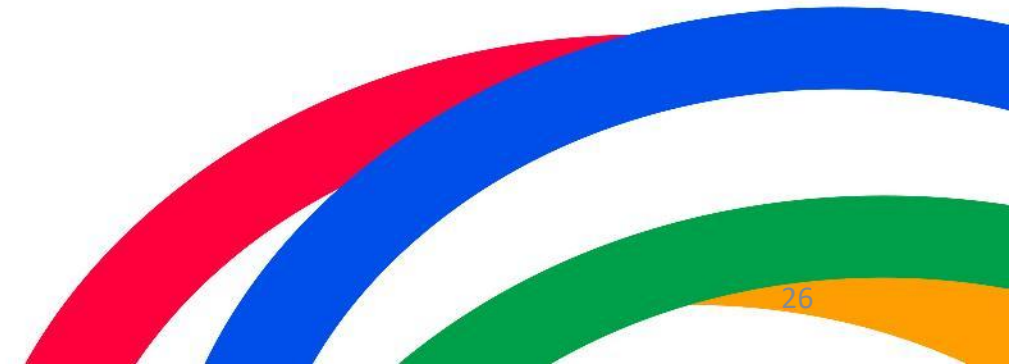
000 and EUR 6 000 000 per project.

Main outputs





National Contact Points (NCPs)





Citizens, Equality, Rights
and Values Programme



National Contact Points
LINK

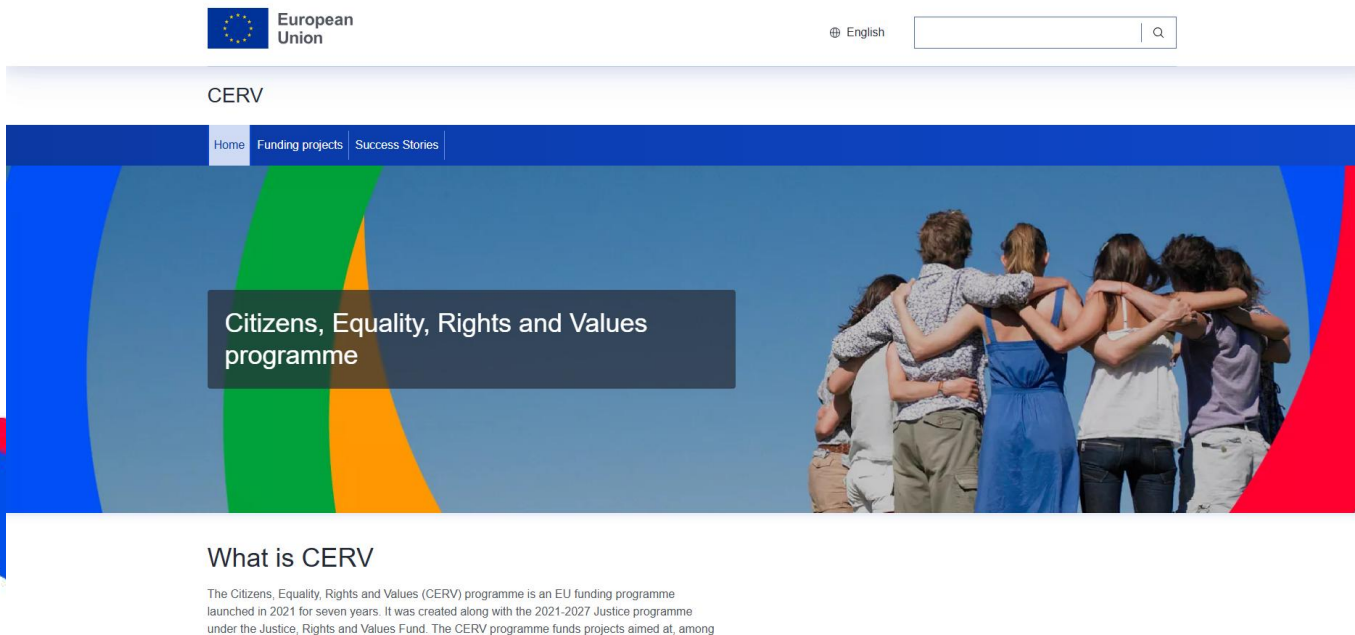
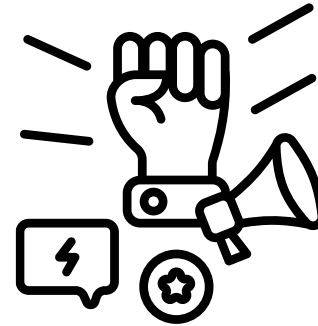
<https://qrco.de/cervNCPs>





Useful links

[EACEA website](#) (info sessions)



To receive our **newsletter** on CERV programme & funding opportunities [sign-up here](#)

[Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme - European Union](#)

europa.eu/cerv-programme

Thank you
For your attention

