

# Trainers' Digest



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## New Programme "Fundamental rights and citizenship" (2007-2013)

A new Programme 'Fundamental Rights and Citizenship' has been launched by the EU (OJ of 27.4.2007, L 110) for the period 1 January 2007 - 31 December 2013, as part of the general Programme 'Fundamental Rights and Justice'.

The overall funding earmarked for this Programme over the 2007-2013 period is: 93.8 M€

### Objectives

The "Fundamental rights and citizenship" programme is seen as contributing to the following general objectives:

- to promote the development of a European society based on respect for fundamental rights ,including rights derived from citizenship of the Union;
- to strengthen civil society and to encourage an open, transparent and regular dialogue with it in respect of fundamental rights;
- to fight against racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism and
- to promote a better interfaith and intercultural understanding and improved tolerance throughout the European Union;
- to improve the contacts, exchange of information and networking between legal; judicial and administrative authorities and the legal professions

In specific terms, the programme is likely to have the following objectives, which are to be implemented on a trans-national basis:

- to promote fundamental rights and to inform all persons of their rights including those derived from citizenship of the Union;
- to examine, where necessary, respect for specific fundamental rights in the

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European Union and its Member States when implementing Community law, and to obtain opinions on specific questions related to fundamental rights within this scope;

- to support non-governmental organisations and other bodies from civil society in order to enhance their capability to participate actively in the promotion of fundamental rights, the rule of law and democracy;
- to create relevant structures in order to foster an interfaith and multicultural dialogue at the level of the European Union.

## Types of actions

- a) studies and research, opinion polls and surveys, formulation of indicators and common methodologies, collection, development and dissemination of data and statistics, seminars, conferences and expert meetings, organisation of public campaigns and events; websites; preparation and dissemination of information material; networks of national experts; analytical, monitoring and evaluation activities;
- b) trans-national projects presented by an authority or any other body of a Member State, an international or non-governmental organisation, involving at least two Member States or at least one Member State and one other acceding country or a candidate country;
- c) support to the activities of non-governmental organisations or other entities pursuing an aim of general European interest;
- d) operating grants to co-finance expenditure associated with the permanent work programme of the Conference of the European Constitutional Courts, the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union.

The Commission will adopt an annual work programme setting out its specific objectives, thematic priorities, a description of accompanying measures, and if necessary a list of other actions.

## Eligible applicants and countries

1. Institutions and public or private organisations, universities, research institutes, non-governmental organisations, national, regional and local authorities, international organisations and other not-for-profit organisations established in the European Union or in one of the countries participating
2. International organisations competent in the field of fundamental rights.

from: the Member States, the Acceding countries, Candidate countries and the Western Balkan countries included in the stabilisation and association process.

The programme is targeted at European Union citizens, citizens of participating countries or third country nationals legally residing within the European Union territory and at civil society associations, active in promoting the objectives of the programme.

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## EU funding

The Community grants will be awarded following the launch of Calls for proposals, and shall be provided through operating grants and grants to actions. The maximum rate of co-financing will be specified in the annual work programmes.

Expenditure is also foreseen for accompanying measures, through public procurement contracts, in which case Community funds will cover the purchase of goods and services. This will cover, inter alia, expenditure on information and communication, preparation, implementation, monitoring, checking and evaluation of projects, policies, programmes and legislation.

## Where to get the information

All relevant information can be obtained from:

[http://ec.europa.eu/justice\\_home/funding/rights/funding\\_rights\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/rights/funding_rights_en.htm)

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