



Erasmus+ Programme (ERASMUS)

Call for proposals

Policy experimentation: Erasmus+ scholarships
ERASMUS-EDU-2026-POL-EXP-SSEF

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EUROPEAN EDUCATION AND CULTURE EXECUTIVE AGENCY (EACEA)

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CALL FOR PROPOSALS

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0. Introduction

This is a call for proposals for EU **action grants** in the field of European policy experimentation, in higher education, under the **Erasmus+ Programme**, Key Action 3 – Support to policy development and cooperation.

The regulatory framework for this EU Funding Programme is set out in:

- Regulation 2024/2509 ([EU Financial Regulation](#))¹
- the basic act (Erasmus+ Regulation [2021/817](#))².

The call is launched in accordance with the 2026 Work Programme³ and will be managed by the **European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)** ('Agency').

The call covers the following **topic**:

- **ERASMUS-EDU-2026-POL-EXP-SSEF — Policy experimentation: Erasmus+ scholarships**

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

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) 2021/817 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 establishing Erasmus+: the Union Programme for education and training, youth and sport (OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 1).

³ Commission Implementing Decision C(2025) 7358 final of 5.11.2025 on the financing of Erasmus+: the Union Programme for Education, Training, Youth and Sport and the adoption of the work programme for 2026.

- 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*).

You are also encouraged to visit the [Erasmus+ Project Results](#) website to consult the list of projects funded previously.

1. Background

The Commission Communication on a Union of Skills⁴ and the STEM Education Strategic Plan of 5 March 2025 set the ambition for the Union of Skills to offer the highest quality education and training, in order to increase the European talent pool by retaining and attracting talent in Europe, and to better enable the EU to achieve its competitiveness and innovation goals, and strengthen its strategic autonomy in key sectors.

Aligned with this vision is the growing urgency to create a new instrument addressed specifically at retaining European talents. Such instrument would seek to provide support to talented European students and guide them towards enrolling in tertiary programmes across Europe, focusing on the key strategic sectors bolstering EU competitiveness and EU socio-economic standing worldwide. The overarching objective of such action is to enable such talented students to stay in Europe to successfully complete their studies, with particular focus on students with fewer opportunities, and equip them with expertise and skills to pursue a professional career in strategic sectors that underpin Europe's competitiveness. Joint study programmes with their unique transnational component are particularly suited to prepare graduates to adapt swiftly to a fast-changing society, and support the objectives of this action with structured, long-term and deep academic cooperation with clear European added value. These programmes act also as trailblazers for the fifth freedom proposed by Enrico Letta⁵. Concentrating on strategic sectors and STEM will further bolsters the attractiveness of EU study programmes in these fields and advancing the Choose Europe⁶ objective.

Considering the pressing need to help talented European students to reach their full potential and harness their innovation capacity for EU competitiveness, dedicated scholarships appear particularly important and a well-targeted measure to address the growing demand for skilled talent. Such scheme would also lay the groundwork to shape the scholarship initiative further, enabling for efficient and targeted implementation in the next MFF, building on the possibilities included in the proposal for a regulation establishing the Erasmus+ programme for 2028-2034 which foresees 'Erasmus+ scholarships in strategic educational fields, particularly in joint study programmes. To ensure rapid support to talented students and the right design approach for the next funding period, a policy experimentation action in the Erasmus+ annual work programme for 2026 is being proposed.

⁴ [COM \(2025\) 90 final](#)

⁵ [Enrico Letta - Much more than a market \(April 2024\)](#).

⁶ [Choose Europe: advance your research career in the EU](#)

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

Objectives

Through the funding of scholarships, this call aims at retaining talented European students to study in Europe by facilitating their access to study programmes of high quality and to joint study programmes with embedded mobility and best prepare graduates to adapt to a fast-evolving society. It will contribute to developing a pool of future highly skilled professionals in strategic educational fields identified in the Union of Skills, competitiveness Compass and the STEM Education Strategic Plan such as clean and circular technologies, bioeconomy, transport, digital technologies—including Artificial Intelligence—energy, water resilience, healthcare, aerospace, and defence. Within these strategic domains, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM⁷) programmes are recognised as essential study fields to increase EU's competitiveness and innovation goals. While scholarships should be awarded to academically excellent students based on merit, inclusion and diversity aspects will be an important asset to ensure the selection of students from disadvantaged backgrounds, and equitable gender representation.

The Erasmus+ scholarship initiative seeks therefore to design, pilot, and evaluate a scholarship scheme that promotes excellence and supports talented students in key strategic fields, helping to meet the growing demand for highly skilled professionals. The scheme will focus on students with fewer opportunities. It will also generate evidence on the most effective approaches for implementing the scheme and assess its potential for broader scale-up.

The general objectives are:

- Retain Europe's top talent to study strategic fields in European higher education and tertiary VET institutions in particular with strong EU dimension such as provided through joint study programmes
- Increase access of talented students from disadvantaged backgrounds to high-quality STEM programmes and pursue meaningful careers in strategic sectors for Europe's competitiveness. Reduce skills-gaps in Europe in priority STEM areas aligned with EU strategic sectors, ensuring that scholarship recipients specialise in identified high-demand fields.
- Strengthen employability outcomes by facilitating traineeships, mentorships, or industry placements for scholarship recipients before graduation.
- Increase EU dimension of study programmes through support for mobility and collaboration by providing study or exchange opportunities abroad for scholarship recipients.

The specific objectives are:

- Evaluate the pilot's outcomes and processes by identifying success factors, barriers, and the added value of the integrated mobility and traineeship components.
- Produce policy-relevant conclusions and actionable recommendations to inform the potential scaling up of a European-level Erasmus+ scholarship scheme in strategic educational areas.

⁷ [ISCED-F 2013 – Fields from 05 to 07](#)

Erasmus+ scholarships awarded under this call will support talented students to complete their studies in programmes accredited according to European Qualifications Framework (EQF) Levels 5 (short cycle), 6 (first cycle), and 7 (second cycle), for a maximum duration of three academic years. Consortia are encouraged to test the scholarship scheme at all three levels.

Activities that can be funded (scope)

Activities that can be funded should cover the full scholarship cycle—from conceptualisation to policy recommendations. For the set-up and implementation of the scholarship scheme, funding should be provided for activities that contribute to its effective delivery, as follows:

Proposals rationale: The proposals should clearly demonstrate the relevance of the proposed scholarship scheme to developing a pool of future highly skilled professionals in strategic educational fields through innovative and compelling educational programmes attractive to talented students and aligned with the competitiveness needs. The proposals should cater for the needs of talented students from disadvantaged backgrounds. The proposals should achieve the general and specific objectives outlined above, using concise evidence (e.g., alignment with strategic sectors, contribution to European competitiveness, labour shortages, skills shortages, student drop-out rates, access barriers, underrepresentation) to justify the rationale and motivation for applying to it. If participating institutions intend to align the Erasmus+ scholarship scheme with existing schemes offered at their institution, they should describe the relevant elements of those schemes and demonstrate the added value provided by the Erasmus+ scholarship.

Study programmes: The scheme should include more than one study programme and offer a geographical balance. The study programmes must be directly related to the strategic educational fields defined in this call. For each programme, the proposals should explain the reason for its selection, demonstrate its high academic quality, describe how it will remain attractive to talented students, and how it addresses the objectives of the call. It should also include a short summary of each programme detailing, for instance, ECTS credits, level of qualification, etc.

The study programme should include substantial learning mobility during the academic semesters and/or a traineeship or internship component abroad with industry, research centres, or innovation hubs. Programmes with strong EU added value such as joint study programmes should be central to the proposals. Mobility and traineeships may take place at an institution or organisation outside the consortium, provided that it holds a bilateral or consortium agreement with at least one consortium member. Learning mobility and traineeship or internship can take place in other EU Member states, EEA countries and countries associated to the Erasmus+ Programme. The study programmes should employ innovative teaching and learning approaches, and encourage multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary, or transdisciplinary approaches building on successful practices such as the STEAM approach, linking for example social sciences and humanities with core STEM fields, with a clear relevance to the strategic sectors. Furthermore, the selection of degree type, study level, and location must be justified, taking into account labour and skills shortages, socio-economic considerations, and institutional or regional needs.

Financial structure: The proposals should design the financial structure and components of the proposed scholarship scheme. The proposals should demonstrate clear methodologies for calculating individual and aggregate funding mechanisms across participating institutions and countries. They should explain the needs and contributions of the involved higher education institutions. They should present the ability to mobilise complementary funding, including from the private sector, when scholarship amounts alone do not cover full learner needs, or to expand the overall number of awarded grants through cofinancing.

In principle, it is expected that 90% of the grant will be directly used for scholarships to cover attendance costs, including but not limited to: travel costs, tuition and administrative fees; study materials and books; accommodation and living allowances, access to university facilities, health and student insurance, etc.

Up to 10% of the grant may be used for administrative costs directly related to the implementation, management, and monitoring of the scholarship scheme, including staff costs, legal advisory, communications, and events, etc.

The co-funding can be at university-level and may include tuition fee waivers or reductions, institutional top-up grants, provision of housing support or subsidised services. National or regional government funding can complement this through alignment with national scholarship or grant schemes and co-financing in accordance with national accounting and budgetary procedures. In addition, student support services provided as in-kind support—such as mentoring, tutoring, psychological support, access to career services or networks, and free or discounted access to learning resources—can further enhance the scholarship scheme, although they are not counted as direct financial support.

Scholarships: each proposal should include a minimum of 25 scholarships covering the entire duration of studies, with a maximum duration of up to 3 years per student. Proposals may include scholarships of different duration (one-year, two-year, three-year programmes) depending on the degree programmes offered. Mixed-duration scholarships within a single proposal are encouraged, provided that the total commitment equals at least 75 yearly scholarship-equivalents per proposal.

Examples:

- 10 scholarships of one-year duration + 10 scholarships of two-year duration + 15 three-year scholarships = 75 one-year equivalents
- 15 scholarships of one-year duration + 30 scholarships of two-year duration = 75 one-year equivalents

Scholarships should be provided only to students starting academic year 2027-2028 (only 1 cohort of scholarship holders). The selection of programmes, study levels, and locations to be funded under the Erasmus+ scholarship must be thoroughly justified, with a clear explanation of the underlying rationale—such as identified skills shortages, socioeconomic considerations, or specific institutional or regional needs. Proposals are encouraged to cover different programmes and levels of study.

Scholarship holders must be resident in EU Member States, EEA countries and countries associated to the Erasmus+ Programme at the time of scholarship application and throughout the scholarship period. The Erasmus+ scholarships may be awarded to students who:

- are either currently enrolled, on a full-time basis, in an accredited higher education, including tertiary vocational education and training; **or** be eligible for, or have secured, admission to such a programme either at the time of application or before the start of the scholarship period.
- satisfy all academic requirements including the relevant threshold of academic excellence allowing to pursue the demanding study programmes as well as the enrolment and documentation requirements outlined in the scholarship scheme designed by the participating institutions for the purposes of awarding this scholarship.
- are demonstrably at the top of the academic excellence criteria defined by the participating institutions.

To ensure effective implementation of the scholarship scheme, each work package should be accompanied by clearly defined key performance indicators (KPIs), milestones, and timelines for the delivery of outputs and deliverables. These metrics will allow the consortium to monitor progress, measure the impact of activities, and ensure timely achievement of objectives across all phases—from project management and outreach to scholarship design, implementation, and evaluation. Establishing these indicators and schedules will also facilitate transparent reporting and provide evidence for future scaling-up of the Erasmus+ scholarship scheme.

Work packages should cover:

- Design, pilot, and implement a scholarship model that attracts talented students in strategic fields while promoting equity, inclusion, and diversity, ensuring effective funding and measurable feasibility and scalability.
- Enhance students' employability through structured mobility, mentoring, traineeships, and industry engagement.

Evaluate the pilot to identify success factors and barriers, producing evidence-based findings and policy recommendations to inform potential scale-up in the 2028–2034 Erasmus+ programme.

Applicants should present their proposals in clearly defined work packages (WPs), which may include:

- Project management and coordination: covers overall project administration, financial management, reporting, quality assurance, and consortium communication.

Example of deliverables: monitoring & evaluation plan; mid-term progress report.

- Communication and outreach: ensures promotion of the scholarships, targeted outreach to talented students in underrepresented groups, and dissemination of scholarship-holders' success stories.

Example of deliverable: dissemination and outreach plan.

- Scholarship design: develops the scholarship scheme, including: defining common selection criteria (e.g., academic merit, motivation, creativity/problem-solving, language, communication skills) and a fair and transparent evaluation process; setting application and selection logistics, award conditions; and compliance with national regulations and institutional policies; designing student support mechanisms to enhance success and retention; developing measures to promote inclusion, equity, and diversity within the scholarship scheme; specifying scholarship coverage (mobility, internships, traineeships, or other forms of industry engagement)

Mandatory deliverables: list of selected students. Example of other deliverables: scholarship scheme design report including financial information; programme attractiveness report; student selection framework and evaluation rubrics; operational handbook.

- Scholarship implementation: manages operational execution, including financial support, skills enhancement, mentorship, academic guidance, and career development activities.

Example of deliverable: report on activities for ensuring student success.

- Evaluation and policy recommendations: assesses the pilot's outcomes,

effectiveness, and impact, identifies success factors and challenges, and generates evidence-based recommendations for potential scale-up.

Example of deliverables: comprehensive evaluation report assessing the pilot's outcomes, effectiveness, and impact; a policy recommendations report providing evidence-based guidance for potential scale-up of the scholarship scheme; and a lessons learned and best practices summary highlighting transferable approaches and success factors for broader adoption.

Beyond the activities to be funded, proposals are also expected to demonstrate that participating institutions and partners possess the appropriate profile and capacity to ensure effective implementation of the scholarship scheme. Participating institutions should demonstrate a strong track record and expertise in programmes related to strategic educational fields, and, notably, in STEM fields, reflecting high-quality education capacity. They are expected to have experience in managing student mobility programmes, such as Erasmus+ exchanges, and to actively collaborate with industry partners and stakeholders in relevant strategic sectors. Institutions must demonstrate that the scholarships will target talented students meeting a threshold of academic excellence, while showing a clear commitment to promoting diversity, inclusion, and outreach, ensuring that students from different backgrounds, including women, have equitable access to learning opportunities. Additionally, they should employ innovative teaching and learning approaches—such as project-based learning, problem-solving methods, inquiry-based approaches, and digital learning tools—to enhance the overall quality of education and improve students' practical skills and employability outcomes.

Industry partners and other stakeholders operating in strategic sectors are encouraged to join the project as associated partners. Their contribution may include offering traineeship or training opportunities, providing input on workforce needs, facilitating applied coursework or industry-aligned projects, as well as complementary funding. The aim of their involvement is to enhance student's employability, address workforce and skills gap, and strengthen the overall impact of the scholarship scheme.

Expected impact

- Promote European top talents, with focus on those from a disadvantaged socio-economic background, by facilitating access to innovative, multidisciplinary and compelling European higher education or tertiary VET study programmes equipping them for successful careers and tapping into their innovative potential for bolstering strategic sectors crucial for Europe's competitiveness;
- Support the development of compelling and innovative study programmes targeting the needs of the strategic sectors and advancing the Choose Europe objectives.
- Foster synergies with other higher education initiatives, such as the European Universities Initiative, the joint European degree label and the European degree in engineering.
- Reduce labour and skills gaps in strategic sectors, thereby increasing Europe's competitiveness in alignment with the Union of Skills strategy.
- Contribute to the higher education targets of the STEM Education Strategic Plan.
- Contribute to the learning mobility targets defined in the 'Europe on the move' Council Recommendation.
- Increase cooperation with industry and key stakeholders operating in strategic sectors

This impact is expected to be achieved through the following results:

- Enhance the visibility and attractiveness of high-quality higher education programmes in strategic educational fields for talented students.
- Improve inclusion and diversity in strategic educational fields where certain groups remain underrepresented.
- Generate evidence to inform the design of a future Erasmus+ scholarship scheme in strategic educational fields under the Erasmus+ programme 2028–2034.

3. Available budget

The estimated available call budget is **EUR 5 000 000**.

Specific budget information per topic can be found in the table below:

Topic	Topic budget
<u>ERASMUS-EDU-2026-POL-EXP-SSEF - Policy experimentation: Erasmus+ scholarships</u>	5 000 000

We expect to fund 4 projects with an indicative requested EU contribution of EUR 1 250 000 per project.

We reserve the right not to award all available funds, depending on the proposals received and the results of the evaluation.

4. Timetable and deadlines

Timetable and deadlines (indicative)	
Call opening:	3 rd March 2026
<u>Deadline for submission:</u>	<u>28th May 2026– 17:00:00 CET (Brussels)</u>
Evaluation:	end of May – end of July 2026
Information on evaluation results:	November 2026
GA signature:	February 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 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*)
- Part C — contains additional project data and the project's contribution to EU programme key performance indicators (*to be filled in directly online*)
- **mandatory annexes and supporting documents** (*templates to be downloaded from the Portal Submission System, completed, assembled and re-uploaded*):
 - Detailed budget table
 - CVs (standard) of core project team
 - list of previous projects (key projects for the last 4 years) (*template available in Part B*)
 - a document presenting the funding structure of the scholarship, including what the scholarship covers, the number of scholarships per institution/programme, and any co-funding arrangements.

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 project), 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 **120 pages** (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*).

- i** 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:

- be legal entities (public or private bodies) active in the field of education and training, research and innovation or in the world of work;
- be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:
 - Erasmus+ Programme Countries:
 - EU Member States (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs))
 - non-EU countries:
 - listed EEA countries and countries associated to the Erasmus+ Programme ([list of participating countries](#))
- for higher education institutions (HEIs), including institutions providing tertiary vocational education and training, established in Erasmus+ Programme Countries (*see above*): be holders of the ECHE certificate (Erasmus Charter for Higher Education)

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*). The associated partners may be established in EU Member states, EEA countries and countries associated to the Erasmus+ Programme. Associated partners may be any public or private organisation active in the fields of education, research and innovation, training or employment.

Other conditions:

- The lead applicant (i.e. “Coordinator”) cannot submit more than one application under this call for proposals. In case of multiple proposals submitted by the same lead applicant, all the proposals will be rejected and will not be evaluated further.

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 NOT 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 persons⁸.

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

Associations and interest groupings — Entities composed of members may participate as 'sole beneficiaries' or 'beneficiaries without legal personality'⁹.

 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 for participation in the programme (*see list of participating countries above*) may participate in the call and can sign grants if the negotiations are concluded before grant signature and if the association covers the call (i.e. is retroactive and covers both the part of the programme and the year when the call was launched).

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)¹⁰. 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).

EU conditionality measures — Special rules apply for entities subject to measures adopted on the basis of EU Regulation 2020/2092¹¹. Such entities are not eligible to participate in any funded role (beneficiaries, affiliated entities, subcontractors, recipients of financial support to third parties, etc). Currently such measures are in place for Hungarian public interest trusts established under the Hungarian Act IX of 2021 or any entity they maintain (see [Council Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2022/2506](#), as of 16 December 2022).

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

Consortium composition

Proposals must be submitted by a consortium of at least 4 applicants (beneficiaries; not affiliated entities), which comply with the following conditions:

- minimum 4 Higher Education Institutions and/or institutions providing tertiary vocational education and training, from 4 different eligible countries (EU Members States and third countries associated to the Programme – see above *Eligible participants (eligible countries)*).

Eligible activities

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.

⁸ See Article 200(2)(c) EU Financial Regulation [2024/2509](#).

⁹ For the definitions, see Articles 190(2) and 200(2)(c) EU Financial Regulation [2024/2509](#).

¹⁰ 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](#).

¹¹ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2092 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2020 on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget (OJ L 325, 20.12.2022, p. 94).

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

Projects should take into account 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).

Applicants must ensure that the activities directly funded under this call are not already financed by other EU grants (e.g. Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters). Students who are already receiving full EU scholarships (e.g., Erasmus Mundus scholarships) for the same programme during the same period cannot receive additional financial support under this call.

Projects must comply with EU policy interests and priorities (*such as environment, social, security, industrial and trade policy, etc*). 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*).¹²

Financial support to third parties is allowed for grants in the form of student scholarships under the following condition:

- the calls must be open, published widely and conform to EU standards concerning transparency, equal treatment, conflict of interest and confidentiality.

Geographic location (target countries)

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

Duration

Projects should normally last 48 months.

Extensions are possible, if duly justified and through an amendment.

Ethics

Projects must comply with:

- highest ethical standards and
- applicable EU, international and national law.

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

¹² See, for instance, [Guidance on funding for activities related to the development, implementation, monitoring and enforcement of Union legislation and policy](#).

account other aspects, such as dependency on EU funding and deficit and revenue in previous years.

The check will normally be done for coordinators, except:

- public bodies (entities established as public body under national law, including local, regional or national authorities) or international organisations
- public legal entities, and institutions and organisations in the fields of education and training, youth and sport that have received over 50% of their annual revenue from public sources over the last two years
- if the project requested grant amount is not more than EUR 60 000.

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 responsibility 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 operational capacity via the following information:

- profiles (qualifications and experience) of the staff responsible for implementing the project
- description of the consortium participants
- 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 participate¹³:

- 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)
- guilty of grave professional misconduct¹⁴ (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 EU Regulation [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 resisted¹⁵ 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.

¹³ See Articles 138 and 143 of EU Financial Regulation [2024/2509](#).

¹⁴ '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.

¹⁵ '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

Applicants will also be rejected if it turns out that¹⁶:

- 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

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 evaluated 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:

- 1) 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'.
- 2) If this does not allow to determine the priority, a further prioritisation can be done by considering the overall project portfolio and the creation of positive synergies between projects, or other factors related to the objectives of the call. These factors will be documented in the panel report.
- 3) After that, the remainder of the available call budget will be used to fund projects across the different topics in order to ensure a balanced spread of the geographical and thematic coverage and while respecting to the maximum possible extent the order of merit based on the evaluation of the award criteria.

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

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.

¹⁶ See Article 143 EU Financial Regulation [2024/2509](#).

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 will be 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:

1. Relevance (30 points):

Extent to which the proposal:

- contributes to the call's general and specific objectives.
- includes a concise, evidence-based needs analysis showing how the scholarship addresses gaps in existing financial aid or student support.
- defines the intended scholarship holders and the academic excellence threshold to be met, while ensuring a balance of excellence, inclusion, and equity during selection.
- identifies and justifies included study programmes highlighting their European added value with embedded mobility, relevance to strategic sectors and their high level of academic excellence.
- demonstrates how joint study programmes are relevant to strategic sectors.
- shows how mobility and traineeships, (including the possibility of more than one international mobility experience) are integrated, emphasizing their role in the targeted strategic fields and in enhancing student employability.
- explains how the scheme achieves results beyond national or institutional capacity, supports EU priorities, fosters transnational cooperation, and offers replicable models.
- demonstrates complementarity with existing initiatives and highlights innovation in methodology, approach, or outcomes.
- demonstrates motivation to engage with partners across Europe, ensuring broad geographical coverage.
- is relevant for the respect and promotion of shared EU values such as respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, as well as fighting any sort of discrimination.

2. Quality:

2.1 Project design and implementation (20 points):

Extent to which the proposal:

- is technically sound, ensuring coherence between objectives, activities, timeline and expected results.

- demonstrates the quality and feasibility of the methodology proposed and its appropriateness for producing the expected results.
- the work programme is clear, complete, and feasible (including work packages, task/resource allocation, deliverables, milestones).
- demonstrates solid management arrangements. Timelines, organisation, coordination, supervision and other responsibilities are well defined and realistic.
- allocates appropriate resources to each activity and demonstrates the adequacy and effectiveness of the budget and financial planning to ensure best value for money.
- ensures appropriate financial management arrangements, aligning tasks, roles and resources among partners.
- sets up appropriate and clear mechanisms for allocating scholarship funds.
- sets out specific monitoring and quality assurance measures, including KPIs with a relevant timeline.
- identifies potential risks across the project life cycle and proposes mitigation strategies.

2.2 Partnership and cooperation arrangements (20 points):

Extent to which the proposal:

- reflects the consortium’s strengths, with complementary skills, expertise and experience aligned to the project’s objectives.
- clearly describes the role, commitment and responsibilities of each organisation/team, in line with their capacity and expertise.
- establishes effective procedures for communication, decision-making and problem-solving within the consortium.
- represents a good geographical balance.

3. Impact (30 points):

Extent to which the proposal:

- o Includes a clear communication strategy to raise awareness of the project and encourage applications to Erasmus+ scholarships in strategic educational fields.
- o Describes the benefits for target groups and outlines how these will be tracked and evaluated, including contributions to the ‘Union of Skills’ strategy and the STEM Education Strategic Plan.
- o Demonstrates transferability and scalability across the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), highlighting models, practices, and evidence that can inform policy recommendations and be adopted more widely.

Award criteria (both topics)	Minimum pass score	Maximum score
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Relevance	16	30
Quality — Project design and implementation	11	20
Quality — Partnership and cooperation arrangements	11	20
Impact	16	30
Overall (pass) scores	60	100

Maximum points: 100 points.

Individual thresholds per criterion: 16/30, 11/20 11/20 and 16/30 points.

Overall threshold: 60 points.

Proposals that pass the individual thresholds AND the overall threshold will be considered for funding — within the limits of the available budget (i.e. up to the budget ceiling). Other proposals will be rejected.

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*). Normally the starting date will be after grant signature. 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

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): up to EUR 1 250 000 per project. The grant awarded may be lower than the amount requested.

The grant will be a lump sum grant. This means that it will reimburse a fixed amount, based on a lump sum or financing not linked to costs. The amount will be fixed by the granting authority on the basis of the estimated project budget and a funding rate of 80%.

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 contributions ¹⁷

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 and in line with the budget items set out in the financial scheme under section 2 “Activities that can be funded”
- 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 can be included in the detailed budget table; maximum amount per third party EUR 60 000 (see above eligible activities); each student is considered a third party, and the amount of each individual scholarship must not exceed EUR 60 000.

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 **70%** of the maximum grant amount; exceptionally less or no prefinancing). The prefinancing will be paid 30 days from entry into force/financial guarantee (if required) — whichever is the latest.

There will be one **additional prefinancing payment of 20%** linked to a prefinancing report, at the mid-term of the project duration.

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.

¹⁷ [Decision](#) of 24 March 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions and unit contributions under the Erasmus+ Programme 2021-2027.

- ⚠ 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

- access to results for policy purposes: Yes
- access rights to ensure continuity and interoperability obligations: Yes

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

- additional communication and dissemination activities: Yes

Specific rules for carrying out the action: *see Model Grant Agreement (art 18 and Annex 5):*

- EU restrictive measures: Yes

Other specificities

Consortium agreement: Yes

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 EU Login 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 a proposal, through the link provided in the invitation letter).

Submit your proposal in 4 parts, as follows:

- Part A includes administrative information about the applicant organisations (future coordinator, beneficiaries, affiliated entities and associated partners) and the summarised budget for the proposal. Fill it in directly online
- 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
- Part C containing additional project data. To be filled in directly online.

- Annexes (*see section 5*). Upload them as PDF file (single or multiple depending on the slots). Excel upload is sometimes possible, depending on the file type.

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.

Guidance on the use of generative AI tools for the preparation of the proposal

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 and 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 and check the original sources to be sure you are not plagiarising someone else's work;
- 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 [Portal FAQ](#) (for general questions).

Please also consult the Topic page regularly, since we will use it to publish call updates. (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: FACEA-ERASMUS-SCHOLARSHIP@ec.europa.eu.

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

13. Important



IMPORTANT

- **Don't 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 Topic page regularly. We will use it 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 Grant Agreement, art 6.2.E](#)*).
- **Multiple proposals** — Applicants may submit more than one proposal for *different* projects under the same call (and be awarded funding for them).

Organisations may participate in several proposals.

BUT: if there are several proposals for *very similar* projects, only one application will be accepted and evaluated; the applicants will be asked to withdraw the others (or they will be rejected).

- **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 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](#).