



Justice Programme (JUST)

Call for proposals

Call for proposals for action grants to support
transnational projects in the fields of e-Justice, victims'
rights and procedural rights
(JUST-2027-JACC-EJUSTICE)

Version 1.0
25 June 2026



HISTORY OF CHANGES			
Version	Publication Date	Change	Page
1.0	25.06.2026	▪ Initial version.	
		▪	
		▪	
		▪	



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers

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

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

0. Introduction	4
1. Background.....	5
2. Objectives — Themes and priorities — Activities that can be funded — Expected impact	7
Objectives (expected outcome)	7
Themes and priorities (scope)	7
Activities that can be funded (scope).....	10
Expected impact.....	13
3. Available budget.....	14
4. Timetable and deadlines	14
5. Admissibility and documents	15
6. Eligibility.....	16
Eligible participants (eligible countries).....	16
Consortium composition	17
Eligible activities.....	18
Geographic location (target countries).....	18
Duration	18
Project budget.....	18
Ethics and EU values	18
7. Financial and operational capacity and exclusion.....	19
Financial capacity	19
Operational capacity	20
Exclusion	20
8. Evaluation and award procedure	21
9. Award criteria	22
10. Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements.....	23
Starting date and project duration	23
Milestones and deliverables.....	23
Form of grant, funding rate and maximum grant amount.....	24
Budget categories and cost eligibility rules.....	24
Reporting and payment arrangements.....	25

Prefinancing guarantees25

Certificates26

Liability regime for recoveries26

Provisions concerning the project implementation.....26

Other specificities26

Non-compliance and breach of contract26

11. How to submit an application.....26

12. Help28

13. Important29

0. Introduction

This is a call for proposals for EU **action grants** in the field of e-Justice, victims’ rights and procedural rights under the **Justice Programme (JUST)**.

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

- Regulation 2024/2509 ([EU Financial Regulation](#))¹, and
- the basic act (Justice Programme Regulation [2021/693](#))².

The call is launched in accordance with the 2026-2027 [Work Programme](#)³ and will be managed by **the European Commission, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST)**.

The call covers the following **topics**:

Priority Number	Topic	Priority
1	JUST-2027-JACC-EJUSTICE-DIGITAL	e-Justice
2	JUST-2027-JACC-EJUSTICE-RIGHTS	Victims’ rights and procedural rights

Each project application under the call must address only one of these topics. Furthermore, the same application can only be submitted to one topic.

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](#).

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) 2021/693 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing the Justice Programme (OJ L 156, 5.5.2021, p. 21).

³ Commission Implementing Decision C(2025) 8078 final of 01.12.2025 on the financing of the Justice Programme and the adoption of the work programme for 2026-2027.

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.*).

You are also encouraged to visit the [Justice and Consumers](#) page on Europa, the [Justice Programme 2014-2020 Project Results](#) and the [Justice Programme 2021-2027 Project Results](#) website to consult the list of projects funded previously.

1. Background

- eJustice

Digitalisation has the potential to improve the efficiency of justice, for example by replacing paper-based with digital communication and by allowing scarce human resources to focus on the essential functions of justice. Digitalisation can also tangibly contribute to increasing the resilience of justice systems in time of crisis. Similarly, progress on digitalisation of justice can support an effective European area of justice with regard to strengthening and accelerating judicial cooperation and facilitating access to justice for individuals, legal practitioners and businesses.

Policy documents such as the [Commission's Digital Decade](#)⁴ or the [Council e-Justice Strategy 2024-2028](#)⁵ provide a general framework for the digitalisation of justice over the next years. In particular, the Commission's [DigitalJustice@2030 Strategy](#)⁶ outlines

⁴ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/europe-fit-digital-age/europes-digital-decade-digital-targets-2030_en

⁵ <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-15509-2023-INIT/en/pdf>

⁶ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/digitalisation-justice/communication-digitaljustice2030_en

seven work strands (1) Mapping progress of national digitalisation of justice and exchange of best practices, (2) IT toolbox for justice, (3) AI in justice systems, (4) European Legal Data Space, (5) Videoconferencing, (6) Funding and (7) Further digitalisation of cross-border proceedings in civil and commercial matters. The aim of these work strands is to increase the efficiency of justice services by making them digital by default, stimulating productivity and supporting competitiveness and growth. The efficient delivery of justice means that litigation costs are less for individuals and businesses. The timely and uninterrupted delivery of justice means increased trust in justice and increases investments in countries where the justice systems are effective, where access to justice is guaranteed, the quality of justice is high, and transparency is ensured.

A major step in the area of digitalisation of justice is [Regulation 2023/2844](#)⁷, which stipulates the digitalisation of cross-border judicial cooperation in civil, commercial and criminal matters. The Regulation lays down rules on digital communication, through a decentralised IT system, between competent judicial authorities, and between natural and legal persons (as parties to the proceedings) and the competent judicial authorities in cross-border judicial cooperation procedures regulated at EU level.

The use of the decentralised IT system is mandatory for the exchanges between competent judicial authorities and between these authorities and Union agencies and bodies. The use of the digital communication channel by natural and legal persons is optional and applies only in civil and commercial matters. The Regulation establishes a European electronic access point (EEAP), which will allow natural and legal persons to submit cases or otherwise communicate with the competent authorities. Additionally, the Regulation provides an EU legal framework for the use of videoconferencing to conduct remote hearings from one Member State to another in civil and certain criminal law matters and requires a possibility for electronic payment of court fees. The Regulation sets out an ambitious planning for the adoption of 24 implementing acts on the decentralised IT system for cross-border judicial communication and the EEAP on the e-Justice Portal. The Regulation is a transformative step towards a fully digital, efficient, and accessible cross-border justice system in the EU. By eliminating paper-based inefficiencies, enhancing cooperation between judicial authorities, and empowering citizens and businesses, it addresses long-standing barriers in cross-border judicial cooperation. The Regulation strengthens the EU's legal framework, boosts trust in cross-border justice and sets an EU standard for digital judicial cooperation. Digital communication also brings justice closer to companies and citizens and accelerates the judicial adjudication time while reducing costs.

– Victims' rights

In the field of victims' rights, persistent challenges remain regarding the effective implementation of existing EU legislation and policies, as well as public awareness, knowledge and information on victims' rights. Gaps remain also in ensuring comprehensive, multi-agency, trauma-informed and victim sensitive approaches targeting all victims of all crimes. Emerging challenges are observed in addressing effectively the needs of victims of digital crimes and fraud, which are increasingly prevalent, often with a cross-border dimension. To address such challenges, targeted capacity building, awareness raising, training and guidance is needed, as well as knowledge and information sharing and renewed policy frameworks, ensuring consistent implementation of EU wide rules across national systems.

– Procedural rights

In the area of procedural safeguards for suspects and accused persons, there is a need to continue improving the implementation and application in practice of the six EU

⁷ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/2844/oj/eng>

procedural rights Directives⁸, and to raise awareness about the legislation adopted in this area both for criminal proceedings conducted in person as well as for proceedings that are (partially) digitalised. Persistent challenges remain in the correct implementation and application of these Directives, and in particular in the implementation and effectiveness of those rights in the context of the digitalisation of justice.

Gaps also remain in the *acquis* itself that affect effective access to justice. This concerns, in particular effective judicial remedies in cases of violations of procedural rights, the protection of legal professional privilege, the collection and admissibility of evidence, the ability of suspects and accused persons to effectively exercise their defence rights in cross-border criminal proceedings, equality of arms as regards the use of AI tools in criminal proceedings, as well as procedural safeguards for vulnerable adults who are suspects or accused persons (as also addressed in the respective [2013 Commission Recommendation](#)⁹). It is therefore necessary to also explore possible future developments of the EU *acquis* in these areas.

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

JUST-2027- JACC-EJUSTICE — Call for proposals for action grants to support transnational projects in the fields of e-Justice, victims' rights and procedural rights

Objectives (expected outcome)

Facilitate effective and non-discriminatory access to justice for all, and effective redress, including by electronic means (e-Justice), by promoting efficient civil, and criminal procedures, and by promoting and supporting the rights of all victims of crime as well as the procedural rights of suspects and accused persons in criminal proceedings.

Themes and priorities (scope)

This call for proposals, under the Access to justice specific objective, covers two priorities:

Priority 1 - e-Justice

The key objective under the e-Justice priority is to support the implementation of [Regulation 2023/2844](#).

Primary priority will be given to projects facilitating electronic cross-border interaction and communication between judicial authorities, as well as with citizens, businesses and practitioners in judicial proceedings:

- Preparatory and implementation activities with regard to the application of Regulation 2023/2844 on the digitalisation of cross border judicial cooperation. Activities should aim among others at facilitating the development and installation of national access points to the decentralised IT system to be set up

⁸ [Directive 2010/64/EU](#) on the right to interpretation and translation, [Directive 2012/13/EU](#) on the right to information, [Directive 2013/48/EU](#) on the right of access to a lawyer, [Directive \(EU\) 2016/343](#) on strengthening certain aspects of the principle on presumption of innocence as well as the right to be present at the trial, [Directive \(EU\) 2016/800](#) on procedural safeguards for children, [Directive \(EU\) 2016/1919](#) on legal aid,

⁹ Available at <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32013H1224%2802%29>

under the Regulation and the implementation of provisions of the Regulation on videoconferencing and electronic payment of fees.

- Further actions on the use of videoconferencing in cross-border settings, not falling under the scope of regulation 2023/2844, such as:
 - o providing a concrete IT solution for the digital identification of the parties of the trial in accordance with the European Digital Identity Framework ([Regulation \(EU\) 2024/1183](#));
 - o providing solutions that would help courts to ensure equal access to videoconferencing in case of vulnerable persons, people with lack of digital knowledge or people with disabilities.

Proposals should demonstrate a direct and concrete connection to the specific provisions of the legislation concerned. Proposals relying only on broad policy links or general thematic connections may not adequately meet the scope of the call.

Secondary priority will be given to projects aiming at: :

- Joining or enhancing existing or ongoing e-Justice projects.
- Implementing the European Case Law Identifier (ECLI¹⁰) in case law repositories (including the digitalisation of case law in machine readable format, development of anonymisation tools, etranslation) and interconnecting national solutions with the ECLI search engine on the e-Justice Portal;
- Participating in the European Court Database (in both civil and criminal matters) hosted on the e-Justice Portal;
- Developing cross-border functionalities of national portals of the judiciary, including the AI solutions;
- Creating a repository for storing open source software that supports judicial tasks;
- Participating in the Find a Lawyer (FAL) search tool hosted on the e-Justice Portal;
- Participating in the Find a Notary (FAN) search tool hosted on the e-Justice Portal.

National projects will be funded insofar as they offer a clearly demonstrated EU added value, for instance allowing to participate in EU projects, providing best practices for other EU Member States or promoting interoperability. Notwithstanding, transnational (multi-country) projects will have priority over national ones.

Indicative budget: EUR 3 400 000

Priority 2 - Victims' rights and procedural rights

Projects to be funded under this priority should:

- contribute to the effective and coherent application of EU law in the area of the rights of victims of crime, notably in line with the priorities identified by the [revised Directive 2012/29/EU establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime](#) (the "Victims' Rights Directive") and policy actions at EU level following from the implementation of the EU Strategy on victims' rights .

¹⁰ Relevant activities could also relate to the adoption of / migration to the new ECLI Extension Language ("ECLI-XL") standard: <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-9280-2019-REV-2/en/pdf>.

- contribute to the effective and coherent application of EU criminal law in the area of the rights of persons suspected or accused of crime;

In both areas (victims' rights and procedural rights), the Commission will give priority to proposals that contribute to effectively implementing the EU acquis and policies on the ground, where shortcomings exist. In the area of procedural rights it also aims to fund projects that address gaps in EU legislation and policy where a further need for EU action is identified that would tie in with the existing EU acquis/policy and its effective implementation. Concrete projects, including when focused on specific national contexts and/or target groups, ensuring maximum practical benefits and impact for the target groups will be assessed more favorably than theoretical projects consisting mainly of research and other analytical activities. Projects must clearly demonstrate the added value they will bring. As concerns victims' rights, projects envisaging a comprehensive approach to all victims of all crimes will be prioritised, including when proposing strategies or frameworks for implementing victims' rights at local, regional or national level. Successful projects shall ensure easy access to and wide dissemination of their results.

In the area of **victims' rights**, the main legislative measures concerned include in particular:

- [Directive 2012/29/EU](#) establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, as [revised in June 2026](#);
- [Council Directive 2004/80/EC](#) relating to compensation to crime victims;
- [Directive 2011/99/EU](#) on the European protection order;
- [Regulation \(EU\) No 606/2013](#) on mutual recognition of protection measures in civil matters;

In the area of **procedural rights**, the main legislative measures concerned include in particular:

- [Directive \(EU\) 2016/800](#) on procedural safeguards for children who are suspects or accused persons in criminal proceedings;
- [Directive \(EU\) 2016/1919](#) on legal aid for suspects and accused persons in criminal proceedings and for requested persons in European arrest warrant proceedings;
- [Directive 2010/64/EU](#) on the right to interpretation and translation in criminal proceedings;
- [Directive 2012/13/EU](#) on the right to information in criminal proceedings;
- [Directive 2013/48/EU](#) on the right of access to a lawyer in criminal proceedings and in European arrest warrant proceedings, and on the right to have a third party informed upon deprivation of liberty and to communicate with third persons and with consular authorities while deprived of liberty;
- [Directive \(EU\) 2016/343](#) on the strengthening of certain aspects of the presumption of innocence and of the right to be present at the trial in criminal proceedings.

Additional key soft law measures are

- [Commission Recommendation of 27 November 2013 on procedural safeguards for vulnerable persons suspected or accused in criminal proceedings and](#)

- [Commission Recommendation \(EU\) 2023/681](#) of 8 December 2022 on procedural rights of suspects and accused persons subject to pre-trial detention and on material detention conditions.

Indicative budget: EUR 6 000 000

Activities that can be funded (scope)

For priority 1 - e-Justice

Project activities under this call may include analytical, conceptual, design and elaboration work, as well as IT software development, quality assurance and related auxiliary measures required to

- establish new IT systems aligned with the priority's objectives;
- expand or adapt existing national and transnational solutions to meet the e-Justice priority's objectives.

Where relevant, projects must comply with:

- The requirements of the [eIDAS Regulation](#)¹¹,
- the use of the Digital Building Blocks developed under the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) programme¹²,
- the results from the e-CODEX project and ISA Core vocabularies.

Supporting activities relating to project management, content preparation, editorial work, communication, promotion and dissemination are also eligible for funding.

For priority 2 - Victims' rights and procedural rights

As concerns the priority on victims' rights, the following activities can be covered:

- mutual learning, capacity building, exchange of good practices, development of working and learning methods to promote safe environments for victims to report a crime, individual needs assessment and support, protection measures, victims' participation in criminal proceedings, restorative justice, and victims' claim for compensation;
- Design and elaboration of strategies or frameworks on implementing victims rights, to be applied at local, regional or national level
- Development of standards, information or educational tools in particular to enhance awareness and information about helplines (including the victims' hotline 116 006 set out by the revised Victims' Rights Directive) and victims support services;
- capacity building specifically targeting practitioners, public servants and professionals, including justice professionals, on matters related to victims rights, including victim-sensitive communication and restorative justice;
- mechanisms of cooperation between competent authorities in multi-agency and integrated settings involving i.a. judicial authorities, victims support services, law enforcement, healthcare professionals, social services, civil society organisations) and/or legal practitioners and/or service providers ;

¹¹ Regulation (EU) 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

¹² <https://ec.europa.eu/cefdigital/wiki/display/CEFDIGITAL/CEF+Digital+Home>.

- Actions focusing on the specific situation of victims of core international crimes, and more generally crimes involving large numbers of victims in cross-border contexts, including when committed by means of information and communication technologies (ICT)
- communication activities including dissemination of information about rights and activities raising awareness of the existing rules on rights at EU and national levels, relevant to the priorities of the call;
- training activities, as long as they are of ancillary nature and not the main purpose of the project;
- analytical activities, such as data collection and creation of data bases, surveys, research etc.

The activities shall be transferable to other countries, be victim-sensitive and address the complexity of the victims' situation by applying an intersectional perspective on the victims' characteristics such as gender, sexual orientation, age, ethnic origin, religious belief or disability status. A comprehensive approach to all victims of all crimes has to be ensured.

As concerns the priority on **procedural rights**, the following activities can be covered:

- mutual learning, exchange of good practices, development of working and learning methods which may be transferable to other participating countries;
- exchange and provision of information and development of information and educational tools;
- capacity building for practitioners, including, where relevant staff of public authorities, on matters related to procedural rights and safeguards;
- facilitating cooperation between competent authorities (including where relevant national experts or agencies dealing with the aspects covered by this call) and/or legal practitioners and/or service providers (including multi-disciplinary networks at EU or international, national, regional or local levels) and/or civil society organisations / National Human Rights Institutions / Equality bodies, Ombuds Institutions and national authorities (at national and local level, where relevant, including experts with gender expertise);
- communication activities including dissemination of information about rights and activities raising awareness of the existing rules on rights at EU and national levels, relevant to the priorities of the call;
- training activities, as long as they are of ancillary nature and not the main purpose of the project;
- analytical activities, such as data collection and creation of data bases, surveys, research etc.

For all call priorities:

Proposals must **explain** how the planned activities build on previous work in the respective subject area, particularly in comparison with activities conducted under [previous EU-funded projects](#). Simply mentioning past projects without describing how the activities under the new proposal add value will not meet the criteria.

Gender mainstreaming:

All activities should, both at design and implementation stage, incorporate a gender equality perspective.

Thus, applicants are expected to conduct and include in their proposal a [gender analysis](#), which maps the potential different impact of the project and its activities on people in all their diversity. Applicants should demonstrate that they reflected on the equality dimension of their proposal and address it in a way that is proportionate to their project. Thereby, unintended negative effects of the intervention on any gender should be avoided (do-no-harm approach). Under this call particular attention should be paid to victim-sensitive and trauma-informed approaches that prevent harm. Applicants are encouraged to consult the key questions listed on the website of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) when conducting their gender analysis. A gender-sensitive approach should include identification of best practices, data collection, including [disaggregated statistics](#), information dissemination and monitoring and evaluation approaches

All activities must avoid discrimination, victimisation and stereotyping. All applicants who need further guidance are advised to consult the EIGE's materials on gender analysis and [DG JUST's online workshop on gender mainstreaming projects](#).

The needs assessment is expected to outline a differentiated, gender-sensitive account of the target groups' needs. All applicants are encouraged to make their project's contribution to gender equality visible by creating gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation indicators. All applications should also explain how their project promotes gender equality. The project's ambitions should be commensurate to its scale.

Where applicable, applicants are advised to complement their gender analysis with an analysis of [other grounds of discrimination](#) that can have an impact on project implementation. Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate a good understanding of intersectional discrimination when framing target group needs and reflect this in their proposal. Reflections should be proportionate to the project's scope and context.

NB: Applicants should include in their proposals an assessment of their project's gender dimension. If this assessment concludes by providing robust reasons that the project's gender dimension is limited due to the specific nature of the project, this will not negatively impact the proposal in the evaluation.

Expected impact

For priority 1 - e-justice

Expected results are:

- Initiatives supporting the digitalisation of cross-border judicial procedures, in particular the use of videoconferencing, as mentioned also in the DigitalJustice@2030 Strategy of the Commission¹³ and European e-Justice Strategy (2024-2028) of the Council of the European Union ;
- With regard to videoconferencing, facilitating remote participation in hearings in civil, commercial and criminal proceedings, including techniques to ensure that participants are properly identified and allowing the use of multiple languages within proceedings and the electronic payments of court fees;
- Activities supporting the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2023/2844, in particular those that facilitate Member States' connection to the decentralised IT system set up by the Regulation;

¹³https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/95918716-ce7d-401b-b6d5-e23effae5b36_en?filename=JUST_template_comingsoon_standard_4.pdf

- Improved participation, with the aim of achieving full EU coverage, in the various e-justice interconnection projects.

For priority 2 - victims' rights and procedural rights

Expected results in the area of **victims' rights** are:

- Increased capacity of national practitioners to address issues related to the rights of victims of crime, including in the context of digitalisation of justice;
- Improved knowledge among national practitioners on issues related to the EU rules on compensation to victims of crime in light of the recent case law of the Court of Justice of the European Union;
- Improved cooperation among the competent national authorities, NGOs and/or professional organisations in the field of victims' rights, including for compensation in cross-border cases;
- Improved public awareness and knowledge about victims' rights at both EU and national level (including through digital tools and innovative approach to enhance outreach to most vulnerable and hard-to-reach groups, e.g. living in rural areas);
- Improved knowledge, standards, and skills about specific provisions of the Union *acquis* such as: helplines for victims; the referral of victims to the relevant support services; victims' access to information on their rights; individual assessment of victims' needs; restorative justice; and the use of procedural means to protect victims during criminal trial, including the use of remote hearings and video testimonies;
- Improved knowledge and skills about legal remedies available for victims in case of a violation of their rights and increased knowledge about the challenges and benefits of digitalisation of justice for victims.
- Enhanced national legal and policy frameworks and administrative practices on victims' rights, in line with the relevant Union *acquis*;
- Improved support services for victims;
- Increased awareness of the complexities of the relationship between victims and offenders, including actions aimed at improving victims' access to justice and decreased re-offending via tools such as restorative justice.

Expected results in the area of **procedural rights** are:

- Improved knowledge of the legislation and administrative practices related to specific provisions of the Union *acquis* regulating the rights of suspects and accused persons in criminal proceedings;
- Increased capacity of national practitioners to address issues related to such rights, including in the context of digitalisation of justice and the use of AI tools;
- Strengthened cooperation and exchange of information between competent national authorities, NGOs and professional organisations in relation to the rights of persons suspected or accused of crime;
- Increased harmonisation of the administrative practices in relation to the relevant legislation in different Member States;
- Reduced risks of breaches of fair trial rights;

- Enhanced compatibility of the national legal frameworks and regulations on the rights of persons suspected or accused in criminal proceedings with the relevant Union *acquis*;
- Identification of remaining challenges and/or developments in the field of procedural rights and safeguards for suspects and accused persons which would merit to be addressed in future amendments of the Union *acquis*.

3. Available budget

The estimated available call budget is **EUR 9 400 000**.

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.

The availability of a part of the call budget depends on the final adoption of the budget 2027 by the EU budgetary authority.

4. Timetable and deadlines

Timetable and deadlines (indicative)	
Call opening:	25 June 2026
<u>Deadline for submission:</u>	<u>15 October 2026 – 17:00:00 CET</u> <u>(Brussels)</u>
Evaluation:	October 2026 -January 2027
Information on evaluation results:	March 2027
GA signature:	April – May 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*)
- 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** (*templates 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** (or, where the key personnel is not yet known, a job profile description) (**mandatory**)
 - **activity report of last year of the coordinator** (**mandatory** - public bodies are exempted)
 - **list of previous projects** (key projects for the last 4 years) (**mandatory** - *template available in Part B*)
 - for participants with activities involving children (below the age of 18): 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: child protection policy declaration) (**mandatory**)

 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 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 **45 pages** (Part B). Evaluators will not consider any additional pages. Shorter proposals are welcome.

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:

- 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), excluding Denmark)
 - non-EU countries:
 - countries associated to the Justice 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.

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 both as coordinators and partners. 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 persons¹⁴.

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 (like for instance networks) may participate as 'sole beneficiaries' or 'beneficiaries without legal personality'¹⁵. 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 list above*) may participate in the call and can sign grants

¹⁴ See Article 200(2)(c) EU Financial Regulation [2024/2509](#).

¹⁵ For the definitions, see Articles 190(2) and 200(2)(c) EU Financial Regulation [2024/2509](#).

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)¹⁶. 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 - e-Justice

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

- minimum two independent entities from two different eligible countries.
- The consortium must include at least one public body, private non-profit organisation or international organisation as beneficiary (not as affiliated entity).

Proposals by a consortium from one eligible country are exceptionally allowed, but only if the project application clearly demonstrated potential for EU added value.

For priority 2 - Victims' rights and procedural rights

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

- minimum two independent entities from two different eligible countries.
- the consortium must include at least one public body, private non-profit organisation or international organisation as beneficiary or affiliated entity.

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.

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).

Projects must comply with EU policy interests and priorities (*such as respect of EU values, 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*)¹⁷.

¹⁶ 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](#).

¹⁷ See, for instance, [Guidance on funding for activities related to the development, implementation, monitoring and enforcement of Union legislation and policy](#).

Financial support to third parties is not allowed.

Geographic location (target countries)

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

Duration

Projects should normally range between 12 and 24 months.

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

Project budget

For priority 1 (e-Justice): Project budgets (requested grant amount) cannot be lower than EUR 100 000. The maximum requested grant amount is EUR 800 000 per project.

For priority 2 (victims' rights and procedural rights): Project budgets (requested grant amount) cannot be lower than EUR 100 000. The maximum requested grant amount is EUR 800 000.

For both priorities, the grant awarded may be lower than the amount requested.

Ethics and EU values

Projects must comply with:

- highest ethical standards
- 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 individuals¹⁸. 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 values based on Article 2 of the Treaty on the European Union and Article 21 of the 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 Child Safeguarding Standards](#). This policy 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.

¹⁸ [Non-discrimination mainstreaming– instruments, case studies and way forwards](#)

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:

- natural persons
- public bodies (entities established as public body under national law, including local, regional or national authorities) or international organisations
- 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 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
- applicants' activity reports of last year (if applicable)
- 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 participate¹⁹:

- 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 misconduct²⁰ (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,

¹⁹ See Articles 138 and 143 of EU Financial Regulation [2024/2509](#).

²⁰ '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.

decision-making or control, beneficial owners or persons who are essential for the award/implementation of the grant).

- intentionally and without proper justification resisted²¹ 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 that²²:

- 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 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 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'.

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.

²¹ '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.

²² See Article 143 EU Financial Regulation [2024/2509](#).

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:** extent to which the proposal matches the priorities and objectives of the call; clearly defined needs and robust needs assessment; clearly defined target groups, with gender perspective being appropriately taken into account; contribution 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)
- 2. 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 and risk management, monitoring and evaluation); ethical issues and measures/policies to guarantee compliance with EU values are addressed; feasibility of the project within the proposed time frame; financial feasibility (sufficient/appropriate budget for proper implementation; cost-effectiveness (best value for money) (40 points)
- 3. 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	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 budget (i.e., up to the budget ceiling). Other proposals will be rejected.

Particular attention will be paid to the **quality, relevance and soundness of the partnership and overall consortium composition**. Applicants are expected to justify that the size and structure of the consortium are appropriate and proportionate to the project's objectives, activities and budget. The partnership should be coherent and well-balanced, bringing together organisations with complementary expertise and experience. Each partner should demonstrate clear added value and a meaningful contribution to the implementation of the action. During the evaluation, it will be thoroughly assessed under the Quality criterion whether the consortium composition is justified and suitable to deliver the proposed results effectively and efficiently.

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*.

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

Milestones and deliverables

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.). The coordination and management costs of WP1 should not be higher than 10% of the total cost of the proposal.

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. Their structure should be logical and guided by identifiable outputs with clear indicators.

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.

The following deliverables will be mandatory for all projects:

- Report on the EU Survey on Justice, Rights, and Value

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 closely monitor training, mutual learning and awareness-raising events. 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. The granting authority will aggregate the results of all the projects financed under the Justice programme.

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 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 90% (or lower requested grant amount, if any).

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 contributions²³

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
- 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 is not allowed
 - 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 costs²⁴ 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 pre-financing). The pre-financing will be paid 30 days from entry into force/financial

²³ [Decision](#) of 30/09/2022 authorising the use of lump sums for actions under the Justice Programme (2021-2027).

²⁴ 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).

guarantee (if required) — whichever is the latest.

There may also be **additional prefinancing payments**, especially in case of a weak financial capacity.

There will be no **interim payments**.

For projects with duration of 24 months or more, you will be expected to submit one progress report not linked to payments after 12 months.

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 limited joint and several liability with individual ceilings — *each beneficiary up to their maximum grant amount*.

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 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 partners²⁵) 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

²⁵ [See](#) section 13 for more information on consortium roles and the roles of coordinator, affiliated entities and associated partners.

- KPI tool containing additional project data. To be filled in directly online, all sections to be completed.
- 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.

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)
- [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: EC-JUSTICE-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

- **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 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 may submit more than one proposal for *different* projects under the same call (and be awarded a 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 one of them (or it 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 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](#).