



Brussels, 31.10.2013
C(2013) 7160 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 31.10.2013

**concerning the adoption of the 2014 work programme and the financing for the
implementation of the Europe for Citizens programme**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to the proposal for a Council Regulation establishing for the period 2014-2020 the programme "Europe for Citizens" (COM(2011)884 final) and in particular Article 8 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union¹, and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure implementation of the Europe for Citizens programme it is necessary to adopt a financing decision and the work programme for the year 2014. Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union² establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) It is appropriate to authorise award of grants without a call for proposals to the bodies identified in the work programme and for the reasons provided therein.
- (3) This Decision should allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of the Financial Regulation and Article 111(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012.
- (4) In order to provide for some degree of flexibility while applying specific actions covered by this Decision, it is necessary to foresee a possibility for the authorising officer to introduce non substantial changes on specific actions. Such changes should not however have a disproportionate impact on the budget line concerned and they should not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the action.
- (5) For the application of this Decision, it is appropriate to define the term 'substantial change' within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012.
- (6) The work programme was submitted to an expert committee consisting of representatives of the Member States for informal consultation.

¹ OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

² OJ L 362, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The work programme

The annual work programme for the implementation of the "Europe for Citizens" programme for 2014, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The annual work programme constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84 of the Financial Regulation.

Article 2

Union contribution

The maximum contribution for the implementation of the programme for the year 2014 is set at EUR 21.050.000, and shall be financed from the following lines of the general budget of the European Union for 2014:

(a) budget line 16.02.01: EUR 21.050.000

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

The work programme is subject to the final adoption of the Regulation establishing the Europe for Citizens Programme (2014-2020) by the legislative authority without significant modification, a positive opinion or lack of objection by the committee established in the Regulation establishing the Europe for Citizens Programme (2014-2020), and the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft budget for 2014 after the adoption of the budget for 2014 by the budgetary authority or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

Article 3

Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20 % of the maximum contribution set in Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and objective of the work programme. The increase of the maximum contribution set in Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20 %.

The authorising officer responsible may adopt the changes referred to in the first paragraph in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Article 4

Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to the bodies identified in the Annex, in accordance with the conditions specified therein.

Done at Brussels, 31.10.2013

For the Commission
Viviane REDING
Vice-President

ANNEX

Annual Work Programme for the Europe for Citizens Programme for 2014	
Budget line:	16.02.01 ('Europe for Citizens')
Basic act:	Council Regulation n° xxx of xx 2013 establishing for the period 2014 to 2020 the programme "Europe for Citizens"

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1. OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES OF THE PROGRAMME IN 2014

1.1. Main features / general objectives of the programme

The general objectives of the Europe for Citizens Programme 2014-2020 are:

- to contribute to citizens' understanding of the Union, its history and diversity;
- to foster European citizenship and to improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at Union level.

Specific objectives shall be pursued on a transnational level or with a European dimension:

- raise awareness of remembrance, common history and values and the Union's aim that is to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its peoples by stimulating debate, reflection and development of networks;
- encourage democratic and civic participation of citizens at Union level, by developing citizens' understanding of the Union policy making-process and promoting opportunities for societal and intercultural engagement and volunteering at Union level.

1.2. Political context

The Lisbon Treaty at the end of 2009 led to a number of changes in view of bringing the Union closer to its citizens and fostering greater cross-border debate about EU policy issues. Article 11 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) introduced a new dimension of participatory democracy. Europe has a challenging agenda for the next seven years, with important issues at stake. With decisions and policies needed on issues ranging from economic growth, security and Europe's role in the world, it is now more important than ever for citizens to take part in discussions and help shape policies. Considering the European citizenship as an important element in strengthening and safeguarding the process of European integration, the European Commission continues encouraging the engagement of European citizens in all aspects of the life of their community, thus enabling them to participate in the construction of an ever closer Europe.

In this context, the Europe for Citizens Programme for the period 2014-2020 is an important instrument encouraging citizens to play a stronger role in the development of the EU. Through projects and activities in which citizens can participate and make their voice heard, the Europe for Citizens Programme is promoting Europe's shared history and values, and fostering European citizenship and civic participation.

European Citizenship will be a central element of the Commission's agenda in 2014, in line with the President's political guidelines. This will be of particular importance in an economically challenging context and in view of the upcoming European Parliament elections in May 2014.

1.3. Priorities of the programme for 2014

1.3.1. Priorities

In line with the general objectives of the Europe for Citizens programme, annual priorities are defined by the European Commission after consultation of the programme committee. Applicants are encouraged to develop projects in line with the objectives of the programme and targeting the annual priorities. The annual priorities will be announced on the website of EACEA³ and European Commission.

A distinction has to be made between the priorities for Strand 1 – European remembrance and Strand 2 – Democratic engagement and civic participation.

Strand 1: European remembrance

According to Article 3 of the Treaty of the European Union, the EU's aim is to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its peoples.

In the context of this article and the general description of Strand 1 (see paragraph 1.3.2. below), the Europe for Citizens programme will support projects reflecting on causes of totalitarian regimes in Europe's modern history as well as projects concerning other defining moments and reference points in recent European history.

Historical moments which will be commemorated in particular in 2014 will be the **100th anniversary of the beginning of World War I**, the **25th anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall** and the **10 years of enlargement of the European Union to Central and Eastern Europe**. These key moments of European modern history have therefore been chosen as annual priorities for Strand 1 of the Europe for Citizens Programme for the year 2014.

Strand 2: Democratic engagement and civic participation

Elections to the European Parliament will be held in all Member States from 22 to 25 May 2014. These elections will be the first to be held under the Lisbon Treaty enhancing the role of EU citizens as political actors through Article 11 TEU.

Against this background, the annual priority of Strand 2 of the Europe for Citizens programme for the year 2014 will be built around **the elections to the European Parliament and citizens' participation in the democratic life of the EU**. There is a need for **deepening the debate on the future of Europe** with the aim of setting up a European public space, where European issues are discussed and debated from a European standpoint.

In this context, under Strand 2 of the Europe for Citizens Programme priority will be given to projects dealing with citizens' participation in the democratic life of the EU, ranging from local democracy to the empowerment of citizens to play a full part in EU policy.

³ Subject to the adoption of the Commission decision re-establishing the EACEA with a new mandate for the period 2014-2020 (applies to all occurrences of "EACEA" in the text)

1.3.2. Overview of the programme strands of the Europe for Citizens Programme

The programme is implemented through the following Strands:

Strand 1: European remembrance

Action grants:

This Strand will support activities that invite to reflection on European cultural diversity and on common values in the broadest sense. In this context, it aims to finance projects reflecting on causes of **totalitarian regimes** in Europe's modern history (especially but not exclusively Nazism that led to the Holocaust, Fascism, Stalinism and totalitarian communist regimes) and to commemorate the victims of their crimes.

This Strand also encompasses activities concerning **other defining moments and reference points in recent European history**. In particular, it will give preference to actions which encourage tolerance, mutual understanding, intercultural dialogue and reconciliation as a means of moving beyond the past and building the future, in particular with a view to reaching the younger generation.

The projects under this strand are expected to include different types of organisations (local authorities, civil society organisations, research institutes, etc.) or developing different types of activities (research, non-formal education, public debates, exhibitions, etc.) or involving citizens coming from different target groups. Projects should be implemented on a transnational level (creation and operation of transnational partnerships and networks) or with a clear European dimension.

Grants are awarded by the EACEA following the criteria laid down in the Programme Guide of the Europe for Citizens programme.

Operating grants:

Operating grants provide financial support to cover part of the running costs that enable a body to have an independent existence and to implement a range of activities envisaged in its annual work programme. These activities should correspond to the pursuit of the organisation's statutory objectives and must contribute to the development and implementation of one or several of the objectives pursued by the programme.

Under Strand 1, operating grants will be awarded for bodies pursuing an aim of general Union interest and raising awareness on European remembrance.

The following type of organisations will be supported:

- Organisations carrying activities reflecting on causes of totalitarian regimes in Europe's modern history (specially but not exclusively Nazism that led to the Holocaust, Fascism, Stalinism and totalitarian communist regimes) and commemorating the victims of their crimes.
- Organisations implementing activities concerning other defining moments and reference points in recent European history.

- Organisations focusing on the common values of the EU (CSO's and think tanks): raising citizens' awareness on the importance of maintaining and promoting democratic values in Europe i.e. through the memory of European personalities such as the founding fathers of the European project or others who have made a significant contribution to later stages of European construction.

Framework partnerships for a duration of four years will be established by the EACEA further to a call for proposals. Specific annual grants based on such partnerships will be awarded by the EACEA.

Strand 2: Democratic engagement and civic participation

Action grants:

This Strand will support activities that cover civic participation in the broadest sense with a particular focus on activities directly linked to Union policies, with a view to participate in the Union policy-making process in areas related to the objectives of the Programme. The Strand also covers projects and initiatives that develop opportunities for mutual understanding, intercultural learning, solidarity, societal engagement and volunteering at Union level.

Under this Strand, action grants will be attributed by the EACEA further to the criteria laid down in the Programme Guide.

The following type of activities will be supported within Strand 2:

- **Town Twinning:** This measure aims at supporting projects bringing together a wide range of citizens from twinned towns around topics in line with the objectives of the programme. Priority is given to projects targeting the priorities annually defined for this measure.

By mobilizing citizens at local and EU levels to debate on concrete issues on the European political agenda, this measure will seek to promote civic participation in the Union policy making process and develop opportunities for societal engagement and volunteering at Union level.

Twinning must be understood in largo sensu, thus referring to the municipalities having signed or engaged to sign twinning agreements as well as to the municipalities having other forms of partnerships fostering their cooperation and cultural links.

- **Network of Towns:** Under this measure municipalities/regions and associations working together on a common theme in a long-term perspective are invited to develop networks of towns to make their cooperation more sustainable and to exchange good practice.

Networks of Towns are expected to integrate a range of activities around the subject of common interest to be addressed in the context of the Programme's objectives or annual priorities, to have defined target groups for which the selected themes are particularly relevant and involve community members active in the subject area and to aim at sustainability.

- **Civil Society Projects:** This measure aims at supporting projects promoted by transnational partnerships and networks directly involving citizens. Those projects gather citizens from different horizons, in activities directly linked to Union policies,

with a view to give them an opportunity to concretely participate in the Union policy-making process in areas related to the objectives of the Programme. To that end, those projects will invite citizens to act together or debate on the annual priority themes of the programme at local and European level.

Projects should actively involve a large number of citizens in the implementation and aim at setting the basis for, or encouraging the development of, long-lasting networking between many organisations active in the field.

Operating grants:

Operating grants provide financial support to cover part of the running costs that enable a body to have an independent existence and to implement a range of activities envisaged in its annual work programme. These activities should correspond to the pursuit of the organisation's statutory objectives and must contribute to the development and implementation of one or several of the objectives pursued by the programme.

Under Strand 2, operating grants will be awarded for bodies pursuing an aim of general Union interest and encouraging democratic and civic participation.

The following type of organisations will be supported through operating grants:

- (a) *European public policy research organisations (think tanks):* These organisations provide a link between research and policymaking at European level. They help to find solutions to problems and facilitate interaction between scientists, intellectuals and decision-makers. This action targets think tanks essentially focussing on the objectives and priorities of the programme, performing activities that go beyond mere research and are not aimed exclusively at specialist groups. Such activities must generally involve citizens in their debates and provide information to the public at large using specific tools.
- (b) *Civil Society Organisations working at European level, namely:* umbrella organisations, networks and other civil society organisations aiming to encourage democratic and civic participation of citizens at Union level, by developing citizens' understanding of the Union policy making-process and promoting opportunities for civic engagement at Union level.
- (c) *Platforms of pan-European organisations:* the specificity of such platforms is that their members are themselves umbrella organisations (platforms) on a European level. These pan-European platforms represent a very large number of European citizens and cover a wide range of policy domains.

Framework partnerships for a duration of four years will be established by the EACEA further to a call for proposals. Specific annual grants based on such partnerships will be awarded by the EACEA.

Strand 3: Horizontal Action Valorisation

This Action will support initiatives that boost the transferability of results, provide better return on investment and increase learning from experience. The *raison d'être* of this action is the further "valorisation" and use of the results of the initiatives launched for the purpose of ensuring their lasting effect.

Institutional communication:

As provided in article 12.3 of the basic act, the Europe for Citizens Programme for 2014 will contribute to communication actions on the institutional communication priorities of the Union, as defined by the Commission in the Communication "Corporate Communication under the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020", SEC(2013) 486/2 of 23.09.2013.

In line with the general objectives of the Programme (Article 1(2)), institutional (corporate) communication will aim to raise public awareness about the EU as a whole, its values and political priorities, therefore bringing the Union closer to citizens by contributing to citizens' understanding of the Union and fostering European citizenship.

This means that the contribution from the Europe for Citizens Programme may be used for both the issues highlighted for such communication in 2014 – growth and jobs on the one hand and debate on the future of Europe/European Parliament elections on the other.

Information structures:

In addition, this Action will support the Information structures in Member States and participating countries **Europe for Citizens Contact Points (ECP)**, designated in the basic act. These structures have been established to provide advice to applicants, support for partner search and disseminate information on the Europe for Citizens programme. Action grants are directly awarded by the EACEA. .

1.3.3. Expected results in 2014

Strand 1 - European remembrance: In helping to promoting debate and activities on European integration and history at a transnational level or with a clear European dimension in around 56 project grants and around 8 operating grants, the programme will have contributed to an increased awareness of remembrance, common history and values and the Union's aim

Strand 2 – Democratic engagement and civic participation: By providing opportunities for citizens to engage at EU level or with a European dimension in around 373 town twinning projects, around 89 networks of towns, around 34 action grants for civil society projects, and around 26 operating grants, the programme will have contributed to an increased understanding of the EU by citizens; it is expected that three quarters of participants ⁴will feel more European as a result of their participation in the "Europe for Citizens" programme.

Strand 3 – Horizontal Action Valorisation: the result will be an increased learning from experience, a boosted transferability of results and, as a consequence, an increased lasting effect of the supported activities. Thanks to an increased impact of the institutional communication activities conducted by the Commission as a whole, the expected results are a better understanding of the EU by citizens and an enhanced image of the EU institutions and their activities with measurable positive trends in public perception.

1.3.4. Scope of the work programme

This work programme covers the whole 2014 budget.

⁴ Based on the Study "Measuring the impact of the Europe for Citizens programme", May 2013

The programming table under point 4 shows the distribution of available appropriations among the actions and sub-actions funded by budget line 16.02.01 taking into account the contribution expected from third countries.

The indicative budget 2014 for each action is as follows:

Strand 1 – European remembrance: 4,255,000 €

Strand 2 – Democratic engagement and civic participation: 15,445,000 €

Strand 3 – Horizontal Action Valorisation: 1,350,000 €

2. GRANTS

2.1. Programme Guide - (action grants only)

For the Europe for Citizens Programme, the Programme Guide provides information on procedures, criteria and other modalities relating to action grants. Every year, after adoption of the financing decision, a call for proposals is published in accordance with Article 128 of the Financial Regulation and Article 189 of the Rules of application. This call for proposals makes reference to a Programme Guide.

The aim of this Programme Guide is to assist all those interested in developing projects or receiving financial support under the "Europe for Citizens" Programme (2014-2020) and to help them understand the objectives of the Programme and the types of activities that can be supported.

It gives detailed information on funding opportunities under the Europe for Citizens programme, application procedures, selection procedures, general rules relevant to EU grants and the deadlines for the submission of applications.

2.1.1. *Essential eligibility criteria for all action grants*

- The applicants and involved organisations must be either public bodies or non-profit organisations with legal personality.
- Established in a participating country.
- The mission as outlined in the organisation's statutes must be in consistency with the objectives of the Europe for Citizens Programme, strand and measure under which the project application has been submitted.

In addition, specific eligibility criteria applicable to each measure, relating to the number of involved organisations and the project nature and dimension, are described under 2.1.5.

2.1.2. *Selection criteria for all action grants*

Project proposals which comply with the eligibility and exclusion criteria are subject to an in-depth evaluation regarding the financial and operational capacity of the applicant organisations.

Financial capacity means that the applicant has stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain its activity throughout the project.

It is assessed on the basis of the following documents to be submitted by the applicant:

For applicants applying for a grant below or equal €60 000:

- A declaration on honour ;

For applicants applying for a grant above €60 000:

- A declaration on honour ;
- the Financial Identification form and
- the Financial Capacity form accompanied by the official profit and loss account and balance sheet of the organisation for the last financial year for which the accounts have been closed.

The verification of financial capacity does not apply to public bodies.

If the Executive Agency concludes that the required *financial capacity* - assessed on the basis of the documentation submitted - is just fair, then it may:

- ask for further information;
- require a bank guarantee;
- offer a grant agreement without pre-financing;

Operational capacity means that the applicant must show the necessary competencies and motivation to carry out the proposed project. The operational capacity will be assessed on the basis of the applicants' experience in managing the projects in the field concerned. Applicants will have to provide a declaration on honour. For applicants applying for a grant above €60 000, further information is also to be provided under a specific section of the application form developed for this purpose.

2.1.3. Award criteria for all action grants

Consistency with the objectives of the Programme and Programme Strand: 30%

- Appropriateness of the objective of the submitted project with regard to the objectives of the Europe for Citizens Programme, strand and measure.
- The proposed activities and expected outcomes should contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Europe for Citizens Programme, strand and measure.
- The thematic focus must be in line with the objectives of the Europe for Citizens Programme, strand and measure and preferably taking into consideration the annual priorities.

Quality of the activity plan /work programme of the project: 35%

- The activities must be appropriate to reach the project's needs and objectives.
- Coherence: correspondence between the different objectives of the proposed activities and adaption of the proposed inputs and resources to the objectives.
- Effectiveness: effects should be obtained at reasonable cost.
- Projects have to present a clearly elaborated European dimension.
- Priority is given to projects including different types of organisations (local authorities, civil society organisations, research institutes, etc.) or developing different types of activities (research, non-formal education, public debates, exhibitions, etc.) or involving citizens coming from different target groups.
- Priority is given to projects using new working methods or proposing innovative activities.

Dissemination: 15%

- Each project supported by the Europe for Citizens Programme must make the necessary efforts for ensuring the exploitation and dissemination of its results.

- The proposed project should create a multiplier effect among a wider audience than that directly participating in the activities.
- A realistic and practical dissemination plan should be in place in order to allow an effective transfer and exchange of the results foreseen by the project.

Impact and Citizen involvement: 20%

- The number of organisations, participants and countries involved should be large enough to ensure a real European outreach of the proposed project.
- Impact: Preference will be given to grants for projects with a high impact irrespective of their size, in particular those which are directly linked to Union policies with a view to participate in the shaping of the Union policy agenda.
- Sustainability: Proposed projects should aim at reaching middle or long-term effects.
- The proposed activities should give participants the possibility to engage actively in the project and with the issue raised.
- A balance should be sought between citizens who are already active within organisations/institutions and citizens who are not yet involved.
- Priority will be given to projects involving citizens from underrepresented groups or with fewer opportunities.

2.1.4. Geographical balance

As required in the basic act, a geographical balance will be taken into account, as far as possible, in the selection.

2.1.5. Potential beneficiaries and maximum funding for projects

Strand 1: European remembrance

- Type of organisations: Public local/regional authorities or non-profit organisations, including civil society organisations, survivors' associations, and cultural, youth, educational and research organisations, associations of twinned towns;
- Number of involved organisations: A project must involve organisations from at least one Member State, but preference is given to transnational projects;
- Maximum grant amount: 100.000 €
- Maximum percentage of co-funding: 70%
- Maximum duration: 18 months per project.

Strand 2: Democratic engagement and civic participation

Town-Twinning:

- Type of organisations: towns/municipalities or their twinning committees or other non-profit organisations representing local authorities;
- Number of organisations involved: municipalities from at least 2 eligible countries of which at least one is an EU Member State

- Maximum grant amount: 25.000 €per project;
- Maximum percentage of co-funding: 50% ;
- Maximum duration: 21 days per project.

Networks of Towns:

- Type of organisations: Towns/municipalities or their twinning committees or networks, other levels of local/regional authorities, federations/associations of local authorities and non-profit organisations representing local authorities; the other organisations involved in the project can also be non-profit Civil Society Organisations
- Number of organisations involved: municipalities from at least 4 eligible countries of which at least one is an EU Member State
- Maximum grant amount: 150.000 €
- Maximum percentage of co-funding: 70% ;
- Maximum duration: 24 months per project.

Civil Society Projects:

- Type of organisations: non-profit organisations, including civil society organisations, educational, cultural or research institutions; the other organisations involved in the project can also be public local/regional authorities ;
- Number of organisations involved: organisations from at least 3 eligible countries of which at least one is an EU Member State;
- Maximum grant amount: 150.000 €
- Maximum percentage of co-funding: 70%;
- Maximum duration: 18 months per project.

2.2. Framework partnerships 2014-2017 - Operating grants – separate call for proposals: Structural support for European public policy research organisations (think tanks) and for civil society organisations at European level,

2.2.1. Short description of the objectives pursued and the results foreseen

This call for proposals concerns structural support, referred to as operating grants, to bodies pursuing an aim of general Union interest, to raise awareness on European remembrance (strand 1) or to encourage democratic and civic participation (strand 2). It is intended to co-finance the operating expenses that enable a body to have an independent existence and to implement a range of activities envisaged in its annual work programme. These activities should correspond to the pursuit of the organisation's statutory objectives and must contribute to the development and implementation of one or several of the objectives pursued by the programme.

Under these two measures, support is granted under framework partnerships for four years (2014-2017) awarded further to a call for proposals. Under these partnership agreements, an annual operating grant will be awarded for 2014.

2.2.2. *Categories of potential beneficiaries:*

A. Civil society organisations for European remembrance (strand 1):

- Organisations carrying activities reflecting on causes of totalitarian regimes in Europe's modern history (specially but not exclusively Nazism that led to the Holocaust, Fascism, Stalinism and totalitarian communist regimes) and commemorating the victims of their crimes.
- Organisations implementing activities concerning other defining moments and reference points in recent European history.
- Organisations focusing on the common values of the EU: raising citizens' awareness on the importance of maintaining and promoting democratic values in Europe i.e. through the memory of European personalities such as the founding fathers of the European project or others who have made a significant contribution to later stages of European construction.

The activities of the selected organisations must aim to contribute to a better shared future of civic participation while recalling the importance of the fundamental values at the heart of the European project.

B. Civil society organisations working at European level (strand 2):

- Umbrella organisations, networks and other CSOs aiming to encourage democratic and civic participation of citizens at Union level, by developing citizens' understanding of the Union policy making-process and promoting opportunities for civic engagement at Union level.

C. European public policy research organisations (think tanks) (strand 1 and 2):

- These organisations provide a link between research and policy-making at European level. They help to find solutions to problems and facilitate interaction between scientists, intellectuals and decision-makers. The call targets think tanks that essentially focus on the objectives and priorities of the Europe for Citizens programme, performing activities that go beyond mere research and are not aimed exclusively at specialist groups.

D. Platforms of pan-European organisations (strand 2):

The specificity of such platforms is that their members are themselves umbrella organisations (platforms) on a European level. These pan-European platforms represent a very large number of European citizens and cover a wide range of policy domains.

2.2.3. *Eligibility criteria*

To be eligible for an operating grant, bodies pursuing an aim of general Union interest must:

- (a) Be a non-profit organisation .;
- (b) Play an active role in the field of European citizenship as defined in their articles of association or mission statement and correspond to one of the categories mentioned above;
- (c) Have been established legally and have had a legal personality **for at least four years in an eligible country.**
- (d) Perform their eligible activities in eligible countries (all categories A,B,C,D); as regards Civil organisations for European remembrance (A) and Civil society

organisations at European level (B), they must have members or activities in at least 12 eligible countries; Platforms of pan-European organisations (D) must have at least 20 umbrella member organisations, ensuring presence in the 28 Member States.

Private individuals and public bodies are not eligible to apply within this call for proposals.

2.2.4. *Selection criteria*

- **Financial capacity:** means that the applicant has stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain its activity throughout the financing period.
- **Operational capacity:** applicants must have the professional competence and qualifications required to complete the proposed work programme.

2.2.5. *Award criteria:*

Consistency with the objectives of the Programme and Programme Strand: 30%

- Appropriateness of the proposed work programme with regard to the objectives of the Europe for Citizens Programme;
- The organisation's work programme should contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Europe for Citizens Programme.
- The mission of the applicant must be in consistency with the objectives of the Europe for Citizens Programme.

Quality of the activity plan /work programme: 30%

- The proposed work programme must be appropriate to reach the organisation's objectives.
- Coherence: correspondence between the different objectives of the proposed activities and adaption of the proposed inputs and resources to the objectives.
- Effectiveness: effects should be obtained at reasonable cost.
- Work programmes have to present a clearly elaborated European dimension.
- Priority is given to organisations using new working methods or proposing innovative activities.

Dissemination: 15%

- Organisations receiving operating grants must make the necessary efforts for ensuring the exploitation and dissemination of its results.
- The proposed work programme must create a multiplier effect among a wider audience than that directly participating in the activities.
- A realistic and practical dissemination plan should be in place in order to allow an effective transfer and exchange of the results foreseen by the work programme.

Impact and Citizen involvement: 15%

- The number of involved organisations, participants, policy inputs and countries involved should be large enough to ensure a real European outreach of the proposed work programme.
- Impact: The work programme should aim at reaching its objectives, notably as regards concrete inputs to policy making.
- Sustainability: Proposed work programme should aim at reaching long-term effects.
- The proposed work programme should give participants the possibility to engage actively in the activities and with the issues raised.
- A balance should be sought between citizens who are already active within organisations/institutions and citizens who are not yet involved.
- Priority will be given to organisations involving citizens from underrepresented groups or with fewer opportunities.

The extent to which lack of access to finance is holding back the implementation of the work programme (10%)

- In the work plan, detailed analysis needs to be given on the progression of expenses and of all co-funding schemes over the past 3 years.
- Proposals have to demonstrate that there are insufficient other sources of financing available that would allow them to implement the work programme.
- Proposals have to demonstrate to what extent the requested amount is necessary for the implementation of the work programme.
- Proposals have to demonstrate to what extent it is necessary to implement this work programme now in order to reach the call's objectives and/or to what extent a delay would be harmful in this respect.

2.2.6. Amount of co-financing

Type	Maximum amount	Maximum co-financing rate
A. Civil society organisations for European remembrance (strand 1)	EUR 200.000	70%
B. Civil society organisations working at European level (strand 2)	EUR 200.000	70%
C. European public policy research organisations (think tanks) (strand 1 and 2)	EUR 350.000	70%
D. Platforms of pan-European organisations (strand 2)	EUR 600.000	90%

2.3. Action grants awarded to Europe for Citizens Contact Points in Member States and participating countries (ECP) without a call for proposals

2.3.1. Short description of the objectives pursued and the results foreseen

The aim of the measure is to disseminate information on the programme and on other European actions related to citizenship.

Each Member State and country participating in the "Europe for Citizens" programme can receive funding to support the activities of the decentralised structure which it has designated in charge of information and dissemination activities about the "Europe for citizens" programme (Europe for Citizens Contact Points – ECP). The aim of these Contact Points is to promote European initiatives in the field of citizenship, to inform about the Europe for Citizens Programme and to facilitate the participation of programme stakeholders. In addition to the information and dissemination function the coordination structures have an important role with regard to some other functions such as organising information sessions and providing advice for applicants, support for partner search and transmission of information about national/regional initiatives in the area of civic participation at the European level.

2.3.2. Justification to the exception of a call for proposals

The grants will be awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190.1.d RAP (Rules of Application). The Europe for Citizens Contact Points are designated in the basic act as grant beneficiaries (art 3.2.b of Council Regulation establishing for the period 2014-2020 the programme "Europe for Citizens").

2.3.3. Amount of co-financing

Maximum rate of co-financing: 50%

A maximum co-financing per country, taking into account i.e. their size and population, will be as follows:

- FR, DE, IT, PL, ES and UK: maximum of EUR 55 000 €each;
- All the other countries participating in the "Europe for Citizens" programme: maximum of EUR 25 000 each, unless the memorandum of understanding on participation indicates a lower ceiling for a participating country.

3. PROCUREMENT – PEER REVIEWS AND INSTITUTIONAL COMMUNICATION

Within the *Strand 3 – Horizontal Action Valorisation* it is foreseen to organise peer reviews.

Such activities could include a maximum of two stakeholders' networking meetings (one per strand) to exchange good practice of projects, bring together project promoters working on common themes and increase learning from projects with a view of ensuring better return of results and a long-term effect. The authorizing officer will use framework contracts or launch calls for tenders.

Institutional communication campaign

Institutional communication will be implemented in 2014 through an integrated communication campaign, promoting the EU's activities. In particular, the campaign will increase citizen's knowledge and understanding of different policies the European Union puts

in place to stimulate the growth of the European economy and contribute to the Debate on the future of Europe (incl. elections to the European Parliament).

The campaign will use multiple channels to deliver a clear and consistent message to a variety of audiences and it will have to actively engage with citizens, seeking their views and promoting a permanent dialogue.

The campaign will be evaluated by using evaluation and measurement techniques.

Indicatively, the campaign will be implemented through a specific service contract for example via the Framework Service Contract COMM PO/2011-9/A1 and other framework contracts including for evaluation."

4. **BUDGET BREAKDOWN**

PROGRAMMING TABLE FOR 2014							
Budget line 16.02.01		EUR 28	EFTA/EEA	C5(1)	Third Countries(2)	TOTAL(3)	
Title	Europe for Citizens	21,050,000	-	pm	pm	21,050,000	
Index	Actions and sub-actions	Budget	Mode of implementation	Number of grants / contracts	Average value of grants / contracts	Maximum rate of cofinancing	Publication of the calls
Strand 1 - European remembrance and European citizenship							
1.1	Remembrance projects	2,815,000	CFP-EA	56	50,268	70%	Dec-13
1.2	Structural support for think tanks, organisations at European level (framework partnerships)	1,440,000	CFP-OP-EA	8	180,000	70%	Nov-13
Strand 2 - Democratic engagement and civic participation							
2.1.	Town twinning citizens meetings	3,725,000	CFP-EA	373	9,987	50%	Dec-13
2.2.	Networks of twinned towns	3,700,000	CFP-EA	89	41,573	70%	Dec-13
2.3.	Civil society projects	2,700,000	CFP-EA	34	79,412	70%	Dec-13
2.4.	Structural support for think tanks, organisations at European level (framework partnerships)	5,320,000	CFP-OP-EA	26	204,615	70% or 90% (4)	Nov-13
Strand 3 - Valorisation							
3.1	Peer reviews	200,000	PP	2	100,000	NA	NA
3.2.	Information structures in Member States and participating countries	900,000	SPEC-EA	33	27,273	50%	Nov-13
3.3.	Institutional communication	250,000	PP	1	250,000	NA	NA
Total		21,050,000					
(1) Estimate based on the recoveries already completed. The credits will be used taking into account the needs for additional funds							
(2) Contributions from FYROM, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia (depending on the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding with these countries)							
(3) Pursuant to Article 92 of the Financial Regulation, the appropriations may also finance the payment of default interest.							
(4) For the platforms of paneuropean organisations, the maximum rate of cofinancing is 90 %.							
CFP: Grants awarded with a call for Proposals			CFP-EA:		Actions implemented by the Executive Agency EACEA		
CFP-OP: Operating Grants awarded with a call for Proposals			CFP-OP-EA:				
SPEC: grants to national bodies without a call for proposals - Art. 190.1 (d) RAP			SPEC-EA:				
PP: Public Procurement							
NA: Non applicable							