**CALL FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THIRD PARTIES UNDER THE CERV-ELEVATED GRANT**

# **European Dialogue on**

# **Disinformation ahead of the 2024 European elections**

**Total budget for the call:** 20,000 EUR

**Type of call/** Open-end call

**Call publication date**: 1 May 2023

**Minimum/maximum project duration:** Up to 31 December 2023

**Minimum/maximum grant awarded:** One grant of up to20,000 EUR

**Completed application forms to be sent to** [**i.valeva@epc.eu**](mailto:i.valeva@epc.eu)

This re-granting action will intersect with the activities of a project in the context of the EPC’s Task Force on Disinformation with the objective to study disinformation in a cross-disciplinary fashion. The project “European Dialogue on Disinformation ahead of the 2024 European elections” seeks to foster an inclusive and multistakeholder approach to addressing disinformation and promoting democratic participation. It aims to detect emerging disinformation narratives ahead of the upcoming EP elections and identify how to strengthen the EU’s response and resilience against disinformation. The project is based on two pillars: (1) participation and (2) analysis. As such, in 2023, the EPC will launch a strategic dialogue among decision-makers, experts, and other stakeholders, including representatives of relevant EU citizen groups (e.g. the youth). This dialogue will help to identify the challenges brought about by disinformation ahead of the EP elections and deliberate on what actions the EU and the new leadership should take to strengthen societal resilience in the upcoming legislative mandate (2024-2029)

**Objectives and expected results of the Call**

This re-granting call aims at complementing EPC’s operational and research capacity in 2023. The selected partner organisation would work closely with the EPC to fulfil the project’s objectives, including:

* Contributing with intellectual input and logistical support to the dialogue with relevant experts, policy makers and other stakeholders, including representatives of youth associations in EU member states;
* Contributing to the project with background research on prevalent disinformation narratives in member states on salient topics (e.g. migration-, climate-, health-related issues) ahead of the 2024 EP elections;
* Helping to identify communication-based strategies to strengthen societal resilience against disinformation in the European public, focussing especially on the most exposed segments.

In line with the above objectives, the partner will be expected to provide logistical and conceptual support to the organisation of consultations with experts, policymakers and other stakeholders. The partner will contribute to the identification of prevalent public narratives, including how they are shaped by disinformation and manipulation techniques. It will provide intellectual input and complement EPC’s expertise in the designation of appropriate actions to overcome polarisation and address myths, rumours, and coordinated influence operations aiming to manipulate the European public discourse ahead and after the 2024 EP elections.

**Form of the grant** *(budget based, lump sum, other)* **and criteria for calculating the exact amount:** Budget Based

The partner should provide a detailed budget with the expected expenditure, such as personnel, travel and accommodation (following EC rates), purchase of goods, works and services and a maximum of 7% flat rate for indirect costs.

The costs must be identifiable and verifiable, occur during the eligibility period and not exceed the agreed total amount. They should be calculated in EUR and cannot be double funded by any other EU institution.

A final report should be submitted within 15 calendar days after the end of the last deliverable. It should include a short narrative report on the activities and a financial report on the expenditure (with supporting documents, such as timesheets and copies of invoices).

**Eligible types of organisations:[[1]](#footnote-1)**

EPC Think Tank Members based in EU member states.

**Eligible types of activities (fixed list):**

|  |
| --- |
| * Public policy dialogues taking place in Brussels or Spain (in-person or hybrid) or online * Expert/policy roundtables taking place in Brussels or Spain (in-person or hybrid) or online * Public online policy dialogues * Written outputs |

**Evaluation procedure & selection and award criteria (max. 500 words):**

Award criteria:

**Bloc A:** A clear project proposal with well-defined objectives, tasks, deliverables that fulfils all the objectives of the call (see above) before 31 December 2023.

**Bloc B:** Evidence of in-house capacity to complete the project, including: Expertise on disinformation/media monitoring and/or communication; A large network of national stakeholders and convening capacity to fulfil the project’s goals of fostering a strategic dialogue; Expertise in organising events and workshops with policymakers, experts and key stakeholders.

**Bloc C:** A clear budget including a reporting schedule, management structure and CVs of key people involved in the project.

**Selection procedure:**

All applications will be treated with confidentiality. Only the names of the successful organisations and their public information will be posted on the EPC website. To prevent conflicts of interest, and to ensure that all the correct information is provided, an Application Screening Team (AST) will be established made up of the EPC’s COO, CFO, the Deputy CEO, and one Associate Director, who will evaluate the proposals according to the criteria and process outlined above. Its quality will be assessed with a point scale of 0-10 (poor - excellent) with a total of 30 points to be received. The selection will be considered and approved by the EPC Management Team.

**Prevention and mitigation measures for avoiding potential conflicts of interest during the selection procedure:**

|  |
| --- |
| The AST will evaluate applications based on the criteria above but also ensure that the following COI criteria are taken into account:   * No one under contract to the EPC should be involved in the applicant’s proposal * No family member of anyone under contract to the EPC should be applying to work on the project * The applicant organization has to be a member of the EPC   The whole review process by the AST will be independently verified by the EPC Management Team in order to provide a double check to ensure that there have been no conflicts of interest. The CEO will have the final say if the Management Team votes do not indicate a clear decision. |

**GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

**EPC RE-GRANTING PROCEDURE UNDER OPERATING GRANT**

**CERV-ELEVATED – 101104835**

**European Dialogue on Disinformation ahead of the 2024 European elections**

**1.General information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organisation:**  *Legal name* |  |
| **Legal form** |  |
| **Legal registry number** |  |
| **Country of registration** |  |
| **Mission of the organisation** |  |
| **Primary Contact:** *name, title, phone, email*  *Daily project contact* |  |
| **Signatory Contact:**  *name, title, phone, email*  *Legal authority to bind the organisation* |  |
| **Requested grant amount** *(in EUR)* |  |

**2. Project proposal**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Objectives and expected results** |  |
| **Please describe how your project proposal is relevant to the call** |  |
| **Deliverables** |  |
| **Risk Mitigation Strategy** |  |
| **Project Budget Total** |  |
| **Project Management Stucture** |  |
| **Project Reporting Outline** |  |

**3. About the applicant organisation**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Short description of the organization** |  |
| **Does your organization have a fixed policy for Gender, Diversity and Inclusion?**  **(Provide link or annex if available)** |  |
| **List of relevant projects, publications or other activities in the past 5 years** |  |

**4. Supporting information**

Please Include the following annexes:

* CVs of everyone involved in the project
* Detailed Budget
* Audited Accounts for 2022

1. Eligible participants

   In order to be eligible for financial support, organisations must:

   be a member of the EPC;

   be a legal entity, non-profit organisation;

   be established in a Member State of the European Union (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs);

   respect EU values as laid down in Art.2 of the Treaty on European Union and the EU Charter of fundamental rights.

   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).

   The third parties (member organisations) can neither be affiliated entity(ies) (of the framework partner) nor associated partners nor sub-contractors. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)