

European Coalition of Cities Against Racism

International Call for Proposals – 2019

Countering violent extremisms and fostering inclusion, diversity and tolerance

I. THEMES AND PRIORITIES

Violent extremism is a global threat challenging our societies and promoting intolerance, fear and anger. Violent extremists foster mistrust and incite hatred, they encourage exclusion and division between people. They feed on people's fears and vulnerabilities, and they offer a dark view of the world with no confidence in the future. It is then imperative to counter violent extremisms and to prevent the emergence and the growth of forms of rising violent extremisms.

This commitment is shared by all international institutions, as the United Nations and the UNESCO guidelines and agenda demonstrate ([UNESCO in action: Preventing Violent Extremism Worldwide](#); [Preventing violent extremism through education: a guide for policy-makers](#); the UN's [Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism](#); [Preventing violent extremism through promoting inclusive development, tolerance and respect for diversity](#)). This shared responsibility takes the form of initiatives fostering dialogue and conflict prevention, engaging local communities, empowering youth and marginalized groups, reinforcing gender equality, and enhancing a special focus on education, skill development and by renewing a sense of belonging to society.

At European level multiple initiatives have been deployed to combat discrimination and intolerance, including online behaviors. A [code of conduct to counter illegal hate speech online](#) has been agreed with the European Commission and IT companies whose platforms and social media channels are also being used by their users to incite to violence or hatred directed against a group of persons defined by reference to race, colour, religion, descent or national or ethnic origin. Notably right-wing violent extremism is establishing networks throughout Europe and fundamentalist groups and antidemocratic attitudes exist and are on the rise in European cities. ECCAR is deeply concerned about the rise of these groups and is very worried that this development poses a threat to peaceful coexistence in cities.

The European Coalition of Cities Against Racism (hereinafter "ECCAR") General assembly and meeting of the Steering Committee, held on 22 and 23 October 2018 in Graz, reflected on the multiple aspects of racism and discrimination, and on the possible answers to it. This meeting draws a special focus towards right-wing and violent extremism, fundamentalist groups and any other antidemocratic attitudes. The focus has been summed up in a [final statement](#) on the basis of which the ECCAR have decided to set the theme of countering

violent extremism for this call for proposals open to civil society organisations based in cities in the Council of Europe countries.

ECCAR supports all mayors, administrative bodies and initiatives that stand up against these phenomena. Therefore ECCAR calls upon all national governments, multinational organisations, civil society initiatives and the media to support their cities in this endeavor. Based on its 10 Points Action Plan, ECCAR calls upon to openly name these phenomena and take pro-active measures with a view to living together peacefully in cities.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL

- To sensitize south eastern European cities about the importance of preventing violent extremism and about the ECCAR
- To support civil society organisations that challenge violent extremisms daily in the field of education
- To promote actions to challenge the breeding grounds for far right violent extremism, through supporting civil society action in partnership with the municipalities, with a special focus on Eastern Europe;
- To empower young people and increase their participation in society promoting positive role models;
- To promote intercultural dialogue and exchange through educational and cultural activities;
- To identify, support and disseminate good practices of education and trainings, in contrast to hate speech and to any form of violent extremism, at the city-level;
- To strengthen participation of local communities and organisations into promoting diversity, fighting discriminations and tackling violent extremism;
- To activate or support networks and open or strengthen a constructive dialogue among local stakeholders to promote culture and education as a driver for social inclusion.

III. ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

A non-exhaustive list of the main activities eligible under this call for proposals is listed below:

- implementation of educational activities aimed at promoting the participation of youths, migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and "new citizens"
- raising awareness activities
- networking amongst local stakeholders
- best practice exchanges
- seminars, debates, conferences, or other cultural activities
- organization of non-competitive contests.

All projects must have a proven gender balance methodology and include a balanced participation of men and women in any proposed activity.

Further, project activities should preferably:

- take place and/or engage partners in at least 5 ECCAR cities;
- raise awareness of young people through an educational approach;
- foresee trainings on prevention of violent extremism, including trainings targeting employees of educational institutions;
- implement intercultural trainings and capacity building activities;
- directly engage foreign communities and migrants’ associations into project design and implementation;
- include a communication strategy taking into account the following events:
 - 21/03/2020 World Day Against Racial Discriminations
 - Autumn 2020 ECCAR General Conference

Project duration:

Minimum: 8 months

Maximum: 12 months

IV. TIMETABLE

Stages	Date and time or Indicative period
Publication of the call	17 June 2019
Deadline for submitting applications	16 September 2019
Information to applicants	28 October 2019
Notification of grant decision and signature of grant agreement	November-December 2019

V. BUDGET AVAILABLE

The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of the project is estimated at € 15.000 maximum and at 80% of the total cost of the project.

VI. PROCEDURE AND DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATIONS

Applications must be sent via email by 23:59 CET on the 17/06/2019 to eccar@rathaus.potsdam.de and eccarbologna@comune.bologna.it
Email subject must be: "ECCAR Call for Proposals 2019".

Upon submission, a receipt notification will be sent.

In order not to be rejected, the application should be submitted only by filling out the form and the necessary documents available for download at the following websites:
www.eccar.info

Applications must be submitted in writing in any official language of the European Union, using the application form. The working language, should the project be approved, will be English.

The following documents are compulsory and must be attached to the application using the appropriate form where stated:

- application form (Annex 1);
- CV of the project coordinators
- budget (Annex 2)
- declaration (Annex 3)

All documents must be merged into a single PDF file attached to the application email.

Applicants can write for additional information regarding the procedures and the contents of this notice to the following emails:

eccar@rathaus.potsdam.de and eccarbologna@comune.bologna.it

or browse the FAQ which will be published and updated regularly on the website:

www.eccar.info

VII. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

In order to be eligible, projects must be presented by applicants meeting the following criteria:

- be a civil society organisation or non-profit private organisation with legal personality who are active in the cultural, educational or social field and organise activities according to their statute and mission, such as local, national or international NGOs and their networks (natural persons are not eligible);
- have their registered legal office in a European city.

In order to assess the applicants' eligibility, the following supporting documents are requested:

- Statute of the association and registration documents
- All application documents signed by the Legal Representative.

VIII. EVALUATION CRITERIA

A Commission composed of ECCAR Board members will be in charge of the evaluation of applications, assessing the adequacy of the budget plan and the project plan.

Their judgement will be irrevocable and all decisions made will be final.

In order to evaluate the received applications and to form a ranking list to determine the winning project, the Commission will take into account the following criteria:

- Potential to reach the call for proposals objectives: max 30
- Budget feasibility and adequacy: max 25
- Partnership composition: max 20
- Innovativeness of the project idea: max 20
- Previous experience of the applicant organisation in terms of project management and in terms of expertise on the specific theme of the call for proposals: max 20
- Applicants from Southeastern Europe or activities foreseen in Southeastern Europe: max 20

During the assessment period a selection of the most interesting projects (maximum 3 projects) will be made at the unfettered discretion of the Commission. Further questions may be asked to the applicants who submitted the short-listed projects.

Once the assessment period has been completed, all the applicants will receive an email indicating the results of the competition.

The winner of the competition will be contacted by the ECCAR Administrative Secretariat for the proceedings related to the contracting procedure.

Should the winner not be available any-more for the realization of the project, the evaluation Commission will award the grant to the project proposal that ranked in the second place and so on.

Should there be no satisfactory proposal among the submitted ones, that is if the quality of the projects submitted has not met the requirements established by the ECCAR and by the

members of the Commission, or if no submission is financially viable, the procedure will be annulled.

IX. GRANTING AND FINANCING PROCEDURES

The winner of the competition will sign a contractual agreement with the ECCAR.

The ECCAR will pay in 3 (three) tranches: one initial pre-payment, up to 20% of the total awarded financing, immediately after signing the contract; one interim payment, based on actually incurred costs (as proven in the interim financial and narrative report); final balance, based on actually incurred costs (as proven in the final financial and narrative report), within 30 days from project end date. Interim and balance payment will be authorised after the evaluation and acceptance of the reported activities.

X. WORK USE CONDITIONS and OWNERSHIP RIGHTS

The ECCAR, along with the project partners, will hold intellectual property and the ownership rights related to any material and immaterial output delivered during and funded by the project. The partners grant the ECCAR the right to use freely and as it sees fit and, in particular, to translate, publish or communicate by any medium the outputs and the results of the project.

All events and materials produced will be not for profit nor will they have a commercial exploitation.

The contractor will support dissemination of all outputs and materials, based on previous agreement with the ECCAR.

XI. REPEAL OF THE GRANT CONTRACT

In case of repeal of the grant contract, the applicants will be alerted in writing by the ECCAR. The repeal may occur in the following cases:

1. The financial and technical parameters have been fundamentally altered.
2. Force majeure or other circumstances make the normal execution of the project or of the activity expected by this contract impossible.
3. Irregularities have occurred during the assignment procedure.

In no circumstance will the ECCAR be responsible for harm derived from the repeal of the grant contract.

XII. VISIBILITY RULES

The awarded subject must acknowledge the ECCAR support, by featuring the ECCAR logo in all materials and events.

XIII. EXCLUSION GROUNDS

The ECCAR reserves the right to exclude from the competition applicants who find themselves in the following situations:

1. When the applicant is bankrupt or is being wound up, when business is administered by a court, it has entered into an arrangement with creditors, it has suspended business activities, is the subject of proceedings for a declaration of bankruptcy, for an order for compulsory winding up or is in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure under national laws and regulations during the assignment procedure.
2. Has been legally convicted, by final judgement, for crimes related to professional conduct;
3. Has not fulfilled legal obligations related to the payments of social contributions or taxes according to the law of the Country in which it has been registered or in Italy.
4. Has been brought to court and convicted by final judgement for fraud, corruption, having participated in a criminal organisation or any other illegal activity.
5. Has been declared in serious breach of contractual requirements in other assignment procedures financed by the Municipality of Bologna or by other funding bodies.

The applicant must prove that they do not belong to any of the aforementioned categories, and is required to sign the declaration of ethical standards and of access rights attached to this document.