

# Public consultation on EU funds in the area of values and mobility

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

## Public consultation on EU funds in the area of values and mobility

### Introduction

---

'A stronger Union needs to be equipped with appropriate financial means to continue to deliver its policies. The Union has changed fundamentally in recent years, as have the challenges it faces. Our Union needs a budget that can help us achieve our ambitions. The Multiannual Financial Framework for the period after 2020 must reflect this.' (Commission Work Programme 2018)

The EU budget currently amounts to less than 1 euro per citizen per day. Although a modest budget, at around 1 % of the EU's gross national income or 2 % of all EU public spending, it supports the EU's shared goals by delivering essential public goods and tangible results for EU citizens. These include: investing in skills, innovation and infrastructure; ensuring sustainable food supply and developing rural areas; promoting joint research and industrial projects; funding shared activities in the field of migration and security; and supporting development and humanitarian aid.

The current Multiannual Financial Framework — the EU's long-term budget — runs until the end of 2020. In 2018, the Commission will put forth comprehensive proposals for the post-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework and for the next generation of financial programmes that will receive funding. These programmes/funds provide financial support to hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries such as regions, towns, NGOs, businesses, farmers, students, scientists, and many others.

The Commission's proposals will be designed to make it possible for the EU to deliver on the things that matter most, in areas where it can achieve more than Member States acting alone. This requires a careful assessment both of what has worked well in the past and what could be improved in the future. What should the priorities be for future policies and programmes/funds? And how can they be designed to best deliver results on the ground?

As an integral part of this process and following on from the [Reflection Paper on the Future of EU Finances](#), the Commission is launching a series of public consultations covering all the major spending areas to gather views from all interested parties on how to make the very most of every euro of the EU budget.

The scope of this public consultation covers programmes and actions aiming at protecting and promoting European values as well as supporting mobility, education and training, cultural diversity, fundamental rights, an EU area of justice, digital competence, creativity and European historical memory and remembrance. Such programmes and actions empower citizens, develop their skills and competences and contribute to open, democratic, more equal, inclusive and creative societies. This public consultation seeks to identify strengths and weaknesses of existing programmes and actions, as well as possible ways forward and highlight any possible synergies among them.

Recent consultations already covered several policy areas, including on current performance and future challenges. The views already expressed by stakeholders in these consultations will be taken into account as part of the preparatory process for the future of the multiannual financial framework.

Link to portal for recent consultations:

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations_en)

Consultations in the policy area education and training:

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations\\_en?](https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations_en?field_consultation_status_value=All&field_core_policy_areas_target_id_selective=1203)

[field\\_consultation\\_status\\_value=All&field\\_core\\_policy\\_areas\\_target\\_id\\_selective=1203](https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations_en?field_consultation_status_value=All&field_core_policy_areas_target_id_selective=1203)

Consultations in the policy field culture and media:

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations\\_en?](https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations_en?field_consultation_status_value=All&field_core_policy_areas_target_id_selective=1184)

[field\\_consultation\\_status\\_value=All&field\\_core\\_policy\\_areas\\_target\\_id\\_selective=1184](https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations_en?field_consultation_status_value=All&field_core_policy_areas_target_id_selective=1184)

Consultations related to values:

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations\\_en?](https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations_en?combine=values&field_consultation_status_value=All&field_core_policy_areas_target_id_selective=All)

[combine=values&field\\_consultation\\_status\\_value=All&field\\_core\\_policy\\_areas\\_target\\_id\\_selective=All](https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations_en?combine=values&field_consultation_status_value=All&field_core_policy_areas_target_id_selective=All)

## About you

---

\* 1 You are replying

- as an individual in your personal capacity  
 in your professional capacity or on behalf of an organisation

\* 8 Respondent's first name

Dorota

\* 9 Respondent's last name

Sienkiewicz

\* 10 Respondent's professional email address

D.Sienkiewicz@eurohealthnet.eu

\* 11 Name of the organisation

EuroHealthNet

\*12 Postal address of the organisation

67, Rue de la Loi, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

\*13 Type of organisation

Please select the answer option that fits best.

- Private enterprise
- Professional consultancy, law firm, self-employed consultant
- Trade, business or professional association
- Non-governmental organisation, platform or network
- Research and academia
- Churches and religious communities
- Regional or local authority (public or mixed)
- International or national public authority
- Other

\*22 Is your organisation included in the Transparency Register?

If your organisation is not registered, we invite you to register [here](#), although it is not compulsory to be registered to reply to this consultation. [Why a transparency register?](#)

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

\*23 If so, please indicate your Register ID number.

48562122691-12

Text

\*24 Country of organisation's headquarters

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary

- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- Other

\*26 Your contribution,

Note that, whatever option chosen, your answers may be subject to a request for public access to documents under [Regulation \(EC\) N° 1049/2001](#)

- can be published with your organisation's information** (I consent the publication of all information in my contribution in whole or in part including the name of my organisation, and I declare that nothing within my response is unlawful or would infringe the rights of any third party in a manner that would prevent publication)
- can be published provided that your organisation remains anonymous** (I consent to the publication of any information in my contribution in whole or in part (which may include quotes or opinions I express) provided that it is done anonymously. I declare that nothing within my response is unlawful or would infringe the rights of any third party in a manner that would prevent the publication.

\*27 Please let us know whether you have experience with one or more of the following funds and programmes.

*at least 1 choice(s)*

- Erasmus+ programme
- European Solidarity Corps
- Creative Europe programme
- Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme
- Europe for Citizens Programme
- EU programme for employment and social innovation
- EURES – the European job search network
- European Social Fund
- Justice Programme
- Consumer Programme
- EU aid volunteers
- None of the above

\*28 If you selected "None of the above", please explain:

*500 character(s) maximum*

EuroHealthNet has been funded under the EU programme for employment and social innovation (EaSI) in 2014-2017 and before that PROGRESS.

As regards to the European Solidarity Corps, EuroHealthNet has followed and supported the Corps since the idea was first raised. EuroHealthNet is now in the midst of setting up a European Solidarity Corps programme within our partnership.

\* 29 Please let us know to which of the following topics your replies to this questionnaire will refer.

- Learning mobility
- Education and training apart from mobility
- Volunteering, humanitarian aid, solidarity
- Youth work
- Labour mobility
- Culture, media and arts
- Citizenship and values
- Justice area, judicial cooperation, rights
- Consumer Protection
- None of the above

\* 30 If you selected "None of the above", please explain:

*500 character(s) maximum*

An important crosscutting theme throughout the options ticked is health inequalities. Health inequalities are caused by poverty, social exclusion and lack of adequate access to healthcare. These are areas which are clearly connected to the themes ticked and unmistakably underlined in EaSI and the Solidarity Corps.

## EU funds in the area of mobility and values

---

31 The Commission has preliminarily identified a number of policy challenges which programmes/funds in this area – mobility and values - could address. How important are these policy challenges in your view?

	Very important	Rather important	Neither important nor unimportant	Rather not important	Not important at all	No opinion
Support lifelong skills development through learning mobility	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support employability through lifelong learning mobility	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support digitalisation and digital transformation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote modernisation of education and training	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote cooperation between education and training and labour market actors	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support innovation	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote solidarity	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote social inclusion and fairness	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support active citizenship, democratic						

participation in society, and the rule of law	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote European identity and common values	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote rights and equality	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Foster European cultural diversity and cultural heritage	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support competitiveness of European cultural and creative sectors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reinforce the EU area of justice strengthening judicial cooperation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote consumers' interests and ensure high level of consumer protection	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (Please specify below)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\*32 If you identified another policy challenge, please specify it here:

200 character(s) maximum

Another challenge that the EU is addressing through these programme is inequalities, especially health inequalities.

33 To what extent do the current policies successfully address these challenges?

	Fully addressed	Fairly well addressed	Addressed to some extent only	Not addressed at all	No opinion
Support lifelong skills development through learning mobility	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support employability through lifelong learning mobility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support digitalisation and digital transformation	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote modernisation of education and training	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote cooperation between education and training and labour market actors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Support innovation	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote solidarity	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote social inclusion and fairness	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support active citizenship, democratic participation in society, and the rule of law	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Promote European identity and common values	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote rights and equality	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Foster European cultural diversity and cultural heritage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Support competitiveness of European cultural and creative sectors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Reinforce the EU area of justice strengthening judicial cooperation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Promote consumers' interests and ensure high level of consumer protection	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (as specified in Question 1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\*34 To what extent do the current programmes/funds add value, compared to what Member States could achieve at national, regional and/or local levels?

- To a large extent
- To a fairly good extent
- To some extent only
- Not at all
- Don't know

35 Please specify how the current programmes/funds add value compared to what Member States could achieve at national, regional and/or local levels.

*1500 character(s) maximum*

Please clearly indicate to which policies, programmes and funds your answer refers.

There is added EU value in programmes that help build knowledge and capacities between and within states, not least at sub national levels for regions, municipalities and communities, and other non-government stakeholders. The EaSI programme is recognised by our members and shown in evaluations as an important part in that complex jigsaw. Our members believe that the EaSI programme is a vital element with added value which could not be achieved elsewhere in supporting and enhancing knowledge and capacity building for social progress, equity and wellbeing within and between states.

Many states lack the necessary capacities to foresee, address and tackle the common challenges in social, sustainable development and economic fields. In the wake of devastating financial and economic global crises with significant disruption and transformation anticipated, any weakening of EU social legislation, programmes and funding could have severe consequences in states and communities.

The mere scale of the European Solidarity Corps offers multiple benefits - if properly resourced, and with particular attention to young people from deprived groups, with potential to support States in achieving better health and well-being in a sustainable manner.

36 Is there a need to modify or add to the objectives of the programmes/funds in this policy area? If yes, which changes would be necessary or desirable?

*1500 character(s) maximum*

Please clearly indicate to which policies, programmes and funds your answer refers.

The attention to integrating sustainable health and social equity can be improved in EaSI, ESC and related programmes including those supporting justice, economies and employment, and the new European Pillar of Social Rights. There is demand: people in Europe consistently value their health before all other aspects of their lives. EU 2020 targets to decrease people living in poverty and social exclusion by at least 20 million will be missed. Health inequalities persist and grow within and between states and communities; life expectancy is plateauing. In the context of widespread political unrest, a new emphasis on social equity and wellbeing objectives is urgent.

The EU Semester can be improved to integrate better with social programmes and instruments, including

use of social investment indicators across programmes for sustainable development, infrastructures including housing, education and health, and better incorporation of truly voluntary capacities such as the ESC. That will contribute to longer term shifts to tackle common challenges such as demographic changes in workforces and communities; the impacts of disruption and transformation in public, private and other sectoral systems; integration of people across borders, social gradients and cultures.

The challenges of tomorrow need 21st century solutions – health equity and health promotion have developed in the wake of crises and bring new approaches.

37 The Commission has preliminarily identified a number of possible obstacles which could prevent the current programmes/funds from achieving their objectives. To what extent do they apply in your view?

	To a large extent	To a fairly large extent	To some extent only	Not at all	Don't know
Lack of dedicated instruments to address new or specific needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Insufficient outreach towards potential partners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Too narrow geographical scope of the programmes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Target groups too restricted	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of support to first-time applicants	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language obstacles	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Obstacles to mutual recognition of study or training periods abroad and qualifications	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of budget of the programmes to satisfy demand	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Low value of individual grants	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Insufficient information and guidance	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of coordination with other funds and sectoral policies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Insufficient support provided to small-scale stakeholders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Insufficient use of results of individual projects	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Limited possibilities for funding actions across the sectors of education, training and youth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Other (Please specify below)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\* 38 If you have identified another obstacle, please specify it here:

Attracting young people from deprived backgrounds is an obstacle. There is a risk of the ESC becoming an 'upper class club' where only the best university students are picked as volunteers/interns. This could also risk fuelling the bad circle, where staying in internships becomes the norm and where only resourceful young people have the actual opportunity to take on internships/volunteering activities through the ESC.

Furthermore, it can be difficult to align ESC principles and rules with national legislation. The definition of volunteering and trainee activities may differ from that of the ESC making implementation at local level difficult.

With respect to EaSI, it does not give enough priority to address the social and health inequalities within and between EU Member States. This will improve cohesion and wellbeing by levelling up to the highest standards.

39 The Commission has preliminarily identified a number of steps that could help to further simplify and reduce administrative burdens for beneficiaries under current programmes/funds. To what extent would these steps be helpful in your view?

	To a large extent	To a fairly large extent	To some extent only	Not at all	Don't know
Clearer focus/priorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Higher involvement of stakeholders in programme implementation	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of more simplified application forms, reports and grant selection process	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Increased dissemination and better exploitation of results	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Simpler access for "new-comer" applicants and smaller/grass-root organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Incentives for people with fewer opportunities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilitating structured networks and partnerships	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilitating funding for actions cutting across the sectors of action	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Better coordination between different programmes/funds	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (Please specify below)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

41 How could synergies among programmes/funds in this area be further strengthened to avoid possible overlaps/duplication? For example, would you consider grouping/merging some programmes?

1500 character(s) maximum

Please clearly indicate to which policies, programmes and funds your answer refers.

The EaSI Programme is well evaluated and used. It should be well integrated with health, cultural, skills, employment and justice programmes in the context of social investment measures, including support for volunteering and the ESC to embed EU added values.

This will improve cohesion, equity and wellbeing by levelling up to the highest standards. Evidence shows social determinants (i.e. employment, poverty, inequality, gender equity, ethnicity, education and income) are key factors impacting positively or negatively on health and sustainable development across the life course and social gradients.

EaSI funding and the use of clustering around investing in people can prioritise addressing social and health equity connectivities. For example, evidence clearly shows that young people are much more likely to be NEET if they have poor health; health status has a huge impact on employability, employment status, and reinforcing social inequalities.

The EU programmes need to focus resources: the new EU Pillar of Social Rights offers a strong potential basis for an integrated cluster of programmes, structures and measures that will give clear form to EU values and objectives, to mobility, access and equity across borders, strengthen security and wellbeing.

## Document upload and final comments

---

42 Please feel free to upload a concise document, such as a position paper. The maximum file size is 1MB.

*Please note that the uploaded document will be published alongside your response to the questionnaire which is the essential input to this public consultation. The document is optional and serves as additional background reading to better understand your position.*

**08c7d41b-b557-41b4-ab47-fb1598dc2a17/EuroHealthNet\_summary\_in\_response\_to\_MFF\_Consultation.pdf**

43 If you wish to add further information — within the scope of this questionnaire — please feel free to do so here.

1500 character(s) maximum

Good health and wellbeing is a precursor to cohesion, stability, and economic growth; it is inseparable from social and economic conditions. So far EU funds have facilitated progress in Member States and regions which could not have been achieved otherwise. In the next multiannual budget the EU's role for health and social equity should be further developed to support a stronger, fairer Europe.

There is a need for a common strategic vision based on EU Treaty objectives on wellbeing and cohesion, taking forward the principles of the European Pillar on Social Rights and the Sustainable Development Goals. All future EC expenditure programmes should adhere to such a strategic vision and ensure that upcoming EU policies on e.g. the digital single markets for health, food chain policy, agricultural priorities and cohesion policy are aligned and broadly reinforce one another.

The EU has competencies in many areas which affect health. EuroHealthNet strongly recommends integrating health and social equity into newly proposed programmes to strengthen coherent and

coordinated action on reducing health gaps, meeting needs on the ground. Activities on health should be linked to investments in people, in skills, literacy, culture, justice and sustainability.

The new MFF is an opportunity for the EU to tangibly improve the lives of people in Europe and contribute to more sustainable and resilient societies.

## **Contact**

SG-OPC-VALUES-MOBILITY@ec.europa.eu

---