

Positive Solutions for Vulnerable Social groups Workshop



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens



3rd Multiplier event–
ERMIScom project

**EU funding
with reference to
Vulnerable Social
Groups**

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Defining Vulnerability– Who is vulnerable?

- ▶ Vulnerable groups are physically, mentally, or socially disadvantaged persons who may be unable to meet their basic needs and may therefore require specific assistance. Persons exposed to and/or displaced by conflict or natural hazard may also be considered vulnerable.
- ▶ Social policy is primarily the responsibility of EU countries. However, certain aspects are a shared competence with the EU.
- ▶ A horizontal social clause is introduced by Article 9 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU and introduces the obligation for the EU and MS to take into account the following social requirements:
 - ✓ the promotion of a high level of employment;
 - ✓ the guarantee of adequate social protection;
 - ✓ the fight against social exclusion;
 - ✓ a high level of education, training and protection of human health.

European Pillar for Social Rights

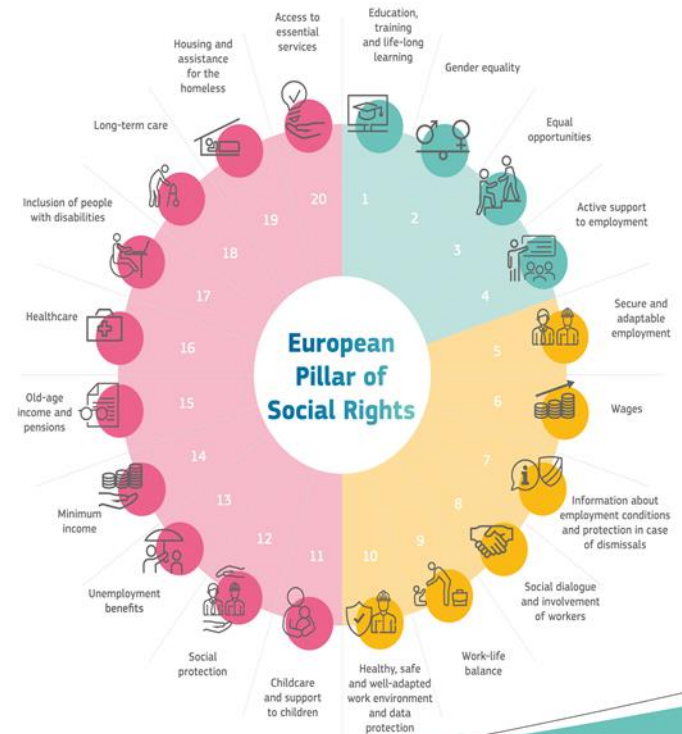
- ▶ The European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) is an initiative launched by the European Commission which aims to bring back the social dimension of the EU, rebalance economic policies with social considerations, reconnect with European citizens.
- ▶ The Pillar does not give the European Union more power or competences, but aims to be a tool to promote social rights with joint collaboration and responsibility of the European institutions together with Member States, civil society, social actors and social partners.
- ▶ The EPSR sets out 20 principles in three main areas:
 - equal opportunities and access to the labour market
 - fair working conditions and
 - social protection and inclusion

European Pillar for Social Rights

Chapter III: Social Protection and Inclusion

11. Childcare and support to children
12. Social protection
13. Unemployment benefits
14. Minimum income
15. Old age income and pensions
16. Health care
17. Inclusion of people with disabilities
18. Long-term care
19. Housing and assistance for the homeless
20. Access to essential services

The 20 principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights



#SocialRights

Two Pillars for EU Funding

The EU's **Competitive Programmes** are horizontal financial tools set to promote European policies. The Competitive Programmes are funded directly by the EU budget with the scope to implement EU policies, with no specific allocations to Member States. The European Commission issues call for tenders and invites possible beneficiaries for submission of proposals two or three times per year. The beneficiaries submit their proposals for approval directly to the Commission, without the intervention by the Member State.

Two Pillars for EU Funding

The calls for proposals are issued and managed by the competent Services of the European Commission or in specific cases, some of the European Programme strands can be managed by the national faucal point, or the nominated National Agency of each of the programme. Potential beneficiaries submit their proposals for approval directly to the Commission. These proposals are evaluated on a competitive basis with proposals from all the Member States and the best ones are selected for funding. It is often necessary for proposals to be transnational in order to ensure the European added value from the implementation of the project.

Two Pillars for EU Funding

The **Co-financed Programmes** are funded by EU funds pre-allocated to Member States as well as national resources. These co-financed programmes are implemented through national programming documents formulated on the basis of both the priorities of EU policies as well as the corresponding development needs, and priorities identified at national level. The cofounded programmes are cofinanced by using funds of the Structural Investment Funds according to the Regulations delivered by each programming period of seven years.

Two Pillars for EU Funding

The Programmes are managed by the competent authorities by implementing the programmes according to the EU Regulations and the Common Management regulation of each programming period. The European Commission has the right to scrutiny the National strategic Framework co financed by the structural funds and the respective Operational programs per policy area. The management of the co-financed programmes is held by the Member State via the appointment of Management Authorities for each Operational Programme (O.P). The eligibility rules follow the national legislation, and the implementation, dissemination and evaluations activities are described in each O.P.

The 2021 – 2027 funding

Each country has its own national website portal, which covers implementation of:

- European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- Cohesion Fund (CF)
- Just Transition Fund (JTF)
- European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)
- Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)
- Internal Security Fund (ISF)
- Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy (BMVI)

European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)

The **ESF+** is one of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIFs), which are dedicated to improving **social cohesion and economic well-being** across the regions of the Union. The funds are redistributive financial instruments that support cohesion within Europe by concentrating spending on the less-developed regions.

The European Social Fund was created in the founding Treaty of Rome in 1957. It is the oldest of the European Structural and Investment Funds. As of 2015, the main goal is to foster employment, reduce social exclusion and invest in skills. In some EU countries it also supports administrative reform.

European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)

Through supporting actions in the areas of employment, education & skills and social inclusion, the ESF+ will support individuals, regions and Member States to face distinct challenges - from recovering from the current pandemic to meeting the EU's targets for employment, social inclusion, education and climate.

The majority of funding (€98.5 billion) will be allocated under shared management with the Member States. This means that the ESF+ Managing Authorities in each country will dedicate the money to projects that are run by a range of public and private organisations, thereby responding to the country- and region-specific needs.

European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)

In addition to the shared management strand of the fund, the European Commission directly manages a smaller share (€762 million) of the ESF+ under the Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) Strand. This side of the fund will support analytical activities, capacity building and transnational/cross-border cooperation to strengthen social protection and social inclusion, fair working conditions, equal access to the labour market, social entrepreneurship and labour mobility.

It brings together three EU programmes managed separately between 2007 and 2013: PROGRESS, EURES and Progress Microfinance.

ESF+ Architecture (2021-2027)

European Social Fund
(shared management)

ESF

Youth Employment Initiative
(shared management)

YEI

FEAD

Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived
(shared management)

EaSI

**European Programme for Employment
and Social Innovation**
(direct management)

European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)

For the 2021-2027 period, the ESF+ will invest in the following priority areas:

- Actions for young people affected by the COVID-19 crisis, for better skills, quality jobs and improvement of their education and training
- Actions to combat child poverty, and supporting the most vulnerable in society suffering from job losses and income reductions, including providing food and basic material assistance to the most deprived
- Reskilling and upskilling people for the transition to a green and digital economy
- Capacity building for social partners and civil society organisations
- Transnational cooperation for promoting social innovation across the EU
- Direct support to social innovation through the Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) strand

ESF+: Financial resources to support Youth and social inclusion

- ✓ For Youth Employment Support: an investment of more than €22 billion will take place during the 2021-2027 programming period
- ✓ Member States (MS) above the EU average rate of young people not in Employment, Education or Training (“NEETs”) aged between 15-29 need to **allocate at least 12.5% of their ESF+ resources** to targeted actions and reforms to support youth employment and reintegration into education or training, in particular in the context of Youth Guarantee schemes (10 eligible MS: BG, HR, CY, FR, EL, HU, IT, RO, SK and ES).
- ✓ All other Member States should allocate an appropriate amount based on their particular investment needs

ESF+: Financial resources to support Social Inclusion

- ✓ All Member States should allocate **at least 25% of their ESF+ resources** under shared management for social inclusion measures.
- ✓ Active inclusion and socio-economic integration of third country nationals and marginalized communities for ESF+ cofinancing measures are a priority.
- ✓ At the same time, equal access to services, modernisation of and access to social protection systems, healthcare and long-term care services, social integration of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion should be part of the Programming document of MS.
- ✓ All Member States should allocate **at least 3% for addressing food and material deprivation**.

Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)

The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund contributes to the efficient management of migration flows and aims at strengthening and developing a common approach to asylum and migration.

The AMIF is set up for the period 2021-2027, with a total budget of €9.9 billion.

The Fund aims to further boost national capacities and improve procedures for migration management, as well as to enhance solidarity and responsibility sharing between MS, in particular through emergency assistance and the relocation mechanism.

Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)

AMIF will contribute to the achievement of four specific objectives:

- ✓ to strengthen and develop all aspects of the common European asylum system, including its external dimension
- ✓ to support legal migration to the Member States, including by contributing to the integration of third-country nationals
- ✓ to contribute to countering irregular migration and ensuring effectiveness of return and readmission in third countries
- ✓ to enhance solidarity and responsibility sharing between the Member States, in particular towards those most affected by migration and asylum challenges

NextGenerationEU

- ✓ NextGenerationEU is the EU's €800 billion temporary recovery instrument to support the economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and build a greener, more digital and more resilient future.
- ✓ The centerpiece of NextGenerationEU is the Recovery and Resilience Facility - an instrument that offers grants and loans to support reforms and investments in the EU Member States for a total of €723.8 billion in current prices.
- ✓ Funds under the Recovery and Resilience funds are being provided to Member States in line with their national Recovery and Resilience plans – the roadmaps to reforms and investments aimed to make EU economies greener, digital and more resilient.
- ✓ Part of the NextGenerationEU funds are being used to reinforce several existing EU programmes.

RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE FACILITY 723.8 billion

338.0 grants

385.8 loans

POWER UP
Clean technologies and renewables

MODERNISE
Digitalisation of public administration

RENOVATE
Energy efficiency of buildings

SCALE-UP
Data cloud and sustainable processors

RECHARGE AND REFUEL
Sustainable transport and charging stations

RESKILL AND UPSKILL
Education and training to support digital skills

CONNECT
Roll-out of rapid broadband services



NGEU CONTRIBUTION TO OTHER PROGRAMMES 83.1 billion

REACT-EU
50.6

JUST TRANSITION FUND
10.9

RURAL DEVELOPMENT
8.1

INVESTEU
6.1

HORIZON EUROPE
5.4

RESCEU
2.0

Source: https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/eu-borrower-investor-relations/nextgenerationeu_en

Synergy between the funds

Member States have several EU Funds at their disposal to invest in the integration of people with a migrant background.

These include:

- ✓ Funding instruments under Shared Management, including the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) and the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF),
- ✓ Direct Management (Competitive Programmes), e.g., the EU programme for Employment and Social Innovation, Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme, the Health for Growth programme, Erasmus+, etc.

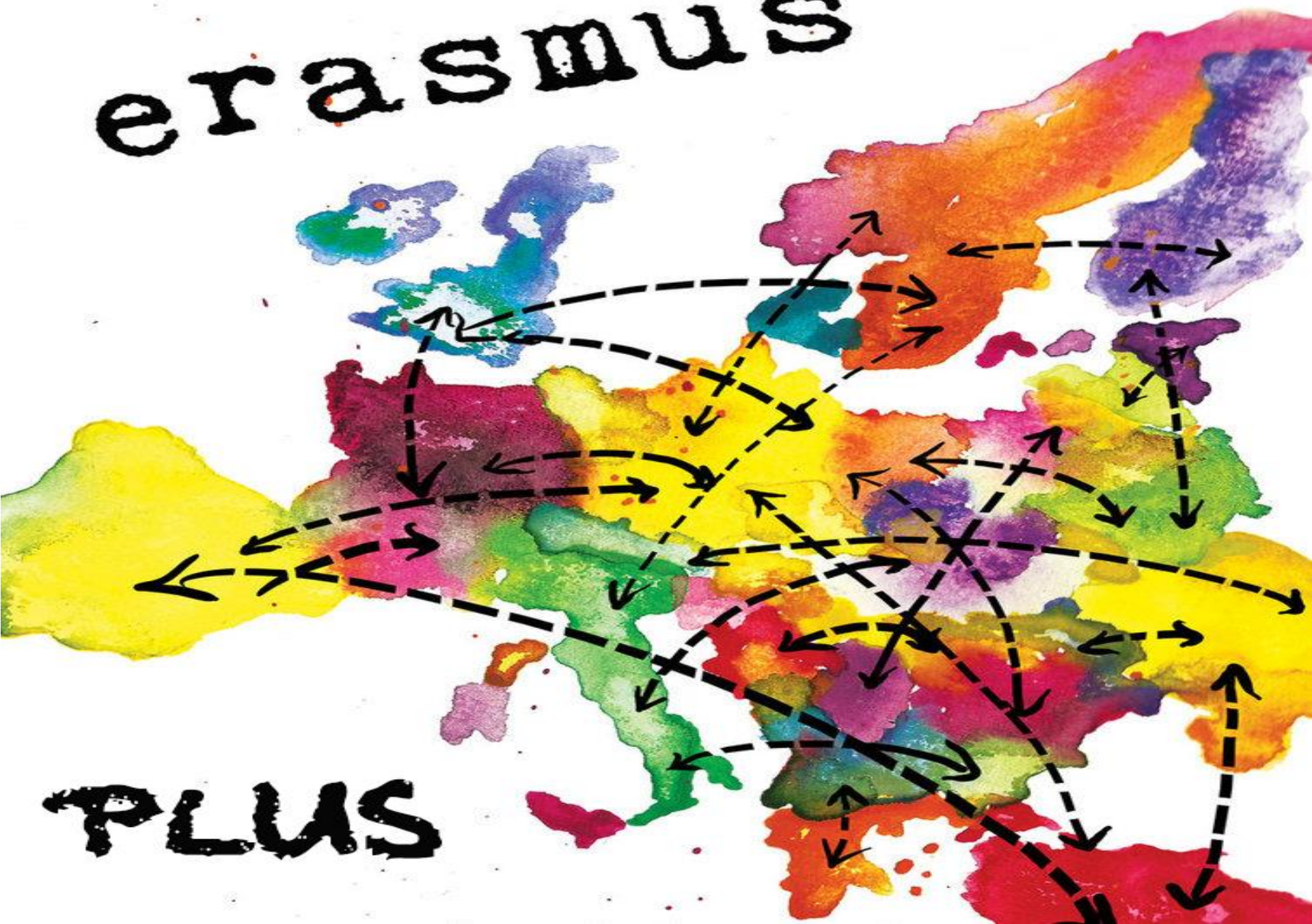
Competitive programmes: at EU and National level

Indicative examples of Competitive Programmes:

1. Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) (2021-2027)
2. COST – European Cooperation in Science and Technology
3. Creative Europe (CREA)
4. Digital Europe Programme
5. Erasmus+ Programme
6. EU Anti-Fraud Programme
7. EU4 Health Programme 2021-2027
8. European Defence Fund (EDF)
9. Horizon Europe (2021-2027)
10. Innovation Fund (2021-2027)
11. Internal Security Fund (2021-2027)
12. Interregional Innovation Investments Instrument (I3)
13. Justice Programme
14. LIFE: ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION
15. Single Market Programme (SMP) (2021-2027)
16. Union Civil Protection Mechanism

erasmus

PLUS



Erasmus+

Erasmus+ is the EU Programme in the fields of education, training, youth and sport. It has integrated all older programmes for education & lifelong learning (Youth Exchanges Programmes, Erasmus, Comenius, Leonardo, Jean Monnet, Grundvig, Youth in Action).

The budget for the period 2021-2027 extends to €2.849 billion

Erasmus+ strengthens its efforts to increase the opportunities offered to more participants and to a wider range of organisations, focusing on its qualitative impact and contributing to more inclusive and cohesive, greener and digitally fit societies.

Erasmus+

The general objective of the Programme is to support under a multicultural and digital environment the educational, professional and personal development of people in education, training, youth and sport, in order to contribute sustainable growth, quality jobs, social cohesion, driving innovation, as well as to strengthen European identity.

It also promotes learning mobility, active participation and cooperation, inclusion and equity, excellence, creativity, and innovation at the level of organisations and policies in the field of education and training. It also offers mobility and cooperation opportunities in higher education, vocational education and training, school education, adult education, youth and sport.

Erasmus+

There are four overarching priorities under the Erasmus+:

- Inclusion and Diversity
- Environment and fight against climate change
- Digital Transformation
- Participation in democratic life

To achieve its objectives, the Erasmus+ Programme implements the following Actions:

Key Action 1: Learning Mobility of Individuals

Key Action 2: Cooperation among organisations and institutions

Key Action 3: Support to policy development and cooperation

Key Action 4: Jean Monnet Actions

Key Action 5: Sport Actions

Erasmus+ - Inclusion and Diversity

The Programme seeks to promote equal opportunities and access, inclusion, diversity and fairness across all its actions. Organisations and the participants with fewer opportunities themselves are at the heart of these objectives and with these in mind, the programme puts mechanisms and resources at their disposal. When designing their projects and activities, organisations should have an inclusive approach, making them accessible to a diverse range of participants.

National Agencies draw up inclusion and diversity plans to best address the needs of participants with fewer opportunities and to support the organisations working with these target groups in their national context.

Erasmus+ - Inclusion and Diversity

In order to implement these principles, an Inclusion and Diversity Strategy covering all programme fields is devised to support an easier access to funding for a wider range of organisations, and to better reach out to more participants with fewer opportunities.

A list of such potential barriers:

- Disabilities: physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments.
- Health problems: health issues including severe illnesses, chronic diseases.
- Barriers linked to education and training systems: Individuals struggling to perform in education and training systems for various reasons, early school-leavers, NEETs (people not in education, employment or training) and low-skilled adults may face barriers.

Erasmus+ - Inclusion and Diversity

A list of such potential barriers:

- Cultural barriers: newly-arrived migrants -, people belonging to a national or ethnic minority, sign language users, people with linguistic adaptation and cultural inclusion difficulties, etc.
- Social barriers: such as limited social competences, anti-social or high-risk behaviours, (former) offenders, (former) drug or alcohol abusers, or social marginalisation, etc.
- Economic barriers: low standard of living, low income, dependence on the social welfare system, in long-term unemployment...
- Barriers linked to discrimination: linked to gender, age, ethnicity, religion, beliefs, sexual orientation, disability ...
- Geographical barriers: Living in remote or rural areas, on small islands, in less serviced areas, less developed areas...

Horizon Europe

Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation with a budget of €95.5 billion. It tackles climate change, helps to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and boosts the EU's competitiveness and growth. The programme facilitates collaboration and strengthens the impact of research and innovation in developing, supporting and implementing EU policies while tackling global challenges. It supports creating and better dispersing of excellent knowledge and technologies. It creates jobs, fully engages the EU's talent pool, boosts economic growth, promotes industrial competitiveness and optimises investment impact within a strengthened European Research Area.

Legal entities from the EU and associated countries can participate.

PILLAR 1 EXCELLENT SCIENCE

EUROPEAN RESEARCH
COUNCIL

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE
ACTIONS

RESEARCH
INFRASTRUCTURES

PILLAR 2 GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

CLUSTERS

- HEALTH
- CULTURE, CREATIVITY
AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY
- CIVIL SECURITY FOR SOCIETY
- DIGITAL, INDUSTRY AND SPACE
- CLIMATE, ENERGY AND MOBILITY
- FOOD, BIOECONOMY, NATURAL
RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE AND
ENVIRONMENT

JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

PILLAR 3 INNOVATIVE EUROPE

EUROPEAN INNOVATION
COUNCIL

EUROPEAN INNOVATION
ECOSYSTEMS

EUROPEAN INSTITUTE
OF INNOVATION
AND TECHNOLOGY

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE

REFORMING AND ENHANCING THE EUROPEAN R&I SYSTEM

Creative Europe

A programme to support the culture and audiovisual sectors by providing funding for cultural and creative organisations, cinemas and films. The budget extends to € 2.44 billion. The main objectives of the programme are to safeguard, develop and promote European cultural and linguistic diversity and heritage and to increase the competitiveness and economic potential of the cultural and creative sectors, in particular the audiovisual sector. Creative Europe also aims to increase the competitiveness of cultural sectors, while supporting their efforts to become greener, more digital and more inclusive. Special attention is given to reinforcing the resilience and recovery of the cultural and creative sectors in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The programme is divided into 3 strands.

Creative Europe

STRANDS	ACTIVITIES
CULTURE strand	<p>This strand supports a wide range of cultural and creative sectors such as: architecture, cultural heritage, design, literature and publishing, music and performing arts.</p> <p>Funding opportunities under the CULTURE strand could be European cooperation projects, European platforms, European networks, Circulation of European literary works , I-Portunus: mobility for artists and professionals, Pan-European Cultural Entities</p> <p>Cooperation and exchanges among cultural organisations and artists within Europe and beyond is also promoted</p>
MEDIA strand	<p>This strand supports the European film and audiovisual industries to develop, distribute and promote European works, taking into account today's digital environment.</p> <p>In addition, it encourages cooperation across the value chain of the audiovisual industry and at EU level in order to scale up enterprises and European content globally , nurtures talents – wherever they come from, engages with audiences of all ages, especially the younger generations. To ensure more flexibility in the actions supported and to encourage cooperation among the different parts of the audiovisual value-chain, the priorities of the 2021-2027 Creative Europe programme are structured around 4 clusters: Content, Business , Audience and Policy support and awareness raising</p>
CROSS SECTORAL strand	<p>This strand aims at reinforcing collaboration between different cultural and creative sectors, in order to help them address the common challenges they face and find innovative new solutions. This is achieved for instance through policy cooperation, the services provided by the Creative Europe desks, and the Creative Innovation Lab.</p>

Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV)

CERV programme aims to protect and promote Union rights and values as enshrined in the EU Treaties and the Charter of Fundamental Rights and has a budget of € 1,55 billion. It will contribute to sustain and further develop open, rights-based, democratic, equal and inclusive societies based on the rule of law.

The programme sets out four specific objectives:

- to promote equality and rights, including gender equality, anti-discrimination and the rights of children
- to promote citizens engagement and participation in the democratic life of the EU and to raise awareness of the common European history
- to fight violence, notably against children and women
- to protect and promote EU values

Funds and grants of International Organizations

- ▶ Some of the most important international Organisations are the United Nations (UN), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Council of Europe, the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Education Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and many others acting globally or focusing in areas where specific problems are emerging.

Funding from international organisations for Vulnerable groups

- ▶ Some flagship initiative and programmes funded by International Organisations all over the world are presented in the table below:
- ▶ **The United Nations (UN):** 6 Thematic Pillars (2018-2021), Enhance equality and counter Discrimination (Agenda 2030), - Increase international human Rights mechanisms - Strengthen the law for Human Rights violations,- Enhance participation and protecting civic space,- Prevent violations and - Advance sustainable development
- ▶ **The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNICEF-INNOVATION FUND** Tailored support for product development and creation of sustainable business model - BUSINESS GROWTH- PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT - UNICEF NETWORK
- ▶ In Greece, UNICEF support early childhood care and development, equal access to education for girls, child protection, child and maternal health, community water supply and sanitation as well as out-of- school education for children in the most remote locations.

As a conclusion...

The new Competitives programmes (2021-2027) contribute to modernize the existing policies, to develop global peace, stability, democracy and human rights in Europe and the world.

Together with the Structural Funds and the Recovery and Resilience Fund are the instruments to ameliorate the situation of vulnerable groups and insure social cohesion in all EU Member States.

Erasmus+ - A ball for all

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y03UC6JIEEM&t=22s>

Lightweight football, with bells inside, which is **donated** to blind or visually impaired children or young people and their schools.

OBJECTIVES – PILLARS

1. Distribution of the ball to blind or visually impaired children and young people around the world, especially those from underprivileged backgrounds.
2. Donation to general and special schools for inclusive physical education activities.
3. Implementation of educational programs in children's and young people's communities to promote empathy and inclusion.

Erasmus+ - A ball for all

TARGET GROUP

1. Blind or visually impaired children and young people, their families and schools.
2. Mixed groups – for blind and sighted children and young people – in formal and non-formal education settings and leisure time, to encourage inclusive activities for all.

Ball has already been send in 214 countries around the world.

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1gZ1xf58FQL7y6RjM-gkrxsWS6NoXjLR>

Winner at 2021 #Beinclusive EU Sport Awards
Inspiring change category

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