

## **COMPENDIA 2013**

### **Citizens' Projects**

#### **Europe for Citizens Programme**

**Description of the projects selected for funding  
2013**

**Action 1 - Active Citizens for Europe**  
**Measure 2.1 Citizens' Projects**

AT THE TIME OF PUBLICATION THE FOLLOWING PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS REFLECT THE PROPOSALS AS  
SUBMITTED BY APPLICANTS FOR THE SUBMISSION DEADLINE

**Action 1 - Active Citizens for Europe**  
**Measure 2.1 Citizens' Projects**

*TITLE: "Inter Gera Ação"*

*Coordinator: Escola Superior de Tecnologias da Saúde do Porto-IPP (PT)*

*Venue: PT*

*Grant awarded: 127.959,00 €*

**DESCRIPTION:**

Global objectives of the project "*Inter Gera Ação*" are to stimulate dialogue and interaction among groups of European citizens and European institutions to find solutions to diverse types of social exclusion and to contribute to the construction of a more inclusive Europe.

To reach these objectives, citizens' groups will work together, according to participative methodologies within a reflexive paradigm to find out their own needs, to raise awareness to different forms of prejudices and discrimination.

Citizen panels opened to HEI students, local authorities, business people, experts will put on the agenda the subject that differences are to be included. Recommendations, dissemination of best practices in European partner Countries, possibilities of integration in the work market, social enterprises will be divulgate through national/ transnational Media, platform on line and opened to wider audiences. The criteria to form working groups are to join disabled, unemployed, women, organisations volunteers, HEI students, investigators, to debate, using group dynamics, the influence of European decisions in daily life and to find out innovative solutions for the needs of different types of social exclusion. Sensitisation to decision makers and capacitation to small crafts will be in the origin of social enterprises.

**Action 1 - Active Citizens for Europe**  
**Measure 2.1 Citizens' Projects**

*TITLE: "European Young Leaders programme 2013-2014"*

*Coordinator: EuropaNova (FR)*

*Venue: FR*

*Grant awarded: 250.000,00 €*

**DESCRIPTION:**

Parmi les grands défis de l'Europe, le manque de vision collective reste un des principaux obstacles à un système efficace et durable. Le programme European Young Leaders vise à promouvoir une identité européenne en construisant, année après année, un réseau fédérant les jeunes personnalités les plus talentueuses de l'Union.

Il rassemble chaque année 40 jeunes leaders européens qui contribuent par leur rayonnement au développement du leadership européen. Les participants de haut niveau, entre 30 et 40 ans, représentant un large panel de profils (nationalité, formation, profession et centres d'intérêt) sont sélectionnés par un comité de personnalités européennes.

Ce groupe suit chaque année deux séminaires ayant lieu dans différentes villes emblématiques européennes. Les séminaires sont animés par des journalistes et des experts et font intervenir des personnalités européennes de premier plan. Ils sont l'occasion pour les jeunes leaders de partager leurs expériences et de construire une vision commune sur les principaux sujets européens. Une rencontre citoyenne est par ailleurs organisée durant chacun des séminaires. L'animation du réseau des "alumni" permet de valoriser le travail réalisé lors des séminaires. (..)

Un plan de communication ambitieux est mis en œuvre pour médiatiser ce programme auprès des citoyens via différents supports et partenaires issus de plusieurs pays de l'UE. Un rapport est par ailleurs envoyé chaque année aux leaders de l'UE suite aux séminaires.

**Action 1 - Active Citizens for Europe**  
**Measure 2.1 Citizens' Projects**

*TITLE: "Europe Caravan: transnational citizens' engagement with the European Parliament elections"*

*Coordinator: European Alternatives Ltd (UK)*

*Venue: UK*

*Grant awarded: 115.250,00 €*

**DESCRIPTION:**

With EACEA support, European Alternatives (EA) and hundreds of other organisations have been involved in 2013 in drafting a Citizens Manifesto, collecting citizen-led proposals to be submitted to future MEPs before the 2014 EP elections. The manifesto will be finalised in November 2013. Through this project EA would like to take the Manifesto across Europe to people who are involved in local activism but may be the least likely to turn out to vote at the European elections. EA and its partners will be initially trained on evidence-based participatory techniques, with the aim of involving more people in a dialogue about Europe-wide issues. By providing people with evidence on the need for a united European response to common problems we hope to increase the interest in European citizenship. EA and its partners will then begin a phase of research to scope cases of local political disagreements or campaigns across Europe that have yet to approach a transnational dimension. These local "hotspots" will be placed on a map and different routes will be traced. In April 2014 a European caravan will be created to travel across Europe to meet these different people, donate them a copy of the Manifesto, and engage in discussion on possible policy proposals that would improve the life of EU citizens. Through campers or trains, EA's community organisers, communicators and video makers will travel from Paris to Edinburgh, from Lisbon to Barcelona, from Rome to Zagreb, from Budapest to Prague, from Berlin to Lublin, from Athens to Bucharest and meet with thousands of EU citizens and residents in the month before the EP elections. During these journeys, daily updates will be sent to a common blog and daily summaries will be sent to all those campaigning for election or re-election. In a second phase, all material gathered during the caravan will be edited into a book and a video to be presented to the new Parliament in September 2014 together with the Citizens Manifesto.

**Action 1 - Active Citizens for Europe**  
**Measure 2.1 Citizens' Projects**

*TITLE: " Laboratories of European democracy "*

*Coordinator: Associazione ARCI (IT)*

*Venue: IT*

*Grant awarded: 147.852,60 €*

**DESCRIPTION:**

The project aims to establish a laboratory of direct participation in the European institutions debate, after the election of the new European Parliament in 2014. This is an urgent need: anti-European feeling is spreading, especially in the EU countries more affected by the crisis. European institutions and civil society organizations committed themselves to dialogue in several occasions. Despite these attempts, social fear and mistrust in democracy brings many citizens to join populists and regressive anti-European movements.

A huge obstacle to create links between citizens and EU comes by the fact that most citizens still do not even know the debate inside the European institutions. The proposed project intends to create and animate through the work of community leaders citizens' groups in each partner country. The citizens taking part to the local groups will receive in their mailbox, before each sessions of the European Parliament, a summary of the agenda of the session, highlighting main issues that the Parliament will discuss. The groups of citizens will express their opinion on the themes in agenda of the Parliamentary work. Each community leader will organize citizens' opinions and send an e-mail to all deputies of his electoral constituency informing them about the opinions expressed by his/her citizens' group.

A European Forum will be organized bringing together community leaders, citizens, representatives of social organizations from all over Europe to debate about values and politics to rebuild a pro-European popular feeling, as well as about participation mechanisms to establish stronger relations between citizens and the European institutions. The European Forum in Italy will also host a dialogue with representatives of the European institutions, during the Italian Presidency of EU.

After the Forum, the citizens groups will produce a recommendation document on the most relevant themes addressed to the EU institutions.

**Action 1 - Active Citizens for Europe**  
**Measure 2.1 Citizens' Projects**

*TITLE: " Repenser le projet européen avec les plus pauvres."*

*Coordinator: Mouvement ATD Quart Monde (FR)*

*Venue: FR*

*Grant awarded: 115.000,00 €*

**DESCRIPTION:**

Le projet «Repenser le projet européen avec les plus pauvres» vise à renforcer la participation citoyenne des personnes vivant la pauvreté et l'exclusion sociale à travers l'Europe et à faire des propositions en vue des élections au Parlement européen. Celles-ci émaneront de l'expérience de vie des personnes très défavorisées et seront construites dans un dialogue avec les responsables des institutions européennes.

Ce projet s'appuie sur le réseau des Universités Populaires Quart Monde et sera mené dans les pays des associations organisatrices partenaires : France, Belgique, Italie, Pays-Bas, Pologne, Royaume-Uni, Espagne, Irlande, Luxembourg. 700 personnes seront directement impliquées. Dès la fin 2013, des rencontres préparatoires auront été organisées au niveau local et régional avec des personnes en grande exclusion, en lien avec d'autres associations et des citoyens d'autres milieux.

En février 2014, une Université Populaire Quart Monde Européenne, rassemblant 140 personnes, sera organisée au Parlement européen afin de créer un dialogue avec 60 membres des institutions européennes et de la société civile, dans le but de produire des propositions politiques recevables par tous. La méthodologie spécifique du Croisement Des Savoirs permettra de construire une réflexion commune entre les citoyens très défavorisés et les décideurs. Les participants réfléchiront aux conséquences des politiques européennes dans leur vie quotidienne, en s'appuyant notamment sur les conclusions de l'Université Populaire Européenne au CESE en 2012 relative aux obstacles à la citoyenneté européenne. Ils formuleront des propositions politiques et citoyennes.

Celles-ci seront soumises aux candidats, retransmises et diffusées dans les 9 pays européens. Elles seront plus largement diffusées au cours de rassemblements citoyens pendant la journée mondiale du refus de la misère le 17 octobre 2014, qui mobilise environ 10 000 personnes à travers l'Europe.

**Action 1 - Active Citizens for Europe**  
**Measure 2.1 Citizens' Projects**

*TITLE: "Young Roma Civic Advocates"*

*Coordinator: European Roma Grassroots Organisations Network (BE)*

*Venue: BE*

*Grant awarded: 150.000,00 €*

**DESCRIPTION:**

(...) This project offers innovative, hands-on solutions to find mechanisms for genuine civic participation of Roma and for enhancing public debate on Roma citizenship, contributing to the overall EU policy process to. The objective of the project is to:

- Empower young Roma (18-30) to play a key role as Roma Civic Advocates in establishing dialogue with the EU and national institutions by gaining access to skills, tools and an online platform (romareact.org) to step into the public debate on Roma and to advocate for equal citizenship for Roma.

The planned activities are as follows:

- An intensive training trajectory for a select group of young Roma to develop civic competences, to formulate their views and opinions and to establish dialogues with European and national Institutions as Roma Civic Advocates (RCA);
- The RCA will be responsible collecting narratives and opinions of Roma and non-Roma to steer the online debate on RomaReact.org and the offline debate with European Institutions on active citizenship of Roma and how EU policies affect their lives;
- Through off-line local and national events (advocacy events, round tables) RCA will search for cooperation with their peers and local Roma groups to advocate towards local institutions for concrete policy improvements and to challenge the stereotypes against Roma that are the root-cause of failure of policies.

**Action 1 - Active Citizens for Europe**  
**Measure 2.1 Citizens' Projects**

*TITLE: " Y Vote 2014 on the road: Youth re-inspires older generations"*

*Coordinator: AEGEE-Europe/European Students' Forum (BE)*

*Venue: BE*

*Grant awarded: 100.000,00 €*

**DESCRIPTION:**

"Y Vote 2014 on the road" is a transnational campaign to promote the citizen participation in the European Parliamentary elections of 2014. It intends to empower the young generations to start a trip on a bus tour around one of the most affected countries by the crisis (Spain), a country with increasing levels of euro scepticism (UK), as well as the new EU member state Croatia, and re-inspire, motivate and engage the older generations to re-sign their contract with Europe, believe once again of the importance of having the European Union and make informed choices in the European Parliament elections, to have an impact in the change they want for Europe.

Through three strategically selected bus tours in different EU countries, the young generations will, with its youth, idealism and energy, convince and engage older generations that Europe is in all of our interests and it is still something worth investing in. We will organize bus tours in Croatia (new EU member state where everybody will be first time voter), in Spain (one of the countries which has been most affect by the crisis, especially in Youth Unemployment reaching already 60% and making citizens lose faith in the EU) and the United Kingdom where specially now levels of euro scepticism are higher than ever and EU is facing the possibility of losing one of its Member States). During the bus tours, not only Europe as a benefit will be promoted, but also the different choices which the Political Parliamentary Groups of the European Parliament offer on the future of Europe, as well as giving the space to citizens to express what they want for the future of Europe and reach the decision makers directly in the European Parliament.

**Action 1 - Active Citizens for Europe**  
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*TITLE: "Encouraging Young Europeans to Vote Out the EU Democratic Deficit "*

*Coordinator: Международен институт по мениджмънт (BG)*

*Venue: BG*

*Grant awarded: 101.346,00 €*

**DESCRIPTION:**

The project's overall objective is to promote citizens' ownership of the EU in both current and potential Member States (MSs) and to encourage the involvement of young Europeans in the democratic life of Europe, in particular by motivating them to participate in the 2014 European Parliament (EP) Elections.

The specific objectives are:

- to give voice to citizens from current and potential MSs by involving them in debate on what they perceive to be the urgent issues relevant to the development of Europe post 2014, thereby encouraging EU citizens to make their voice count by voting in the 2014 European elections;
- to increase the motivation and build the capacity of young people from current and potential MSs to participate actively in the democratic and social life of Europe;
- to raise public awareness on the rights and moral duties of EU citizens;
- to build the capacity of civil society organizations to foster European citizenship and wide ownership of the European Area for Freedom, Security and Justice.

The action will be implemented by 10 NGOs from 5 MSs (Bulgaria, Italy, Poland, Romania, Croatia), the candidate country FYROM and a potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina.

the key activities are as follows: two Citizens' Discussion Panels in Varna and Dobrich (Bulgaria); two role-playing games "EP Elections" in Dobrich (Bulgaria) and Zadar (Croatia); an awareness raising event focused on EU citizen rights in Dobrich (BG) including a youth festival aimed at encouraging young people to vote in the 2014 EP elections and promotional events and information video. Project events will involve 220 participants and will also benefit the local publics. Beneficiaries and wider audiences will be motivated to become actively engaged in the democratic life of the EU, in particular to vote in the 2014 EP elections. They will gain better understanding of the rights stemming from EU citizenship and will thus perceived their own stakes in the construction of unified Europe.

**Action 1 - Active Citizens for Europe**  
**Measure 2.1 Citizens' Projects**

*TITLE: "Active Communities for Europe "*

*Coordinator: ZAKLADA ZA POTICANJE PARTNERSTVA I RAZVOJA CIVILNOG DRUŠTVA (HR)*

*Partner countries:*

*Venue: HR*

*Grant awarded: 186.379,80 €*

**DESCRIPTION:**

The big concerns for the EU these days are the future 2014 elections and exercise of the active citizenship. Just one, clear indicator is the extremely low and insufficient turnout of 20,74% for the EU parliament elections in Croatia, but also the lowest turnouts in EU: Poland 24%, SI 28%, UK 34%, BG 39% compare to IT 65% or BE 90%. In order to cope with the passivity of the citizens, especially among the youth, the education and the right access to information is recognized to be one of the most effective way in forming of the active communities.

The Eurobarometer report showed that more than (84%) agree that turnout at European elections would be higher if more information was provided about: the European Parliament elections, the impact of the European Union on citizens' daily life, the programmes and objectives of candidates and parties in the European Parliament. Across the EU, just over one third of respondents (36%) say that they feel well informed about their rights as citizens of the European Union. Just under one quarter of respondents say they feel fairly or very well informed about what they can do when their rights as an EU citizen are not respected (24%).

The main aim of the A.C.E. project is to support active participation of citizens to the EU democratic life and through the innovative and non-formal education methods, the Theatre of the oppressed, public discussions, media promotion, involvement of kindergartners and many other activities.

The project team is formed from 8 partners from 7 countries with various skills and best practices to contribute to the project but also from countries with the lowest turnout for EU elections (...).

**Action 1 - Active Citizens for Europe**  
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RESERVE LIST (to be considered for funding in event of budgetary availability)

*TITLE: " COOPERLAND "*

*Coordinator: Ayuntamiento de Vigo (ES)*

*Venue: ES*

*Grant awarded: 114.566,43 €*

**DESCRIPTION:**

(...)The project aims to work in two directions: on the one hand, strengthening the already existing "European network of citizen cooperative practices", devoted to exchange initiatives and create synergies for strategies of social cooperation and civic commons. The project will make those citizen practices aware of the place they can have today, both upwards, influencing policy makers on how we deal with the future and construction of Europe, and downwards, making those practices more accessible, wider, and capable of creating new relations and cooperation. On the other hand, it expects placing in the political agenda (both local and European), the issue of the risk that different commons are facing today (urban, natural, social...) and foster, design and help the development of public policies related to these practices and commons at stake.

Throughout a series of grass-roots local meetings, we will map and acknowledge a big amount of local initiatives, and putting together all their expertise, wisdom and desires, we will create a few handy tools for achieving those objectives: cross-over transnational, multilingual documentation, a "good practices" database, a detailed approach to the laws available by now and a common chart of duties and rights, altogether capable of creating a European way for governing the commons cooperatively.

**Action 1 - Active Citizens for Europe**  
**Measure 2.1 Citizens' Projects**

*TITLE: " Notre Europe - Institut Jacques Delors "*

*Coordinator: Horizon UE (FR)*

*Venue: FR*

*Grant awarded: 195.000,00 €*

**DESCRIPTION:**

L'objectif général du projet "Horizon UE" est de faire mieux connaître aux citoyens participants (et à ceux qui auront connaissance de leur expérience) les voies et moyens leur permettant de faire entendre leur voix au niveau européen, sur la base d'une approche « bottom-up » et d'un cheminement horizontal en trois phases (Accès-Echanges-Implication).

Ce projet part du constat maintes fois formulé d'un éloignement des citoyens vis-à-vis de l'UE, qui semble très paradoxal à l'heure où les nouvelles technologies permettent de s'informer aisément sur les activités des institutions européennes et de contacter plus facilement nos représentants. Dans ce contexte, il reste plus que jamais nécessaire d'organiser des débats et des rencontres sur l'UE avec les citoyens européens, dans le but de connaître leurs opinions sur les grands enjeux européens mais aussi de leur faire mieux connaître les moyens et outils dont ils disposent pour les transmettre eux-mêmes aux décideurs européens.

Pour être efficace, il est cependant essentiel d'organiser de tels débats sur un mode horizontal: plutôt que de délivrer des messages verticaux souvent contre-productifs à l'attention des Européens, il s'agit de les impliquer plus directement dans la conduite de ce projet afin de développer leurs compétences et leurs responsabilités de citoyens de l'UE. Cette approche inclusive a pour but de conduire les Européens concernés (sur la base d'échantillons représentatifs) à exercer leur citoyenneté de manière progressive et horizontale, tout en fournissant aux citoyens qui auront connaissance du projet un exemple d'implication civique dont ils pourront s'inspirer puisqu'elle émane d'Européens auxquels ils pourront s'identifier. Au total, deux objectifs opérationnels seront donc poursuivis : recueillir l'opinion des citoyens européens vis-à-vis de l'UE sur quelques grands thèmes (enjeux de fond); renforcer leur capacité à exprimer leurs attentes et recommandations de manière régulière (enjeux de forme).