



European  
Commission



**EU RIGHTS,  
EQUALITY  
AND  
CITIZENSHIP  
PROGRAMME**  
2014-2020

*Justice*



# EU FUNDING ON RIGHTS, EQUALITY AND CITIZENSHIP

Over the last 50 years, the European Union has established many rights in areas such as equality, fundamental rights and European citizenship for people living in Europe. These rights now have to be protected and promoted.

The EU's [Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme](#) does exactly that. It is acting to strengthen gender equality, combat all forms of discrimination, and fight racism. The programme tackles the pressing issue of violence against women, young people and children. Additional priority areas include the rights of the child, the full inclusion of Roma in European society, consumer rights, and the protection of personal data.

The programme is managed by the [European Commission's Directorate-General for Justice \(DG JUSTICE\)](#).



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## FUNDING FOR ACTION

The [Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme](#) defends the rights and freedoms that people are entitled to under EU law. It aims to:

- promote [non-discrimination](#);
- combat [racism](#), [xenophobia](#), [homophobia](#) and other forms of intolerance;
- promote the [rights of people with disabilities](#);
- promote [gender equality](#) and [gender mainstreaming](#);
- prevent [violence against children](#), [young people](#), [women](#) and [other groups at risk](#);
- promote the [rights of the child](#);
- ensure the [protection of personal data in the EU](#);
- promote [EU citizenship rights](#);
- enforce [consumer rights](#).

Funding goes to NGOs, public authorities and other organisations for activities that further these aims. [Training](#), [mutual learning](#) and [analysis](#) (including studies and surveys) are the main types of action financed under the programme. All the activities funded must provide [added value at EU level](#) – in other words, their results must benefit more than one EU Member State.

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## BUDGET

The total budget of the [Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme](#) for the period 2014-2020 is EUR 439.5 million.

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## COUNTRIES

All EU Member States together with Iceland and Liechtenstein may take part in this programme.

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Information on calls for funding proposals under the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme is online at [http://ec.europa.eu/justice/grants/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice/grants/index_en.htm)



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# EXAMPLES

## RIGHTS, EQUALITY AND CITIZENSHIP IN ACTION

### FIGHTING FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is forbidden in all the countries of the European Union. But it still happens here – in some migrant communities and also among some traditionalist ethnic groups. To eradicate this very harmful practice, education and awareness-raising are vital. For this reason, DG Justice is funding a project to empower and train young people from FGM-practising communities to be advocates for change and peer mentors within their communities, with the aim of bringing about a change in attitudes and an end to the practice of FGM in Europe.

### BULLYING PREVENTION

Bullying and cyber bullying in and out of school settings are forms of violence which can have a devastating effect on children. Schools should be safe environments that are based on mutual respect and that promote social, physical and mental well-being. Children, teachers and parents should also be aware of possible risks of being exposed to online violence. Bullying can be handled with the appropriate support, information and training of children, teachers, parents, youth workers, and experts. Early identification and intervention are crucial methods in preventing escalation. The Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme supports projects aimed at developing and promoting tools, skills and best practices to prevent bullying.

### ROMA INCLUSION

Roma people, Europe's largest ethnic minority, still suffer from persistent discrimination and social exclusion. DG Justice annually supports a number of EU Networks including NGOs and Equality bodies to improve the implementation of Roma Integration Strategies in the Member States and to ensure that Roma representatives are fully involved in the process. DG Justice also makes funding available for Member States for projects specifically targeting the Roma population.



# RIGHT BY YOUR SIDE

In a Europe of open borders, **DG JUSTICE** works to ensure **respect for your rights, equal treatment, protection of your personal data and your full access to justice** everywhere in the EU.

