**CALL FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THIRD PARTIES UNDER THE CERV-ELEVATED GRANT**

## **Project Presidency Grant**

**Total budget for the call:** 20,000 EUR

**Type of call/** Open-end call

**Call publication date**: 03 April 2023

**Minimum/maximum project duration:** Up to 31 December 2023

**Minimum/maximum grant awarded:** One grant of up to20,000 EUR

**Completed application forms to be sent to** [**i.valeva@epc.eu**](mailto:i.valeva@epc.eu)

The European Policy Centre (EPC) invites for the submission of project proposals to support the implementation of its Spanish edition of Project Presidency. Applicants shall submit a concise project proposal, using the template below, with well-defined objectives, tasks, deliverables that fulfils all the objectives of the call (see below), provides evidence of their in-house capacity to fulfil these tasks and a clear and detailed budget.

**Objectives and expected results of the Call**

Project Presidency analyses and discusses the priorities of each rotating Presidency of the Council of the European Union. During the six months of a Presidency, the European Policy Centre (EPC) teams up with a think tank from the member state holding the Council Presidency, to organize a series of joint events and/or publish relevant analysis. The project aims to bring together decision-makers, policy experts, and analysts from both countries to openly debate the policy priorities of the Council Presidency.

Through these exchanges, this project aims to, first, transnationalise EU policy debates by establishing long-term networks between different think tanks and stakeholders across the EU27. Secondly, it will provide thorough think tank analysis and recommendations for the country hosting the Presidency, Spain in this case, as well as the EU institutions. Thirdly, it aims to bring EU decision-making closer to the member states and provide EU citizens with a better understanding of activities conducted in the context of rotating presidencies. Project Presidency encourages the salience of the Council Presidency at home and improves the link between national and Brussels debates on European affairs.

The project is a well-established, flagship activity of the EPC, having accompanied the past six Council Presidencies since the German Presidency in 2020.

This re-granting call aims at providing the operational capacity to a partner organisation that would support the EPC’s activities in Project Presidency during the Spanish Council Presidency in the second semester of 2023.

The selected partner organisation would work closely with the EPC to fulfil the objectives of Project Presidency in the Spanish project edition, including:

* Establishing an independent dialogue platform to discuss the policy priorities of the Spanish Council Presidency
* Providing analysis and recommendations on the policy priorities of the Council Presidency
* Enhancing exchange between Brussels and Madrid, effectively leading to a transnationalisation of debates on European affairs
* Enhancing European cooperation among think tanks beyond national perspectives
* As such, the partner is expected to co-organise a minimum of two events, taking place either in Brussels, Spain or online which would fulfil the abovementioned objectives by discussing the Presidency’s priorities by connecting policy debates between Brussels and Madrid. Organising these events, the partner will act as the Spanish hub of the cooperation, leading all potential events organized in Spain, and communicating, liaising and ensuring visibility with national policy- and decision-makers, experts and civil society representatives based in Spain. The partner will be in charge of identifying, inviting, securing and communicating with any Spanish speakers and participants targeted for these events. As such, the partner should provide a broad network of the Spanish policy community, including of national policy- and decision-makers, stakeholders and experts. The partner should provide proven expertise in a broad variety of policy issues, both concerning the national political debate and EU affairs.

**Form of the grant** *(budget based, lump sum, other)* **and criteria for calculating the exact amount:** Budget Based

The partner should provide a detailed budget with the expected expenditure, such as personnel, travel and accommodation (following EC rates), purchase of goods, works and services and a maximum of 7% flat rate for indirect costs.

The costs must be identifiable and verifiable, occur during the eligibility period and not exceed the agreed total amount. They should be calculated in EUR and cannot be double funded by any other EU institution.

A final report should be submitted within 15 calendar days after the end of the last deliverable. It should include a short narrative report on the activities and a financial report on the expenditure (with supporting documents, such as timesheets and copies of invoices).

**Eligible types of organisations:[[1]](#footnote-1)**

EPC Think Tank Members based in EU member states.

**Eligible types of activities (fixed list):**

|  |
| --- |
| * Public policy dialogues taking place in Brussels or Spain (in-person or hybrid) or online * Expert/policy roundtables taking place in Brussels or Spain (in-person or hybrid) or online * Public online policy dialogues * Written outputs |

**Evaluation procedure & selection and award criteria (max. 500 words):**

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| --- |
| Award criteria:   * Bloc A: A clear project proposal with well-defined objectives, tasks, deliverables that fulfils all the objectives of the call (see above) before 31 December 2023. * Bloc B: Evidence of in-house capacity to complete the project, including:   + Expertise in policy areas followed by the Spanish Council Presidency as well as on Spain’s role EU policy   + Expertise in organising high level events and workshops with policymakers, experts and key stakeholders in the Spanish context   + Ability to link EU policy debates to national circumstances and policy communities   + A large network of policymakers and political stakeholders in Spain to fulfil the project’s goal to link EU and national policy communities * Bloc C: A clear budget including a reporting schedule, management structure and CVs of key people involved in the project.   Selection procedure:  All applications will be treated with confidentiality. Only the names of the successful organisations and their public information will be posted on the EPC website. To prevent conflicts of interest, and to ensure that all the correct information is provided, an Application Screening Team (AST) will be established made up of the EPC’s COO, CFO, the Deputy CEO, and one Associate Director, who will evaluate the proposals according to the criteria and process outlined above. Its quality will be assessed with a point scale of 0-10 (poor - excellent) with a total of 30 points to be received. The selection will be considered and approved by the EPC Management Team. |

**Prevention and mitigation measures for avoiding potential conflicts of interest during the selection procedure:**

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| --- |
| The AST will evaluate applications based on the criteria above but also ensure that the following COI criteria are taken into account:   * No one under contract to the EPC should be involved in the applicant’s proposal * No family member of anyone under contract to the EPC should be applying to work on the project * The applicant organization has to be a member of the EPC   The whole review process by the AST will be independently verified by the EPC Management Team in order to provide a double check to ensure that there have been no conflicts of interest. The CEO will have the final say if the Management Team votes do not indicate a clear decision. |

**GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

**EPC RE-GRANTING PROCEDURE UNDER OPERATING GRANT**

**CERV-ELEVATED – 101104835**

**Project Presidency Grant**

**1.General information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organisation:**  *Legal name* |  |
| **Legal form** |  |
| **Legal registry number** |  |
| **Country of registration** |  |
| **Mission of the organisation** |  |
| **Primary Contact:** *name, title, phone, email*  *Daily project contact* |  |
| **Signatory Contact:**  *name, title, phone, email*  *Legal authority to bind the organisation* |  |
| **Requested grant amount** *(in EUR)* |  |

**2. Project proposal**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Objectives and expected results** |  |
| **Please describe how your project proposal is relevant to the call** |  |
| **Deliverables** |  |
| **Risk Mitigation Strategy** |  |
| **Project Budget Total** |  |
| **Project Management Stucture** |  |
| **Project Reporting Outline** |  |

**3. About the applicant organisation**

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| --- | --- |
| **Short description of the organization** |  |
| **Does your organization have a fixed policy for Gender, Diversity and Inclusion?**  **(Provide link or annex if available)** |  |
| **List of relevant projects, publications or other activities in the past 5 years** |  |

**4. Supporting information**

Please Include the following annexes:

* CVs of everyone involved in the project
* Detailed Budget
* Audited Accounts for 2022

1. Eligible participants

   In order to be eligible for financial support, organisations must:

   be a member of the EPC;

   be a legal entity, non-profit organisation;

   be established in a Member State of the European Union (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs);

   respect EU values as laid down in Art.2 of the Treaty on European Union and the EU Charter of fundamental rights.

   Natural persons are NOT eligible (with the exception of self-employed persons, i.e. sole traders, where the company does not have legal personality separate from that of the natural person).

   The third parties (member organisations) can neither be affiliated entity(ies) (of the framework partner) nor associated partners nor sub-contractors. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)