

THE PROGRESSIVE DRIVE FOR EUROPE

Guided Call for Projects

WORK PLAN 2025

Deadline: 25 November 2024
at 17:00 CET

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I. WHY – BACKGROUND FOR THIS CALL

1.1. GENERALITIES

As every year, also in September 2024, FEPS submitted its annual grant application for 2025 – in response to the call by the European Parliament. The package that was delivered encompassed the so-called “FAP” (Framework Activity Programme 2025, as adopted by the FEPS General Assembly in June and fine-tuned with the endorsement of the FEPS Bureau in September 2024) and the set of administrative and financial documents. The first among them remains a compass for both the strategic orientation of the organization for the new legislative period 2024 – 2029 and, more specifically, is the reference point when it comes to the organization’s priorities and the allocation of financial means.

While the FAP was drafted in a broad consultative process involving all the FEPS governing and advisory bodies, the subsequent step is the translation of the political objectives into concrete actions. And that is the goal of drafting the Work Plan (WP), which shall include the list of activities that FEPS, in partnership with its members, hopes to realize in 2025.

The FEPS Work Plan 2025 will include the activities that are focused on

- a) Research and studies
- b) Outreach and public debates
- c) Capacity Building and Training
- d) Publications and Communications

It will be built in coherence with the three priorities set out in FEPS FAP 2025, including ten Thematic Fields, Training and Consultancy, as also Publications and Communications. As such, however, it will also reflect innovations – which will be focused on greater coherence and coordination within the specific areas of activities (such as i.e. Western Balkans and Training).

Consequently, also, the Work Plan 2025 will include:

1. Multiannual programmes and projects that are still ongoing (and/or have been prolonged)
2. Annual flagship activities that FEPS and partners have run with success for years
3. New projects elaborated with and/or proposed by member foundations in line with the FAP2025
4. The activities identified by FEPS on which members are invited to collaborate

The Work Plan 2025 will also introduce a new category, which is:

5. Projects focused on further dissemination and/ or complementing the existing output

The drafting of the Work Plan 2025 will include several steps, which will involve, among others:

- Guided call for project proposals
- Exchange at the FEPS Member Foundations Meeting (23rd October 2024)
- Evaluation of the submitted project proposals and recommendations of the Project Council
- Discussion within the FEPS Core Team
- Drafting of a Consolidated Work Plan 2025
- Further internal consultations and fine-tuning
- Presentation and the decision on the Work Plan Draft at the FEPS Bureau in January 2025

In this process, the project proposals will be carefully examined, drawing on – if applicable - the evaluation of previous partnerships. It will also carefully examine criteria such as objectives, outputs and financial engagement, as well as the investment in working hours and human resources engagement required in a potential project on the part of FEPS. To that end, FEPS would like to encourage the members to consider filing the project proposals together and think about potential multi-stakeholder consortia, which would allow more efficient use of resources and potentially a bigger impact by default.

We invite the Members to note that the usage of the grant from the European Parliament by FEPS is subject to specific regulatory provisions, one of them being that all activities funded or co-funded by FEPS must be genuine FEPS activities. Accordingly, FEPS is forbidden from issuing grants to its members for their own activities. Hence also we emphasise the need for the Members submitting the proposals to construct them while thinking about the added value of such a strategic partnership with and for FEPS.

1.2. DETAILS

Status: Open

Publication Date: 23.10.2024

Activation of online platform: 25.10.2024

Deadline for submissions: 25.11.2024

Overall tentative / projected budget available for new FEPS activities in 2025: 1,7M EUR

Tentative / projected average¹ co-funding rate: 40%

The co-financing is an extremely relevant criterion for FEPS in the evaluation of the projects. According to the rules, FEPS is required to raise so-called 'own-resources' – which process is also a subject of very strict regulatory provisions. The raising of the 'own resources' is required as one of the conditions for obtaining the grant, which is also why FEPS requests an understanding from the members that the co-

¹ NB : The co-funding rate indicated here is the average one, **not the one that will be applied to each individual project** jointly run with FEPS' Members. It is to be understood as a managerial reference point for FEPS' entire 2025 Work Plan Budget to comply with FEPS' financial strategy as endorsed by FEPS' Bureau in September 2021.

financing from the side of the members should not be lower than 30% average. Exceptions can be negotiated, but they should not substantially make FEPS deviate from that objective in general.

II. WHAT – THE 2025 PRIORITIES

2.1. 2025: 3 OVERARCHING STRATEGIC DIMENSIONS

The FEPS Framework Activity Programme 2025 is a qualitatively different document than its predecessors, as it provides a strategic outlook not only for the subsequent year, but also for the length of the new legislative period 2024 - 2029. It is also characterized by the shift in the order of the 3 annual priorities. Although they are equally relevant and mutually complementary, the change represents the social democratic view that the EU cannot be allowed to be self-absorbed, and the progressive drive is to keep it as internationally solidaristic, economically and socially just and sustainable, as also egalitarian and democratic as a Community.

Subsequently, following also the PES Berlin and Malaga Declarations, as also the PES Manifesto adopted in Rome in 2024, alongside the strategic documents of the S&D and PES in CoR, and building on its own research and reflection, FEPS is determined to consolidate and deliver within 3 strategically relevant dimensions that will contribute in strive for:

1. For a Stronger and Strategically Autonomous Europe

Boosting the power and capacity of the European Union to act as an integrated Community that is committed to delivering on the promise of peace, sustainable development and a new multilateral global deal

2. For a Recovered, Resilient and Transformative Europe

Paving the way to a new European development model by equipping it with policy instruments to fight inequalities and ensure social progress for all through its economic, fiscal, labour, social, gender, green and digital policies

3. For a Democratic and Enlarged Europe

Strengthening the Political Union through adequate institutional reforms and means, so that it can defend and promote democracy, as also empower and engage citizens in the new steps of the deliberations about the Future of Europe.

2.2. THEMATIC AREAS FOR THIS CALL FOR PROJECTS

In so far, the 2025 FAP is the comprehensive reference document for FEPS' Members to submit their proposals for cooperation. The 3 overarching priorities should be considered as the guiding principle objectives of the potential projects' proposals, while it is also important that the Members take a moment to examine to which of the 10 Thematic Fields plus Training and Consultancy they would see their ideas most adequately assigned to. We recommend careful consideration, as FEPS will strive to conduct activities across all these fields and balance among them – equalizing resources (financial and human) invested in each of them respectively.

2.2.1 EUROPE IN THE WORLD – focusing on the EU's role in striving for peace and development in a new multipolar global order, nurturing transatlantic relations but also stronger ties with the Global South, with a focus on foresight capabilities, European Strategic Autonomy, and EU's commitment to the reconstruction and gradual integration of Ukraine

With specific attention to:

- *Sustaining the EU's commitment to support and rebuild Ukraine*
- *Anticipating the World Summit on Social Development*
- *Solidifying strategic partnerships across the Atlantic and among the BRICS+ countries*
- *Designing a coherent and impactful approach to EU-Africa relations*

2.2.2 MIGRATION – informing and sustaining a fair debate on asylum and migration, with a particular focus on monitoring the implementation of the New Pact on Migration and Asylum and fostering adequate integration policies, defining the features of an efficient and humane management of migration and developing fair and balanced relations with the countries of origin and transit; whilst analysing the nexus between demographic changes in Europe and migration dynamics

With specific attention to:

- *Advancing the work within the Progressive Migration Group*
- *Monitoring the implementation of the Pact*
- *Consolidating a progressive approach to migration*
- *Solving the European migration paradox*

2.2.3 SOCIAL EUROPE – ensuring the relevance and implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights in the new legislature, expanding social objectives and EU integration in the field of health and wellbeing, deepening the debate on decent work alongside promotion of a new approach to public services and housing policies, while fighting new poverties and anticipating on demographic change.

With specific attention to:

- *Relaunching and Expanding the Social Pillar: Housing and Public Services*
- *Setting benchmarks for Employment: quality and innovation*
- *Addressing the challenges of demography, intergenerational fairness and social mobility*
- *Pursuing the topics of Health & Mental Health within a new agenda for Europe*
- *Forging Social Development through international angle of social policy*

2.2.4 ECONOMY AND FINANCE – designing a resilient and sustainable economic development model, with a goal to design policy proposals towards a job-rich industrial policy, European fiscal capacity and fair taxation to support the innovative, fair and productive economy, and scaling up of economic democracy.

With specific attention to:

- *Investing for Europe's Future*
- *Finding the progressive angle for competitiveness, internal market and industrial policy*
- *Tackling inflation and anticipating shocks better*
- *Striving for economic democracy*
- *Rethinking Trade*

2.2.5 CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT – addressing the climate emergency and supporting the implementation of the European Green Deal, with a commitment to search for further equitable ways to reach ambitious climate and environmental goals globally, create new clean jobs and mainstream climate and ecological objectives in European policies.

With specific attention to;

- *Advancing the EU agenda for climate and wellbeing through the European Green Deal*
- *Rethinking the supply chains sustainability*
- *Gearing up for COP-30 and the international agenda for climate justice*
- *Investing in the clean-technologies and investment for energy and climate*
- *Pursuing the transformation into the clean ecosystem Europe*

2.2.6 DIGITAL ECONOMY AND SOCIETY – – assessing the effects of accelerated digital transformation for European societies and economies, exploring how AI impacts workers, how we keep our democracy healthy in times of social media and how Europe can create its digital model for an autonomous, progressive path towards technological development that supports public services.

With specific attention to;

- *Ensuring the Algorithmic Management and EU regulation*
- *Building Public Digital Infrastructure and Digital Industrial policy*
- *Modernizing public administration and welfare with AI and digital tools*
- *Proposing Community-led approaches to data governance*
- *Designing Place-Based Industrial Policy for the Twin Transition*

2.2.7 GENDER EQUALITY – strengthening the commitment to the feminist and gender equality agenda, with a focus on preventing backlash, delivering substantive equality through transformative and gender mainstreamed policies

With specific attention to;

- *Securing funding for gender equality*
- *Redefining the European Feminist Foreign Policy*
- *Strengthening care work and infrastructures*
- *Ensuring equal rights and equal representation*
- *Empowering the LGBTQI+ people*

2.2.8 POLITICAL EUROPE – examining the functioning of and potential for the reforms within the institutional architecture of the European Union, with a mission to inspire the transition to a new model of integration that will allow for further deepening and enlargement

With specific attention to;

- *Deliberating the Architecture of the Political Union*
- *Strengthening the Europarties and preparing the ground for the electoral reform*
- *Preparing the Enlargement*
- *Rebuilding the EU – UK relationship*

2.2.9 DEFENDING AND DEEPENING DEMOCRACY – analysing the main threats to democracy (far right politics, authoritarian tendencies, nationalism) inside but also outside the European Union – in order to find ways to foster participatory and representative democracy, with a specific focus on young people.

With specific attention to;

- *Building for progress: Impacting the EU's next youth strategy*
- *Providing the Strategic Insights for a rejuvenated progressive movement*
- *Fighting the democratic backsliding and the far-right*
- *Nurturing Participatory Democracy*
- *Ensuring Digital Democracy*

2.2.10 FUTURE OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACY – evaluating the positioning of the progressive forces across the levels of governance, with a focus on their programmatic and strategic dilemmas, organisational difficulties and electoral appeal, governing capacities as well as abilities to remain constructive opposition and to bounce back from the crises.

With specific attention to;

- *Interpreting Progressive values and anticipating the challenges ahead*
- *Defining Progressive alliances and in the context of left pluralism*
- *Preparing to win elections and (re)gaining the electoral appeal*
- *Boosting Governing capacity and sharing the best examples*
- *Supporting Social Democracy in the CEE and in applicant countries*

2.2.11 FEPS training – moving towards a Training Programme

In January 2022 FEPS Bureau endorsed the FEPS Training Strategy (TS), following which moment it has been in the phase of implementation that saw close to 100% of accomplishment of the initial deliverables. The TS continues to evolve around 3 pillars, focused on: knowledge, skills and capacity

building, respectively. While the Members responded enthusiastically, and especially in 2024, there has been a high demand to work together; FEPS believes that in order to ensure the coherence of multiple instruments and financial sustainability, the TS should be transformed into an *FEPS Programme*. Building on the existing elements, it will include:

- *FEPS Open Progressive University*
- *FEPS Annual Autumn Academy | Brussels, Belgium | September / October 2025*
- *Ones to Watch*
- *Young Academics Network 'FEPS YAN'*
- *FEPS and Partners Pool of Trainers | Throughout the year*
- *FEPS and partners European Political Academies | Throughout the year*
- *FEPS Leadership Academy | Throughout the year*
- *FEPS Primers*
- *FEPS Manuals*

2.2.12 FEPS consultancy

FEPS is proud to have developed a capacity to offer timely and high-quality policy consultancy to progressive policy makers in office or opposition at various stages of the policy process. Current and past research projects, and contributions of the extensive expert network provide a solid basis for FEPS to be in a position from which it can deliver sound policy advice. The key activities that help gearing it are the following ones:

- *FEPS Review Meetings | Brussels, Belgium | Throughout the year*

2.3. EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

With the present invitation to respond to the “Call for projects and Call for Expression of Interest” FEPS offers Member Foundations to join forces in discussing, developing and implementing the FEPS Work Plan 2025.

In the past, the so-called “autumn call” was predominantly focused on the search for new initiatives, which would build on the issues and correspond with the priorities identified within the FEPS FAP for the year to come. This year, also responding to the repeated reminders about the limited resources and a need for greater coordination within the progressive family, as also the fact that we are aiming at building not just for a year, but plan for five, FEPS decided to introduce four categories within the Member Foundations are welcome to submit their contributions. These are:

2.3.1. Category 1: Submission of New Project Proposals

Members willing to apply with the project proposals within this category are required to fill in the corresponding fiche online, specifying:

- Project title and objectives
- Project consortium (if they wish to partner with more members and not only bilaterally with FEPS)
- Information about the methodology, timeline, activities, outputs
- Detailed information regarding the budgetary implications

2.3.2. Category 2: Request of Furthering Selected FEPS Work (based on our 2023/2024 work)

Members willing to apply with the project proposals within this category are required to fill in the corresponding fiche online, specifying:

- Reference to which project they would like to adhere
- Explanation what they would like to contribute with as the further steps
- Project consortium (if they wish to partner with more members and not only bilaterally with FEPS)
- Information about the methodology, timeline, activities, outputs
- Detailed information regarding the budgetary implications

2.3.3. Category 3: Expressions of Interest in Approved Projects & Programmes (based on ideas to develop in 2025)

Members willing to apply with the project proposals within this category are required to fill in the corresponding fiche online, specifying:

- Reference to which project / programme / Flagship event / publication editorial process they would like to adhere
- Explanation of what they would like to contribute with as the further steps
- Project consortium (if they wish to partner with more members and not only bilaterally with FEPS)
- Information about the methodology, timeline, activities, outputs
- Detailed information regarding the budgetary implications

2.3.4. Category 4: Submission of non-committing ideas

This is a new category that will allow Members to submit the initial ideas that they would like to see FEPS develop. Should a project result from debating it, they could envisage entering into a partnership. The submission of a non-committing idea doesn't require therefore specifying the list of stakeholders - partners, implementation plan, agenda, means etc. It does require the following information:

- A working title that refers to the idea
- Short description of the idea and the angle that FEPS should consider

- A short description of what would be an added value and how this corresponds to the 3 annual priorities
- Suggestion as per what could next steps to act on this idea entail

Please kindly note that with the submission within the categories 1-3 will all be evaluated alongside the same timeline with the final recommendations as per include / adjust / not include being part of the above-mentioned process, the submission within the Category 4 will be treated separately – with the FEPS Director and FEPS Policy Analyst in charge of the related field initiating a contact and brainstorming meeting as the first step in response.

Across all the 4 categories, FEPS encourages Members to partner with also other Members, because it allows:

- A sharper design of the project in order to more precisely meet the objectives of the different foundations involved;
- Scaling up of the ambitions and impact of the project activities;
- A possibility to ensure a truly European dimension and outreach;
- Enlarge the network of experts, allowing more of the academics and politicians from the national and regional level to take part in the European debate;
- Better sharing of the financial implications, as co-financing needs can be split among participating members.

2.3.5. Examples of projects within categories 2 and 3 that FEPS would encourage you to consider, while thinking about partnering with us in 2025

Please kindly note that the list consists in examples, but is not exhaustive. You are very welcome to consult the FEPS Team Members, should you find within the Work Plan 2025 other items you would like to work with us on next year.

	Category 2: Request of Furthering Selected FEPS Work (based on our 2023/2024 work)	Category 3: Expressions of Interest in Approved Projects & Programmes (based on ideas to develop in 2025)
Europe in the world	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Africa Days Brussels - Africa Day 2025 with FMS – Amsterdam - Latin America Days – May/June 2025 - T20 from Brazil to South Africa - UNited for (influencing the Summit on Social Development and SDGs financing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State of the Unions 2025 - Building an intra-EU dialogue for a more effective EU foreign and security policy in Africa-

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reconstruction of Ukraine 	
Migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Human-centred and development based migration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progressive Migration Group - <u>Research programme focusing on the trends towards the externalisation of migration (on the model of the Italy-Albania deal)</u> - <u>Research programme on demography and migration</u>
Social Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progressive approach for a European Mental Health Strategy - Housing policy - Innovation in employment and the Quality Job Agenda - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intergenerational fairness and social mobility -
Economy and Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Day of Progressive Economic Policy - Progressive Economics Network - Economic Democracy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informal Group for the EU Investment Capacity - to support S&D on MFF preparation - Places, People, Power: local approaches to industrial policy and regional development
Climate and environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate Program o Green Deal Tracker o Sustainable Supply Chains o Energy Minimum Rights (?) o Clean tech (?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COP30 - Stakeholder meeting on the territorial angle of the just transition
Digital Economy and Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Digital Program 2025/2026 - Algorithmic management in the workplace across the EU - <u>European initiative on Algorithmic Management in traditional workplaces</u> - Training on algorithmic management with the unions - <u>Democratising the control and use of data through intermediation and interoperability</u> - EU Public Digital Infrastructure <u>investment and industrial policy for digital transformation</u> 	
Gender Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feminist Foreign Policy Collective Voices 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CSW 69 New York / Beijing+30 Anniversary

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EU Equality and Care agenda - Palgrave Book Promotion Roadshow - <u>Abortion in the EU</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Securing funding for gender equality</u> - <u>Feminist leadership</u> - <u>The gender voting gap</u> - <u>Union of Equality: advancing LGBTIQ+ rights</u>
Political Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Western Balkan programme (including conference on enlargement)</u> - Promotion of the “Leading and not leaving aside” toolkit on transnational party system and future of the EU elections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New Compass for deepening and enlarging of the EU
Defending and deepening democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>The transformation of the mainstream right in Western Europe: implications for social democracy -> Valorisation and Dissemination</u> - <u>Political Parties and Social Media campaigning targeting young people ahead of the EP 2024 Elections: Dissemination activities in resepective case study countries where there is interest and where it has not happened</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Builders of Progres - <u>How to deal with far-right parties in a parlimentary setting: What can progressives in the current EP learn from national experiences?</u> -
Future of Social Democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion of the Next Left outputs (books – country case studies,) - NL Progressive Pollsters Network - Regional dimension of social democracy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social Democracy and the EU (regional specificities, progressive pro-Europeanism today)

Additionally, FEPS welcomes the initiatives that would help consolidate the FEPS Training Programme (please see point 2.2.11) and Consultancy (2.2.12), as also is always open to see further cooperation in regards to its publication and communication products, as also by the flagship activities, of which examples for 2025 are:

- Call to Europe (Poland and Denmark)
- United for...

III. HOW – THE CALL IN PRACTICE

3.1. 4 WAYS TO ENGAGE

In accordance to the section 2.3, there are 4 categories for the Member Foundations to consider when planning to engage with FEPS within its Work Plan 2025. As a reminder, these are:

1. Submitting New Project Proposals
2. Expressing Interest in Approved Projects & Programmes
3. Furthering Selected FEPS Work
4. Submitting non-committing ideas

Members wishing to engage are required to submit the proposals / non-committing ideas via platform: <https://submission-platform.feps-europe.eu/> (online from 25.10.2024 17:00 CET onwards)

Through this platform, you can introduce the details of a concrete project proposal. This year the form is more detailed than in the past, as building on the previous experiences we are convinced that details can matter a great deal when seeing the full extent of the project (political, intellectual, organizational, financial etc.) and while defining if FEPS indeed has necessary resources to be able to enter in a partnership. Similarly, it is clear that the more details are submitted – the greater chances are for FEPS to act as an enabler constructing a consortium of Members with corresponding or converging interests, who could gear a potential project jointly.

The procedure of submitting shall be repeated for the submission of more than one project. There is no cap per Member Foundation, when it comes to the number of projects that they are allowed to submit for consideration.

NB: Before submitting one or several project proposals, Members must submit basic administrative information via an “organization form” (i.e. Form I). If you have already filled out this form in the context of previous calls, please double-check the available data and confirm. If not, please complete it.

3.2. PROJECT PROPOSALS’ ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Priority will be given to projects aligned to the 2024 FAP in line with the type of activities and areas of interest identified in this call.

FEPS will carry out an assessment of the submitted proposals based on three quality criteria:

1. **Output Value:** the potential of the project to impact public debate and the political process or its educational potential;

2. **Input Value:** the quality of the proposed methods in terms of scientific relevance and excellence of the actors involved
3. **Value for Money:** budgetary and human resources aspects and COMMs context

Furthermore, during the project approval phase, with the intention to promote cross-network collaborations as well as sustainability, relevance, and impact of 2025 activities, FEPS will favor:

- Projects that are submitted jointly by two or more Member foundations
- Projects that promote innovation instead of repetition of pre-existing endeavors
- Projects that deliver materials proving useful for political debates
- Projects that contribute purposefully disseminating research produced in 2023
- Projects that bear the potential of delivering materials which can be used for training purposes
- Projects that bear the potential of engaging with new and/or specific audiences

Besides quality and joint work, FEPS shall take into consideration: i) the allocation of budget per foundation and per country, with no specific annual targets but with the clear goal of providing a balanced approach to FEPS financial commitments; ii) the allocation of budget per thematic block and strategic priority, following an operative target that can ensure the link between political priorities and operations.

3.3. SELECTION PROCEDURE AND THE WAY FORWARD

- Deadline for submissions: 25.11.2024
- Information about results of the call: 20.12.2024

At this occasion, FEPS will clarify whether the submitted project has been:

- ⇒ **Accepted** – so that the Member Foundation can start defining a collaboration agreement with the FEPS team member in charge of the project.
- ⇒ **Accepted with conditions** – which can pertain to the budget, to the content or the format of the project and requires further adaptation including the potential clustering with other similar initiatives and the creation of a consortium of foundations.
- ⇒ **Declined** – a short written explanation shall be provided.

The official communication will specify the member of FEPS team that will follow up on the implementation of the project.

If the latter is approved directly or conditionally, the (Senior) Policy Analyst in charge, with the support of the respective Director, interacts with the project promoters to work on the development of the project, towards the satisfaction of the conditions or towards building up a cluster of foundations around the project idea.

When the project proposals have been evaluated, consortia created, a 2025 Work Plan outline will be compiled and submitted to the attention of FEPS' Bureau at the occasion of its meeting scheduled January 2025.

3.4. GENERAL RULES APPLYING TO THIS CALL

3.4.1. Project Proposals' Promotors

- Only FEPS Full and Observer Members can propose project proposals.
- Organisations other than Member foundations can feature as partners of the submitted project, but collaborations with corporations cannot be part of this call
- If two or more Member foundations wish to cooperate on a joint project, just one submission is necessary with the indication of the project manager in charge for all the organisations involved.

3.4.2. Project Proposals' Descriptions

- Projects will be first and foremost assessed on the basis of the submitted form. Project promoters can annex as many documents as deemed adequate, but these will be considered complementary information. Accordingly, once submitting a project proposal, please provide as many information as possible. It is essential that it contains a rather clear identification of:
 - The objectives of the project proposed
 - The type of outputs foreseen (events, publications, videos, etc.)
 - The parties involved (other organisations, stakeholders, policymakers, etc.)
 - The provisional budgetary requirements with an indication of the share that project promoters can cover (in light of increased budgetary pressure, please note that the proposed co-funding rate will play a role in the assessment process)
- Among the project deliverables that can be included in the project proposals: policy briefs, policy studies, research, books, training, consultancy, online events, publications, videos, podcasts, infographics, surveys, online public debates.
- Multiannual projects can be considered, accompanied by an indication of annual budgetary needs.
- Projects accepted with conditions (see paragraph on the "Selection Procedure") remain valid for a period of two months, after which FEPS reserves the right to prioritize other submitted projects.

3.4.3. Regulatory impositions

- As all European Political Foundations (EUPFs), FEPS cannot use its budget for any other purpose than for financing its tasks as enshrined in Article 2 of EU Regulation 1141/2014. These are essentially threefold: (1) observe, analyse and contribute to the debate on European public policy issues and on the process of European integration, (2) develop activities linked to the European public policy issues between relevant stakeholders, (3) serve as a framework for national political foundations, academics and other relevant actors to work together at European level.

FEPS is strictly forbidden to transfer funds in the form of grants to its Members. Beyond, FEPS is responsible and held accountable for the respect of related regulatory provisions by its Members.

- All FEPS (co-)funded activities must be genuine FEPS activities, primarily owned by FEPS, clearly primarily branded FEPS.
 - They must include a reference to funding received from the European Parliament (including logo) as well as – in case of publications and events – a legal disclaimer discharging the European Parliament for responsibility on views expressed.
 - FEPS will proceed with thorough and proactive ex-ante assessment of risks and factor in past practices in its assessment of submitted projects
 - FEPS will proactively monitor implementation and check communications
 - FEPS has developed guidelines, tools and templates to ease up the process and will develop further ones. Related documents are accessible on the Members' Area of FEPS' website
 - In the specific case of recurring larger scale events, FEPS will prefer the format of "FEPS fringe events" embedded in the broader pre-existing programmes. In such a framework, only costs clearly and undoubtedly related to the FEPS fringe events are eligible
- FEPS is strictly forbidden to fund directly other foundations (including its Members). Accordingly: the following expenditures are not eligible in the framework of FEPS' (co-)funded projects:
 - Partners' staff costs (staff being understood as individuals who are benefitting from a working contract with the partner involved and who are on the payroll of said partner)
 - Overheads (e.g. standing infrastructure costs such office rental contract, phone, electricity, water, non-project specific website/s' costs, etc.)
 - Differences in exchange rates (e.g. the exchange rate to be applied is the one valid on the day the invoices were generated)

- FEPS is strictly forbidden to fund directly or indirectly parties, candidates or campaigns. This is a permanently valid rule which applies at any point in time, not only in the framework of European elections. Accordingly:
 - FEPS cannot fund projects which aim at promoting candidates or campaigns
 - FEPS cannot fund campaign related polling

- FEPS is responsible and held accountable for the respect of regulatory provisions pertaining to potential conflict of interest as defined in EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046, article 61. Accordingly:
 - FEPS will proceed with thorough and practive ex-ante assessment of potential conflicts of interest throughout project proposals
 - Specific attention will be given to operational setups involving service providers (individuals or companies) which are linked to FEPS' Members and reserves the right to reject a proposal involving an objective related risk

3.4.4. Expressions of interest

- Expressions of interest do not commit Member Foundations to any specific budgetary commitment; FEPS Team will discuss project design and budget with project partner and if the interest persists a financial negotiation will follow

3.5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FEPS staff remains available to respond to questions that Member Foundations might have concerning the objectives of this call, the submission and evaluation process.

Additional information and questions can be requested and addressed to FEPS Director of Operations Johan Robberecht at: johan.robberrecht@feps-europe.eu.