

# €UROFLASH



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## PEACE III CONSULTATIONS

**At the time of writing it was hoped that the Operational Plan for Peace III would be ready for consultation in early December 2006, with the consultation period lasting until the end of January 2007.**

The Operational Plan is the document which will outline priorities and themes for funding and detail the structures for administering the programme in Northern Ireland and the Border Counties.

While the document is not ready at the time of going to press, NICVA believes that this is an issue that the voluntary and community sector will be keen to have a say on. Therefore we have arranged the following consultation sessions as part of SEUPB's overall consultation process. The results from these consultation sessions will feed into a major conference to be hosted by SEUPB at the end of the 12 week period.

The full document, NICVA briefings and other resources will be available on [www.nicva.org](http://www.nicva.org) as soon as they are released by SEUPB.

***(Please note below the change of date for the Belfast consultation which will now take place on Wednesday 10 January at 2.00pm)***

### **Tuesday 9 January**

10.00am – 1.00pm  
St Columb's Park House  
4 Limavady Road  
Derry

In partnership with North West Community Network

### **Wednesday 10 January**

10.00am – 1.00pm  
Millennium Court Arts Centre  
William Street  
Portadown

In partnership with Community Network Craigavon

### **Wednesday 10 January**

2.00pm – 5.00pm  
NICVA  
61 Duncairn Gardens  
BELFAST

### **Thursday 11 January**

10.00 – 1.00  
Omagh Community House  
Drumragh Avenue  
Omagh

In partnership with Focus

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To reserve a place at any of these sessions please contact Cathy Breslin tel: 028 9087 7777; email: [cathy.breslin@nicva.org](mailto:cathy.breslin@nicva.org). Please remember to state which session you want to attend.

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## SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN CULTURE

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**Funding is now available from the European Commission for projects that offer support for organisations active at European level in the field of culture.**

In order to meet the objectives of the Programme, this call for proposals aims to award operating grants to co-finance expenditure associated with the permanent work programme of bodies pursuing an aim of general European interest in the field of culture or an objective forming part of the European Union's policy in this area.

The general objective of the Programme is to help to enhance the cultural area shared by Europeans and based on a common cultural heritage, through the development of cultural cooperation between the creators, cultural players and cultural institutions of the countries taking part in the Programme, with a view to encouraging the emergence of European citizenship.

The Programme is inspired by a global vision covering the whole of the cultural sector and promoting synergies. The main objectives of projects should be:

- to promote the transnational mobility of cultural players;
- to encourage the transnational circulation of artistic and cultural works and products; and
- to encourage intercultural dialogue.

### **Eligibility criteria**

Bodies must have a real European dimension. In this respect, they must carry out their activities at a European level, on their own or in the form of various coordinated associations, and their structure (registered members) and their activities must have an influence throughout the European Union or cover at least seven countries participating in the Programme.

Eligible applicants must be non-profit-making bodies with legal status which have been in existence for at least two years, pursuing an aim of general European interest in the field of culture or an objective forming part of the European Union's policy in this area. These bodies must have their registered offices in one of the countries taking part in the Programme

The total budget available for the scheme is €4.8 million and projects will receive 80% of total projects costs with a minimum grant of €75,000, up to a maximum of €600,000.

**The deadline for submitting applications is 22 December 2006**

For more information visit the Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency website: <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/culture/call062006/index.htm>.

**The Commission's proposal relating to the Culture programme has not yet been formally adopted by the European legislature. Nevertheless, to enable prompt implementation of this programme after the adoption of its legal basis by the European legislature, which should take place soon, and to enable potential beneficiaries of Community grants to prepare their proposals as soon as possible, the Commission has decided to publish this call for proposals.**

**This call for proposals does not legally bind the Commission. It may be cancelled and calls for proposals with different specifications may be issued, with appropriate reply periods, if there is a substantial change in the legal basis by the European legislature. This call for proposals is conditional on the final agreement of the programme in the coming weeks.**

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## YOUTH IN ACTION

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**The Commission has issued a call for proposals covering the Youth in Action programme 2007-13. This call for proposals concerns programme action 4.1, whereby bodies active at European level in the field of youth will receive support.**

The 'Youth in Action' programme aims to promote active citizenship in young people, encourage solidarity and tolerance, foster mutual understanding between young people from different countries and develop European cooperation on youth matters. In addition the programme will contribute to improvements in the quality of support systems for youth activities and further develop the capabilities of civil society organisations working with youth.

The programme provides bodies pursuing an aim of general European interest in the field of youth with support for their regular activities in this field. These activities must help encourage young people to participate as citizens in public life, in society, and in the development and implementation of EU cooperation actions in the broadly defined field of youth. Tendering bodies are particularly encouraged to develop initiatives linked to active citizenship amongst young people,

the involvement of young people in democratic life, recognition of cultural diversity and the inclusion of young people who have fewer opportunities. An annual grant may be awarded to help such bodies meet their operating costs. These bodies may be:

- a non-profit-making body working solely for the benefit of young people or a body with broader aims whose work includes activities dedicated to young people;
- a European network representing non-profit-making bodies working for the benefit of young people

To be eligible for an operating grant, a body must:

- be non-governmental;
- have been legally established for at least one year;
- be non-profit-making;
- be a youth organisation, or a network with a wider scope but focusing part of its activities exclusively on young people;
- involve young people in managing activities conducted for their benefit;
- have at least one (salaried or non-salaried) permanent member of staff. An exception will be made for bodies that have never received a grant provided as support for bodies active at European level in the field of youth and intending to recruit a permanent member of staff if the grant is awarded.

Above all, you must have active member organisations in at least eight countries drawn from the Member States: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Turkey, countries within the Western Balkans, Belarus, Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine, and the Swiss Confederation.

### **Eligible activities**

Organisations must schedule within their annual programme a series of activities which comply with the principles underpinning Community activity in the field of youth. Such activities must be connected with the priority themes of the programme presented in section 8.1. The main activities that are likely to contribute to the strengthening and effectiveness of Community action are:

- Group 1: representation of the views and interests of young people in all their diversity at Community level;
- Group 2: youth exchanges and voluntary service;
- Group 3: informal and non-formal learning and youth activity programmes;
- Group 4: promoting intercultural learning and understanding;
- Group 5: debate on European matters and EU policies or youth policies;

- Group 6: dissemination of information on Community action;
- Group 7: actions promoting participation and initiative by young citizens.

The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of the operation of bodies active at European level in the field of youth is estimated at €2.4 million for 2007.

Financial assistance from the Commission cannot exceed 80% of the total operating costs approved by the Commission. The maximum Community grant for each body will be €35,000.

However please be aware that at the moment this call is similar to several that relate to programmes due to run between 2007-13 where the final legislative ratification of their budget and their content has yet to be made. Neither the Commission nor the Agency (Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency) are legally bound by this call for proposals which refers to grants to be awarded for 2007. It may be cancelled and calls for proposals with different specifications may be issued, with appropriate time limits for response, should the legal basis be substantially altered by the EU legislature.

Applications must be sent to the Commission no later than 22 December 2006.

For further information please visit: <http://eacea.cec.eu.int/static/en/youth/calls2007/action41/index.htm>.

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## **EU CITIZENSHIP OPERATING GRANTS**

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**Operating grants are now available from the European Commission for European public policy research and civil society organisations.**

This call for proposals concerns structural support, referred to as operating grants, to organisations, pursuing an aim of general European interest. Operating grants are different from project grants. Operating grants provide financial support to costs necessary for the proper conduct of the normal and permanent activities of the organisations selected.

These costs include in particular personnel costs, overheads (rental and property charges, equipment, office supplies, telecommunications, postal charges etc) costs of internal meetings, publications, information and dissemination costs and costs directly linked to the organisation's work programme.

The programme is intended to contribute to the following general objectives:

- Giving citizens the opportunity to interact and participate in constructing an ever closer Europe, which is democratic and world-oriented, united in and enriched through its cultural diversity, thus developing citizenship of the European Union;
- Developing a sense of European identity, based on common values, history and culture;
- Fostering a sense of ownership of the European Union among its citizens;
- Enhancing mutual understanding between European citizens respecting and promoting cultural and linguistic diversity, while contributing to intercultural dialogue.

The specific objectives for this call for proposals are:

- Foster action, debate and reflection related to European citizenship and democracy, shared values, common history and culture through cooperation within civil society organisations at European level;
- Encourage interaction between citizens and civil society organisations from all participating countries, contributing to intercultural dialogue and bringing to the fore both Europe's diversity and unity, with particular attention to activities aimed at developing closer ties between citizens from Member States which acceded to the European Union before and those which have acceded since 30 April 2004.

### Eligible organisations

To be eligible for an operating grant, an organisation pursuing an aim of general European interest must:

- Be a European public policy research organisation (think tank) OR be a civil society organisation at European level, promoting European citizenship;
- Be established in an eligible country;
- Be a non-profit making and independent organisation with a legal status and legal personality (individuals are not eligible);
- Operate on a trans-national basis, either through the structure of the organisation (networking or an organisation with subsidiary(s) in different eligible countries) or/and through the work programme.

The total budget available is €1.9 million. Organisations will receive up to 80% of their total operating costs, starting at €60,000 and not exceeding €250,000.

### The closing date for applications is 22 December.

For further information and application forms, visit the Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency website: <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/citizenship/call1206/index.htm>.

E mail: [eacea-info@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eacea-info@ec.europa.eu).

Please be aware that at the moment this call is similar to several that relate to programmes due to run between 2007-13 where the final legislative ratification of their budget and their content has yet to be made. Neither the Commission nor the Agency (Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency) are legally bound by this call for proposals which refers to grants to be awarded for 2007. It may be cancelled and calls for proposals with different specifications may be issued, with appropriate time limits for response, should the legal basis be substantially altered by the EU legislature.

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### ONLINE INFORMATION:

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For all the events affecting the voluntary and community sector within Northern Ireland visit: [www.nicva.org](http://www.nicva.org) and [www.communityni.org](http://www.communityni.org)



Grant Tracker has been designed by NICVA as a one-stop funding resource for voluntary and community groups in Northern Ireland. It functions as a searchable website and is supported by the staff from NICVA's Funding Advice Service. Visit: [www.grant-tracker.org](http://www.grant-tracker.org)



### European Information Network

This site provides a definitive list of EU information providers in Northern Ireland, as well as giving links to a whole host of related European, regional and national websites. Visit: <http://www.europe.org.uk>

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If you require any further information please contact:  
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