

Call for Proposals for Pilot Actions

under **YOU-DARE** (Youth Debunking the Gendered Arguments of Far-Right Extremism)



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Guidelines

1. Background information

1.1. Introduction and background

The YOU-DARE project (Youth Debunking the Gendered Arguments of Far-Right Extremism) is funded under the [European Union Horizon Europe Programme](#), under the call **HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-05**.

The project is coordinated by the [European Science Foundation \(ESF, France\)](#) and implemented by a multidisciplinary consortium bringing together academic, policy, and civil society actors from across Europe¹, including the [European Association for Local Democracy \(ALDA\)](#)².

In recent years, far-right movements across Europe have increasingly integrated gendered narratives—particularly anti-gender and anti-feminist discourses—into their strategies, with a strong focus on youth. These narratives function not only as ideological tools but also as mechanisms for identity construction, belonging, and mobilisation. Circulating across both digital and physical environments, they contribute to the normalisation of exclusionary worldviews and reinforce broader processes of social and political polarisation.

In response to these developments, YOU-DARE adopts an interdisciplinary and intersectional approach that seeks to move beyond simplified understandings of radicalisation. By exploring how gender, identity, and belonging are constructed and mobilised among youth, the project aims to generate more nuanced insights and identify effective entry points for intervention.

¹ The YOU-DARE consortium includes [ESF - European Science Foundation \(FR\)](#), [Aalborg University \(DK\)](#), [Smart Venice \(IT\)](#), [Goldsmiths University of London \(UK\)](#), [Stockholm University \(SE\)](#), [University of Glasgow \(UK\)](#), [Universitat Oberta de Catalunya \(ES\)](#), [Political Capital \(HU\)](#), [University of Bucharest \(RO\)](#), [NetHood \(CH\)](#), and [ALDA - European Association for Local Democracy \(FR\)](#).

² **ALDA – European Association for Local Democracy**, is a French-registered association dedicated to the promotion of good governance and citizens participation at the local level. ALDA is a key stakeholder in the field of local democracy, active citizenship, and cooperation between local authorities and civil society in Europe and its Neighborhood, mainly acting through participatory methods and decentralized cooperation. ALDA is a membership-based organisation gathering today more than 350 members, including local authorities, associations of local authorities, and civil society organisations, coming from more than 45 countries in the enlarged Europe.

This call for actions aims to fund local pilot actions that test practical, gender-sensitive responses to youth radicalisation linked to far-right gendered narratives, and to channel the resulting lessons into the YOU-DARE toolkit and policy recommendations. Its priorities were co-created with stakeholders through the project's Open Policy Labs, described in Section 1.2, while also drawing on the broader research and expertise of the consortium, so the Call should not be read as based on the Labs alone. **1.2. How the YOU-DARE call for actions was conceived: the Open Policy Lab and Co-creation Process**

The YOU-DARE Call for Proposals is grounded in a co-creation approach that places stakeholder engagement at the centre of its design. Rather than being developed solely through research outputs, the Call builds on a structured and participatory process bringing together researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and civil society actors.

Within this framework, the Open Policy Labs serve as the main platform for collective reflection and joint knowledge production. These Labs are designed to connect empirical research with policy and practice, creating a space where participants can exchange experiences, identify gaps, and explore emerging challenges related to youth radicalisation and far-right gendered narratives.

The first Open Policy Lab, held in March 2026, brought together a diverse group of stakeholders working at different levels and across sectors. The discussions highlighted the increasing normalisation of gendered far-right narratives among youth, the growing influence of digital environments, and the limitations of existing policy responses, particularly in terms of fragmentation and short-term approaches. At the same time, participants emphasised the importance of addressing the underlying social and emotional drivers of radicalisation, as well as strengthening the role of local actors and community-based initiatives.

Building on these initial exchanges, the second Open Policy Lab, held in June 2026, further refined these insights and supported the prioritisation of thematic areas, the clarification of target groups, and the definition of key selection and implementation principles. These two Labs were the first two cycles of a three-cycle Open Policy Lab process that fed directly into the design of this Call. A third cycle will take place at a later stage to reflect on the lessons emerging from the funded pilots and to inform the project's toolkit and policy recommendations - part of the project's wider learning process, and separate from the assessment and selection of applications (see Section 3.5).

As a result, the Call reflects not only the emerging insights of the YOU-DARE project, but also the practical knowledge, needs, and experiences gathered from stakeholders across different contexts. It should therefore be understood as an outcome of a structured co-creation process embedded within

the broader framework of the YOU-DARE project.

2. The call for proposals

Building on the priorities co-created through the Open Policy Labs (see Section 1.2), the YOU-DARE project launches a Call for Pilot Actions aimed at supporting gender-sensitive and locally grounded initiatives addressing the dynamics of youth radicalisation linked to far-right gendered narratives, and encourages, where relevant to the target group and context, the integration of an intersectional lens.

The Call seeks to enable the development of actions that respond to the ways in which such narratives are constructed, circulated, and normalised, particularly among young people, across both digital and physical environments. At the same time, it encourages approaches that strengthen democratic engagement, foster inclusive forms of belonging, and promote alternative narratives grounded in equality and participation.

Rather than prescribing specific formats, the Call aims to create space for experimentation and context-sensitive approaches - whether oriented towards prevention, countering/intervention or, where relevant, de-radicalisation and exit approaches. Applicants are invited to propose initiatives that engage with the underlying drivers of radicalisation, including social, emotional, and identity-related dimensions, while building on local knowledge and experience.

The supported pilot actions will be implemented under the coordination of **ALDA**, in collaboration with the project partners, ensuring alignment with the project's co-creation approach and facilitating exchange between local actors, practitioners, and the broader YOU-DARE network.

These pilot actions will contribute to testing gender sensitive approaches and -where relevant- intersectional approaches- and generating practical insights, which will feed into the YOU-DARE toolkit and policy recommendations. In this sense, the Call represents a key component of the project's co-creation process, linking research, practice, and policy development.

2.1. Purpose and objective of the call

The present Call for Proposals aims to support pilot actions that contribute to addressing the dynamics of youth radicalisation linked to far-right gendered narratives, while strengthening democratic engagement and inclusive forms of participation.

Building on the insights generated through the Open Policy Lab process, including both the first and second Labs, the Call encourages initiatives that respond to the ways in which such narratives are constructed, circulated, and normalised, particularly among young people, and that promote alternative approaches grounded in equality, critical thinking, and social cohesion.

The supported actions are expected to engage with the underlying drivers of radicalisation, including social, emotional, and identity-related dimensions, and to explore context-sensitive responses that can be tested and further developed.

The pilot actions should contribute to generating practical insights and evidence, feeding into the YOU-DARE toolkit and policy recommendations, and supporting the development of transferable approaches across different contexts.

2.2. Priorities and Thematic Focus

The Call supports pilot actions that prevent and respond to youth radicalisation linked to far-right gendered narratives. In doing so, the Call as a whole aims to challenge far-right, anti-gender and other exclusionary narratives (e.g., anti-immigration, homo- and transphobic, anti-democratic and anti-establishment narratives) through positive alternative narratives; to strengthen democratic resilience, civic engagement and a sense of belonging; and to address the social and emotional drivers of vulnerability, such as loneliness, isolation, pessimism and socio-economic insecurity. Anti-establishment framing is understood as exclusionary only where it is mobilised as part of far-right discourse to attack minorities, migrants or civil society — for example through the misuse of free-speech claims — and not where it reflects legitimate civic dissent or criticism directed at NGOs and institutions. Individual actions are not expected to address all of these aims at once: each proposal should contribute to one or more of them, in line with the priorities selected below. Prevention/early intervention should be explicitly linked to specific drivers and forms of radicalisation rather than framed only as generic awareness-raising with no reference to a particular narrative, community or risk factor.

A gender perspective, with attention to youth, is a mandatory cross-cutting requirement and must be integrated across all actions, regardless of their primary focus (see also the evaluation grid in Section 3.5). Applicants are further encouraged to apply an **intersectional lens** where relevant to their target group and context, for example, considering how gender dynamics intersect with migration status, socio-economic background, sexual orientation, or ethnicity. Within this scope, proposed actions should engage with one or more of the following priorities, identified through the Open Policy Labs. In all cases, these priorities should be addressed in relation to young people and youth contexts, in line with the focus of the Call:

- Gender and youth, addressing gender norms affecting girls, boys and young people of all genders, including positive narratives on gender equality and feminism and their benefits for young people of all genders (as a primary thematic focus — note that, separately, a baseline gender perspective is a mandatory cross-cutting requirement across all actions regardless of their chosen priority, as set out above);
- Masculinity and masculinism, including positive and alternative models of masculinity and the benefits of gender equality for boys and men;
- Loneliness, belonging and community-building, including links to sport, wellbeing and health;
- Economic anxiety, labour precarity and narratives of scarcity, competition and resentment;
- Democratic participation, civic engagement, political agency and citizenship education;
- Hate and hostility towards marginalised and minoritised groups;

- Digital environments and online dissemination, including gaming as both a risk environment and a space for engagement and prevention.

Actions should pursue these priorities through the eligible activities set out in Section 2.6 and may combine more than one priority where relevant to their local context and target groups. These priorities are indicative rather than exhaustive: proposals addressing closely related issues that are well justified and clearly aligned with the scope and objectives of the Call are equally welcome. Applicants are encouraged to focus on the priorities most relevant to their context, rather than attempting to address an overly broad range of issues, and to build on the shared knowledge and expertise generated within the Labs.

Approach to narratives

In this Call, a *narrative* refers to the stories, frames and messages through which people make sense of themselves, others and society. *Alternative narratives* offer their own positive frames, identities and aspirations — for example around belonging, care, hope or solidarity — rather than only responding to far-right claims. *Counter-narratives* directly challenge, debunk or critically analyse far-right messaging.

For actions that choose to address the narrative-related priorities above the call prioritises the development, practice and promotion of alternative narratives (as defined above). Beyond immediate messaging, narrative work is expected to contribute to longer-term social change — such as strengthening democratic resilience, belonging and inclusive participation. Applicants are encouraged to make explicit the change they seek and a simple pathway towards it (a theory of change), calibrated realistically to the scale and duration of a small pilot. Counter-narrative elements, such as debunking and critical-analysis of far-right messaging, are welcomed as a complement to this primary approach, where contextually appropriate, but are not required on their own. Narrative work should be embedded within broader community-building, educational, cultural and youth-engagement activities rather than treated as an isolated activity, and should pay attention to the emotional dimensions, such as belonging, recognition, hope and solidarity, that far-right narratives often exploit. A gender – and, where relevant an intersectional dimension, must be integrated across all actions, regardless of their primary focus.

2.3. Allocation of Grants

A total of **10 pilot actions** will be supported under this Call.

In line with the project's geographical focus, the allocation of grants will be as follows:

- **8 pilot actions** implemented in the project's target countries, one pilot action per country (**Denmark, France, Hungary, Italy, Romania, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom**)
- **2 pilot actions** implemented in other EU Member States. Priority will be given to pilot actions implemented in EU Member States not included among the project's target countries.

No transnational-level actions are foreseen under this Call. This allocation aims to ensure both strong anchoring in the project's core contexts and broader outreach across Europe, fostering knowledge exchange and transferability of results.

2.4. Size of the grants

The total budget allocated to this Call for Proposals is **EUR 160,000**. Each selected proposal will receive a grant of **EUR 16,000** to develop the expected activities.

The grant of EUR 16,000 is intended to cover all costs related to the design and implementation of the action. Applicants must foresee in their proposed budget the travel and accommodation costs for participation in the YOU-DARE project kick-off meeting, which will be held in Brussels (Belgium). At least one representative of each funded pilot is required to attend, and these costs must be accommodated within the EUR 16,000 ceiling.

No co-financing is required from the applicants. However, applicants may complement the grant with additional resources where relevant.

2.5. Eligible Applicants

This Call is open to a range of organisations active in the fields of youth engagement, democracy, equality, and social inclusion.

To be eligible, applicants must be legal entities — legally constituted and registered organisations — established in an eligible country (see Section 2.3), with the legal and financial capacity to carry out the proposed action and to sign a Partnership Agreement with ALDA. Applicants must be able to provide proof of their legal existence, as set out in Section 3.4. Natural persons (individuals) are not eligible to apply.

Reflecting the ecosystem of actors identified through the Open Policy Labs, eligible applicants may include:

- Civil society organisations (CSOs) and NGOs;
- Youth organisations and student unions, where constituted as legal entities;
- Educational institutions and other providers of formal and non-formal education;
- Digital, online and media organisations, where constituted as legal entities;
- Sports, cultural and community-based organisations and services;
- Research and academic institutions;
- Local authorities and public institutions;
- Other relevant organisations, including private sector entities such as small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), where relevant to the objectives of the proposed action.

Partnerships are strongly encouraged. Each application must be submitted by a single lead applicant, which acts as the sole interlocutor of ALDA, signs the Partnership Agreement and receives and

manages the grant. Partners of the project do not need to submit separate documentation: they are described in the application form, with contact persons indicated. Joint applications submitted by multiple co-applicants, including applications covering more than one country, are not foreseen under this Call, and in line with the single country scope of actions (See Section 2.3), all partners in a proposed action are expected to be based in the same eligible country, at national, regional or local level. An organisation may take part in only one application under this Call, whether as lead applicant or as a partner. The same organisation cannot appear in more than one proposal. The lead applicant cannot foresee a subcontract of the main activity/ies of the pilot to another partner. The actor categories above should be understood as a source of inspiration for building partnerships rather than as rigid applicant types. The Open Policy Labs highlighted the added value of collaboration — for example, NGOs working together with influencers and online actors; educational institutions collaborating with community organisations; youth organisations partnering with cultural, sports or digital actors; and research organisations supporting practice-based interventions with evidence and evaluation.

Individuals and informal actors who are not legal entities — such as individual content creators and influencers, young leaders, community role models, journalists (in particular investigative journalists), people with lived experience, and groups or bodies that do not hold legal personality in their country (for example some student unions or school groups) — cannot apply directly. However, their involvement is strongly encouraged, either as partners or collaborators within an action led by an eligible organisation, or through a parent organisation that is itself an eligible legal entity (such as a university).

Applicants should take into account their national context, as collaboration with public authorities or trade unions may be more or less feasible depending on the setting.

Conflict of interest: By submitting an application, the applicant declares that it is not in a situation of conflict of interest in connection with this Call. A conflict of interest exists where the impartiality and objectivity of the selection process is, or could reasonably be perceived to be, compromised by family, personal, political, economic, professional ties with a member of the YOU-DARE consortium or of the Selection Committee. Applicants must disclose any such actual or potential situation at the time of application. Failure to declare a conflict of interest, or any attempt to improperly influence the evaluation, may lead to the rejection of the application. As a side note, ties arising from the project's own design, such as prior participation in the Open Policy Labs, do not in themselves make an applicant ineligible. Such ties must, however, be declared at the time of application.

2.6. Eligible Activities

Eligible activities should be aligned with the scope and priorities of this Call and respond to the challenges identified through the YOU-DARE Open Policy Labs. Proposed actions are expected to address youth radicalisation dynamics linked to gendered far-right narratives, while promoting democratic engagement, inclusion, and critical thinking, and engaging with underlying drivers such as identity, belonging, digital environments, and socio-economic vulnerabilities.

Proposals should clearly indicate whether the action is primarily preventive, intervention/countering-

oriented, or focused on de-radicalisation and exit approaches — or a combination of these — in line with the approaches described in Section 2.2. Given the grant size and the implementation period, actions are expected to be focused and realistic in scale. The Call prioritises practical interventions; additional research or data-collection activities are not the focus of this Call.

Reflecting the intervention types prioritised through the Labs, activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Creating, strengthening or transforming community and youth spaces (including active clubs, sport- and culture-based settings, and both online and offline environments), building where possible on existing spaces rather than creating new ones;
- Training and capacity-building for educators, youth workers, social workers and other professionals;
- Development of alternative narratives - and, where relevant, counter-narratives - extended beyond digital campaigns to offline, community, cultural and educational settings, in line with the Approach to narratives set out in Section 2.2;
- School- and education-based programmes, including media and digital literacy and intergenerational learning;
- Awareness-raising and cultural, artistic and visual interventions (e.g. forum theatre, music and urban culture, short films and visual storytelling);
- Peer-to-peer and participatory approaches, including mentoring, youth dialogue and co-creation of activities and materials with young people and target communities;
- Online and social-media outreach and engagement activities, including collaboration with influencers and content creators under appropriate ethical guidance;
- Exit work and restorative-justice approaches, including interventions involving both individuals engaged in far-right movements and those affected by them;
- Producing creative content and communication formats, including humour, irony and satire, to engage young people;
- Fact-checking and myth-debunking initiatives;
- Youth camps and other intensive in-person educational experiences;
- Advocacy and policy-engagement activities in support of the Call's objectives;
- Small-scale collaboration with relevant stakeholders (e.g. CSOs, media actors, content creators).

The list above is indicative and not exhaustive: other relevant approaches that are well justified and clearly aligned with the scope and priorities of the Call are equally welcome.

Applicants are encouraged to propose approaches that **go beyond their routine or existing activities and methodologies**, that are context-sensitive and grounded in local knowledge, to integrate a gender and intersectional perspective, and to design activities with sustainability and transferability in mind.

Ineligible activities include: actions whose main purpose is academic research or data collection rather than practical intervention (consistent with the focus of the Call set out above; this does not exclude the monitoring, evaluation and evidence-gathering that forms part of an action); activities already funded from another source (see double-funding rule below); activities with no clear link to the Call's

themes and target groups; and activities that primarily serve the commercial interest of the applicant rather than a public-benefit purpose.

In addition, the proposed action must not be double-funded: the same action or activities must not be receiving, or have received, funding from any other source (whether EU or other) for the same purpose. Applicants will be required to confirm this in the Declaration of Honour (Annex II). Actions may, however, build on or complement existing initiatives, provided that the activities and costs funded under this Call are clearly distinct and identifiable.

Ethics, safeguarding and data protection (GDPR): Actions must comply with applicable ethical standards and data-protection law (GDPR). Applicants working with minors, or collecting personal or sensitive data, must ensure appropriate safeguards, including informed consent (and, where relevant, parental or guardian consent), data minimisation, and safe data handling. The project may request further information on these measures where necessary.

2.7. Expected Outputs

Selected pilot actions are expected to deliver concrete, locally grounded outputs. Depending on the type of action, these may include community or youth activities and events; training sessions and capacity-building materials; alternative-narrative and communication content (such as campaigns, videos, or artistic and cultural productions); educational or media-literacy resources; and new or strengthened community spaces, networks and partnerships.

Beyond their direct outputs, the pilot actions are expected to generate practical insights and evidence on what works in addressing youth radicalisation linked to far-right gendered narratives. These insights will feed into the YOU-DARE toolkit and policy recommendations and support the development of transferable approaches across contexts.

Applicants are encouraged, where feasible, to produce open-access resources and to document their methodologies, results and lessons learned, in order to support replication and longer-term uptake beyond the funding period. Applicants define their expected outputs, outcomes and indicators using the Logical Framework template (Annex III).

2.8. Eligible Costs

Eligible costs are **actual costs** incurred by the applicant which meet all of the following criteria:

- They are incurred during the implementation period of the action;
- They are indicated in the estimated overall budget of the submitted proposal;
- They are necessary for the implementation of the project;
- They are incurred and, where applicable, paid before the submission of the final report;
- They are identifiable and verifiable, in particular being recorded in the accounting records of the applicant and determined according to the applicable accounting standards and usual cost accounting practices of the applicant;
- They comply with the requirements of applicable tax and social legislation;

- They are reasonable, justified, and comply with the principle of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy and efficiency;
- They are not covered by other funding (i.e. no double funding).

Please note that Value Added Tax (VAT) is considered an eligible cost **only if** it is not recoverable under the applicable national VAT legislation.

Travel and accommodation costs for participation in the YOU-DARE kick-off meeting in Brussels are eligible and **must be** foreseen within the maximum grant amount.

Additional information about the eligible costs' categories will be available on the *Budget proposal template can be find in Section 3.4.*

2.9. Payment

The payment will be made by ALDA to selected applicants, via bank transfers in two instalments:

- The first instalment of **60% of the grant contribution** will be submitted after the signature of the Partnership Agreement and upon submission of the corresponding Request for Payment and Financial Identification Form, within sixty days from the signature and presentation of all documents.
- The final settlement of **40% of the grant contribution** will be paid upon submission of the second Request for Payment and the submission of the final report, within sixty days from the **approval** of the final report (narrative and financial reports, accompanied by all justificatory documents and attachments in originals), duly completed according to the clauses of the Partnership Agreement and the financial guidelines. The final instalment is calculated as the balance between the total eligible costs spent by the applicant and the funds already transferred.

The amount will be transferred in EURO (€).

If the selected applicant can issue an invoice, this constitutes the primary document to be received to proceed with the payment transfer. Otherwise, due to specific legal or fiscal reasons based on the national law, an accounting document of equivalent probative value — such as a debit note or request for payment—must be provided, clearly identifying the supplier, service, amount, date, and contract reference.

The selected applicants will receive the guidelines for the financial and technical reports, all expenditures must be traceable and justified by documents

2.10. Duration

The duration of the pilot actions is expected to be **up to 6 months**. Proposals with a shorter

implementation period are equally accepted, provided that the proposed timeframe is realistic and well justified in relation to the scope and objectives of the action.

Regardless of their individual duration, **all pilot actions must be completed within the official implementation window defined for this Call** (see Section 8). Applicants proposing a shorter duration are free to set their own start and end dates, as long as these remain within this overall period.

The final deadline for completion of the pilot actions cannot be extended. Applicants are strongly advised to plan the scope, activities and timeline of their proposed action accordingly, ensuring that all planned results can realistically be achieved within the available timeframe.

After the implementation period (**30 November 2026 – 31 May 2027**), applicants will have approximately **one month to prepare and submit their final narrative and financial reports (by 30 June 2027)**. The reports will then be reviewed and evaluated by the project team, and the final balance payment will be made following the approval of the final report (see Section 2.9).

In case of delays, the last deadline to finalise the transfer of instalments will be the end of the YOU-DARE project, which is the 31st December 2028. It is strongly encouraged to submit the documentation in a timely manner in order to avoid it.

The exact duration and timeline should be clearly justified in the proposal and aligned with the scope of the proposed activities.

The YOU-DARE project team reserves the right to modify the timeline of the Call and of the pilot actions at any stage of the process.

2.11. Target groups and beneficiaries

Proposed actions should target one or more of the following groups, identified as priorities through the Open Policy Labs :

- Young people in general, particularly those exposed or vulnerable to radicalisation processes;
- Young men and boys engaging with, or exposed to, far-right and anti-gender narratives;
- Socio-economically vulnerable youth, including young people from deprived, rural, post-industrial, peripheral, geographically isolated, or educationally disadvantaged contexts, and young people not in employment, education or training (NEET);
- Young women and girls affected by emerging radicalisation dynamics;
- Migrant and Roma youth, LGBTQI+ young people, religious communities and other minoritised groups exposed to far-right and anti-gender narratives;
- Victims of far-right and anti-gender narratives, including women and LGBTQI+ people affected by these narratives;
- Educators, youth workers, social workers and trainers — as direct beneficiaries or as intermediaries for reaching young people;
- Civil society actors, community stakeholders, journalists, influencers and content creators.

Applicants are encouraged to give special attention to vulnerable and underrepresented groups, to apply an intersectional approach that recognises overlapping and interconnected forms of disadvantage and exclusion, and to adapt interventions to local realities, including differences in infrastructure, access to schools, availability of organisations, and local community dynamics. Particular attention to rural, peripheral and other underserved or geographically isolated areas, where support structures are often limited, is encouraged.

Age focus: For the purposes of this Call, "young people" refers primarily to those aged roughly 13–30, in line with EU youth-work practice. This is an indicative focus rather than a strict eligibility limit - applicants may adapt it to their target group and context where justified. Adults engaged as intermediaries (e.g. educators, youth workers, parents, community actors) are not bound by this range. Where relevant, actions may also work with adults — such as women of all ages who are themselves affected by far-right and anti-gender narratives — as a way of reaching, protecting or supporting young people, rather than as a target group in their own right. Actions involving minors must apply the safeguarding and consent measures set out in Section 2.6.

3. Application and evaluation process

3.1. Application process and deadline for submission

The Call for Proposals is open from the **10th of July 2026** and **closes on the 6th of September 2026**.

Proposals must be submitted in English by **6 September 2026, 23:59 CET**, using the Application Form can reach below and providing all the required information and attachments. The submitted documents must contain ALL relevant information concerning the proposed action. No additional annexes or documents should be sent beyond those requested in this Call.

Any error or major inconsistency related to the application instructions or the required documents may lead to the rejection of the application. Applicants are therefore strongly encouraged to ensure that their application is complete and compliant with all requirements. Incomplete applications may be rejected.

[Apply through the Online Application Form](#)

3.2. Info Session

An online information session will be organised on **16 July 2026 at 11:00 CET on Zoom**, during the application period, to present the Call, clarify the application requirements and evaluation criteria, and support applicants in preparing strong proposals. The joining details will be published together with the

Call. A recording of the session, together with the slides and a short FAQ, will be made available on request by email to the contact address in Section 9, so that applicants who cannot join live (for example during summer holidays) can access the same information. Please note, however, that the additional point awarded for participation in the information session (see evaluation grid, Section 3.5) applies only to live attendance and is not granted for accessing the recording afterwards. Attendance is not mandatory but is encouraged; as indicated in the evaluation grid, participation in the information session is awarded additional points.

[Register here](#)

3.3. Languages of the Application and Supporting Documents

Applications and all supporting documents must be submitted in English. Where official supporting documents (e.g. registration documents) are not available in English, they should be accompanied by a translation or a short summary in English. The activities funded under the pilot actions may be carried out in the relevant national or local language(s), as appropriate to the target groups and context.

3.4. Application Package

In addition to filling up the Online Application Form, the applicant will be required to provide the **additional documents**, in **uploading them directly in the application form** at the moment of the submission of the application:

- **Annex I.** Budget proposal template ([download the template](#))
- **Annex II.** Declaration of Honour correctly signed ([download the template](#))
- **Annex III.** Logical Framework and M&E Tracker template ([download the template](#))
- **Annex IV.** Official registration document: statutes (for associations), memorandum (for foundations) or articles of association (for cooperatives) - or any other document proving the legal existence of the applicant

3.5. Evaluation process

Upon completion of the Administrative and Eligibility Check, the applications that meet all the eligibility criteria will be evaluated by a **Selection Committee (SC)**, made up of the project partners and the project's Advisory Board of experts. The evaluation process will be realized following an Evaluation Grid, based on the above mentioned criteria, and each eligible proposal will be assessed by at least two evaluators from different organisations.

The maximum score for the Project and Budget Evaluation is **50 points**. In addition, proposals may receive up to **3 bonus points** under the "Additional Points" criteria. The final ranking of proposals will

be based on the total score obtained. The SC will have the final decision on the selection of the awarded projects, and its decision will be final.

The results of the evaluation will be communicated to applicants by email on **19 October 2026**. Upon request, applicants may receive additional feedback on their proposal.

Type	Criteria	Points
ELIGIBILITY	Applicant's legal entity: Applicants must be legal entities established in an eligible country as defined in this Call.	✓
	Project topic: The proposed action is aligned with the objectives and thematic priorities of the Call.	✓
	Project target groups: The proposal targets at least one of the identified target groups.	✓
	Project timeframe: The proposed duration and timeframe comply with the requirements of the Call.	✓
	Eligibility of the project activities: The proposed activities are eligible and do not include any ineligible activity as specified in the Call.	✓
	Number of applications: Only one application is submitted per organisation.	✓
	Application submission: The application is complete and submitted within the deadline.	✓
	Equal opportunities: the project activities ensure equal opportunities to vulnerable groups	✓
	No double funding: The proposed action is not funded, in whole or in part, by any other source for the same activities.	✓
	Ethics and safeguarding: The action gives due attention to ethical considerations, safeguarding and data protection (GDPR), in particular when working with minors or collecting sensitive data.	✓
PROJECT EVALUATION	Operational and technical capacities of the applicant: the applicant has proven experience in project and budget management	1-3
	Operational and technical capacities of the applicant (thematic expertise): The applicant has a consolidated expertise on the thematic focus of the call (e.g. previous experience with similar	1-3

	projects or activities) ³	
	Relevance of the action: The action openly addresses the objective, the issues, sub-topics and thematic axes of the Call, integrates a gender perspective in a meaningful and context-sensitive way, and — where relevant to the target group and context — applies an intersectional lens, grounded in local knowledge.	1-5
	Relevance of the action (quality of the programme): The programme responds to the objectives of the proposed action, is realistic, applies an appropriate methodology, and is based on a clear logic (theory of change) with feasible, action-specific indicators (applicants will need to use the Logical Framework template, Annex III, to structure this).	1-4
	Relevance of the action (expected impact): The foreseen impact both in the short and long term is significant in terms of benefits for the target group and communities.	1-3
	Effectiveness of the action: The action is credible in terms of adequacy between the budget, human resources, proposed activities and expected results and the budget presented is appropriately, efficiently and realistically balanced.	1-4
	Integration of a gender perspective (and, where relevant, intersectional lens): The action meaningfully integrates a gender perspective across its design and implementation, and, where relevant to its target group and context , reflects an intersectional understanding of overlapping forms of exclusion or vulnerability.	1-4
	Target group - clarity and needs alignment: The target group is clearly identified (both direct and indirect beneficiaries) and the expected results meet their needs.	1-5
	Sustainability, transferability and replicability: The action is designed to have lasting effects beyond the funding period, with realistic prospects for the continuation, transferability or replication of its activities, outputs or partnerships, and for synergies with past or ongoing initiatives.	1-4

³ (1 point = less than 5 years of experience with similar projects/activities; 2 points between 5 and 15 years of experience; 3 points more than 15 years of experience)

BUDGET EVALUATION	Budget coherence: The proposed budget is consistent with the objectives, activities, and expected results of the action.	1-5
	Cost-effectiveness: The budget demonstrates value for money, ensuring that resources are used efficiently to achieve the expected outcomes.	1-5
	Clarity and completeness of the budget: The budget is clearly presented, sufficiently detailed, and all cost items are justified.	1-5
ADDITIONAL POINTS	Participation in info sessions: The applicant has attended the information session organised within the framework of this Call for Proposals.	+1
	Cooperation with stakeholders: The proposal includes cooperation with other stakeholders such as CSOs, local authorities, media organisations, or community actors.	+1
	Vulnerable groups: Beyond its primary target group, the action gives dedicated attention to groups facing multiple or intersecting forms of disadvantage (e.g. disability, minority background, socio-economic exclusion), with specific measures for their inclusion described in the proposal.	+1

4. Kick-off and onboarding

Following the selection process, all funded pilots will take part in a **mandatory kick-off meeting**, held in Brussels (Belgium) at the start of the implementation period on **30 November 2026**. The meeting marks the onboarding of the selected pilots and brings them together with the YOU-DARE team and partners.

The kick-off introduces the practical framework for implementation and will cover: the communication and visibility requirements and the communication kit (see Section 7); the financial and technical reporting requirements, templates and guidelines (see Section 6); the monitoring and evaluation approach (see Section 5); and onboarding to DareNet, the project's online space for exchange and peer learning among grantees and stakeholders, and for submitting M&E and reporting materials (see Sections 5 and 6).

At least one representative of each funded pilot is required to attend. **Travel and accommodation costs must be foreseen within the proposed budget, in line with Sections 2.4 and 2.8.**

5. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) under this Call are designed as a proportionate and supportive learning process, rather than solely a compliance exercise, recognising that many applicants will operate with limited resources and evaluation capacity.

Applicants are asked to design their action around a clear logic (theory of change), specifying expected outputs, outcomes and indicators, using the **Logical Framework**, to be completed as part of the application, and the **M&E Tracker**, to be completed throughout implementation and at reporting (**Annex III**). M&E approaches should combine:

- **Output indicators** (e.g. activities delivered, participation rates, reach, diversity of participants, fidelity to the proposed methodology, implementation milestones);
- **Outcome indicators** (e.g. changes in knowledge, attitudes, perceptions or practices, assessed through mixed methods such as pre- and post-activity surveys, interviews, focus groups, participant feedback and observation);
- For narrative-focused and online interventions, quantitative engagement metrics (e.g. reach, views, shares) should be complemented by qualitative evidence of narrative adoption and change.

Sustainability is addressed separately, through a short sustainability plan (part of Annex III), since whether an action's effects continue is usually only visible well after the pilot ends.

Applicants must give due attention to ethical considerations and data protection (GDPR), in particular when working with minors or collecting sensitive identity-related data.

The project will provide examples of indicators and guidance, and will support peer learning among grantees through **DareNet**, the project's online space for exchange (introduced at the kick-off meeting, see Section 4). DareNet will also host a space reserved for the funded pilots, where they can share ongoing activities, reflections and results *with each other* — including after their actions end — supporting peer learning across the funded pilots. For all funded pilots, M&E will follow two defined points: a mid-term check-in meeting at the mid-point of implementation, and a final review at completion (based on the closing narrative and financial report), accompanied by a closing interview if the YOU-DARE team considers it necessary (see Section 6). Additional short calls may be arranged on an ad-hoc basis where useful, in line with the proportionate approach set out above.

6. Reporting

Applicants will be required to submit narrative and financial reports in English via DareNet Platform, using the templates provided by the project, including the updated [M&E Tracker \(Annex III\)](#). Reporting will be kept proportionate to the scale of the actions and may combine indicator-based reporting, technical reporting and learning reflections, complemented by check-in points defined in Section 5 (a mid-term check-in and a final review).

Reports must be accompanied by all relevant supporting documents, including but not limited to invoices, receipts, proof of payment, payslips, timesheets, lists of participants, and communication materials (e.g. photos, links to online content, publications).

All expenditures must be clearly identifiable, verifiable, and directly linked to the implementation of the supported action. The reporting of expenditure must be carried out on a real-cost basis. All costs must be actually incurred during the implementation period and supported by appropriate documentation.

In order to avoid double funding, all supporting documents must ensure clear traceability to the YOU-DARE project, including, where relevant, a reference to the project title.

Detailed reporting guidelines and templates will be provided to the selected applicants **and introduced at the project kick-off meeting (see Section 4).**

7. Communication and Visibility

The selected projects must fully respect the visibility and communication requirements related to the YOU-DARE project, **including the logos of the project and of the EU, as well as the reference “Funded by the European Union” and the appropriate disclaimer**, in all publications, references, documents, news, and any other visibility and communication actions, in line with the [Communication and Visibility guidelines for European Union actions](#). The projects should also follow and respect the YOU-DARE communication guidelines and visual identity in all communication materials developed.

Applicants are responsible for ensuring that all communication activities related to the supported actions properly acknowledge the support received under the YOU-DARE project. To support applicants in this process, **a communication and visibility guidance session** will be delivered at the project kick-off meeting (see Section 4) following the selection process, and a communication kit, including visual templates and guidance materials, will be shared with the selected applicants.

8. Indicative Timeline of the Call

Please note that, below dates are indicative and may be adjusted by the YOU-DARE project team.

Period	Milestone
10 July 2026	Launch of the Call for Proposals
10 July 2026 – 6 September 2026	Open application period
16 July 2026	Info Session
6 September 2026, 23:59 CET	Deadline, end of the application period
7 September 2026 - 18 October 2026	Evaluation and selection process

19 October 2026	Communication of results to applicants
19 October 2026 – 25 October 2026	Contracting: signature of the Partnership Agreements with selected pilots
19 October 2026 - 27 November 2026	Completion of the inter-party signature process and initiation of the payment transfer
30 November 2026, 11:00 CET	Kick-off Meeting in Brussels and Official Starting Date for the Project Implementation Period (up to 6 months)
30 November 2026 – 31 May 2027	Pilot implementation period (up to 6 months)
1 June 2027 – 30 June 2027	Submission of final reporting including logframe, narrative, and financial reports (reporting duration: 1 month)
1 July – 31 July 2027	Review and evaluation of reports; approval and initiation of final balance payments

9. Contact

All questions related to this Call for Proposals and the application process should be addressed to the following email addresses: youdare_callforaction@aldaintranet.org



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