

Call for proposals

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| **Call title** | **WAVE Regranting 2025** |
| **Technical details** | Regranting under the **CERV-2025-OG-SGO** WAVE Operating Grant: Financial support to third parties  Funds made available by the European Commission, European Education and Culture Executive Agency, under the CERV Programme. WAVE acts as a regranting body of the funds pertaining to this call, upholding the rights and obligations of such bodies. |
| **Project**  **duration** | May - December 2025 (minimum 6 months) |
| **Call stages** | Single stage call |
| **Contract type** | Grant agreement |
| **Total grant amount** | EUR 50,000 |
| **Maximum grant**  **awarded** | EUR 10,000 (EUR 5,000 grant proposals are also encouraged) |
| **Form of the**  **grant** | Lump sum |
| **Deadline for submissions** | **31st March 2025, 10:00 am CET** to [**regranting@wave-network.org**](mailto:regranting@wave-network.org) |
| **Eligible types of**  **organisations** | EU-based WAVE members as stipulated in Art 1. |
| **Online Q&A for applicants** | 18th February 2025, 14:00 – 15:00 CET  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81950867847?pwd=7gK8prf0Z0T5xHV1AaiJQQ6Kkbd45b.1&from=addon |

# TERMS OF REFERENCE

Violence against women and girls is a long-term systemic problem in Europe without geographical or social boundaries and is a fundamental human rights violation that contravenes EU values as specified in Article 2 of the TEU and Article 23 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. It is a severe form of discrimination against women and girls and one of the biggest obstacles towards achieving gender equality between women and men.

To tackle the impact of this severe human rights violation and strengthen the role of feminist civil society organisations (CSOs), the WAVE Network is inviting its **member organisations in the EU** (including OCT) **to submit proposals for the WAVE Regranting 2025**.

# Qualifying organisations

The organisation must

* + Be a legal member of the WAVE Network
  + Be established in a Member State of the European Union (including OCT)
  + Be a legal entity
  + Be a private non-profit organisation (private body)
  + Respect EU values as laid down in Art. 2 of the Treaty on European Union and the EU Charter of fundamental rights

***NOTE!*** Applicants need to be (legal) members of the WAVE Network. Members of WAVE member organisations are not automatically eligible.

Cooperation applications are eligible (e.g. applications by a consortium / group of organisations) under the following conditions

* + - a WAVE member based in the European Union (including OCT) shall be in the lead, *and*
    - a WAVE member based in the European Union (including OCT) shall be beneficiary and contract partner to WAVE, *and*
    - the respective project shall be carried out in a member state of the European Union (including OCT), *and*
    - the project shall serve one or more objectives as stipulated in Art. 3 in a member state of the European Union (including OCT).

# Amount & eligible costs

The **maximum** grant awarded amounts to **EUR 10,000.** EUR 5,000 grant proposals are also encouraged.

Up to the grant awarded, WAVE Regranting 2025 covers 100 % of the project costs, **no co-funding** **by the applicant is required.**

Only one application per applicant and only applications to [regranting@wave-network.org](mailto:regranting@wave-network.org) will be accepted. Only timely applications containing the fully completed proposal and budget form will be considered.

## List of eligible costs:

General eligibility conditions

* They must be actually incurred by the beneficiary;
* They must be incurred in the period set out in the application to the grant agreement, but by Dec 31, 2025 at the latest;
* They must be declared under one of the budget categories (see below);
* They must be incurred in connection with the action as described in the application and necessary for its implementation;
* They must be identifiable and verifiable, in particular recorded in the beneficiary’s accounts in accordance with the accounting standards applicable in the country where the beneficiary is established and with the beneficiary’s usual cost accounting practices;
* They must comply with the applicable national law on taxes, labour and social security; and
* They must be reasonable, justified and must comply with the principle of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy and efficiency.

Budget categories:

1. Personnel
2. Equipment, materials, translation, printing costs
3. Venue hires for trainings, workshops, etc.
4. Consultancy & other third-party contracts
5. Travel & accommodation
6. Other

# Objectives

The purpose of this regranting is to support women’s NGOs (members of the WAVE Network) to strengthen and implement their work activities in preventing and tackling violence against women and girls (VAWG). These activities further contribute towards EU level activities aimed at ending VAWG. The grants will contribute to the sustainability of WAVE members, women’s specialist services (WSS), working at a local, national and regional level. Such grants are in line and further advance the implementation of the EU Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025, specifically objective 1 of the strategy on ‘Being free from violence and stereotypes’[[1]](#footnote-1).

The WAVE Network consists of 182 members from 46 European countries with 73 % WSS, 19 % national networks of WSS and 8 % individual members mainly from academia and is reaching 1,600 European WSS and 2 Mio women survivors of violence every year. Typically, WSS are

grassroots NGOs, working to specifically prevent and combat violence against women, their children and girls on national or local level. They address systemic issues of gender discrimination against women and provide life-saving work. As highlighted by various actors[2](#_bookmark1), WSS not only provide vital services, but also serve as a laboratory for constant innovation and improvement of practices. They are an ‘early warning system’ and are the first to notice holes in policy making and the effects of specific policies on women. Despite their valuable contribution (e.g. for reaching the EU Gender Equality Strategy goals), WSS tend to be notoriously underfunded which is specifically true for services targeting minoritized women. This development was additionally fueled by the increasing backlash of feminism and democracy. The need of WSS for (adequate) funding has been rising significantly in the past years. WAVE’s regranting initiative aims at bridging funding gaps.

All proposals are expected to provide a clear description identifying the needs and gaps their initiative aims to fill, along with clearly defined objectives and intended deliverables of the activity. The proposals should include details on how the initiative will be monitored and assessed to determine its impact and how the member will strengthen the capacity of their organisation.

WAVE grantees are expected to contribute towards at least one of the following objectives:

* **Strengthened capacity** to protect and promote women’s rights and EU values;
* A **more supportive environment for CSOs and human rights defenders** such as national human rights institutions;
* A **better developed advocacy** and watchdog role for CSOs;
* **Increased involvement of CSOs in policy- and decision-making** processes with local, regional, and national governments;
* **Increased citizen awareness** of EU rights and values;
* **Strengthened regional cooperation** within civil society.

# Expected results

The WAVE Regranting 2025 is expected to lead to the following results:

* + Enable underfunded / less funded WAVE members to continue their lifesaving work;
  + Strengthen the capacity of women’s NGOs to protect and promote EU rights and values, in particular women’s human rights;
  + Increase the involvement of women’s NGOs in policy and decision-making process with local, regional and national governments.

# Eligible types of activities (exhaustive list)

Activities qualifying for WAVE Regranting 2025:

* + **Sustainability of women’s NGOs and women’s specialist services (WSS):** Strengthening and ensuring the sustainability of WSS, as the ones best equipped to cater to the needs of women and girls who are survivors of gender-based violence (e.g. project work). Priority

2 <https://rm.coe.int/prems-010522-gbr-grevio-mid-term-horizontal-review-rev-february-2022/1680a58499>

will be given to WSS that are typically underfunded as they support marginalised groups of women e.g. migrant and/or refugee women, minoritised and racialised women, women with disabilities, older women, and otherwise particularly marginalised women.

* + **Capacity building:** Facilitating access to training on advocacy tools for campaigning at the national level and/or local level, as well as establishing advocacy and collaboration synergies.
  + **Advocacy & campaigning activities**: Raising awareness on violence against women under the topics defined in the Gender Equality Strategy: Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention), effective data collection, sexual and domestic violence, online violence, gender stereotypes, femicide, sexual harassment, among others. Advocating for effective implementation of and/or adoption of feminist policy and legislation, e.g. Istanbul Convention, the Revised Victim’s Rights Directive - Directive 2012/29/EU, the draft EU Directive on VAW and DV etc. Contributing to the promotion of EU values and human rights.
  + **Effective prevention of violence:** Tackling behavioral attitudes and social beliefs based on gender stereotypes (e.g. educational activities targeting young people).
  + **Data collection**: Collecting data on violence against women at local, national level and/or on the availability of WSS for survivors of violence.

# Roadmap

## Call starts 31st Jan 2025

Online Q&A for applicants 18th February 2025, 14:00 – 15:00 CET

## Application deadline 31st March 2025, 10:00 am CET

Selection by 15th April 2025

Grant agreement by 30th April 2025

Transfer of money within 10 working days of receipt of the signed grant agreement at WAVE

Project starts from 1st May 2025 on

Project ends by 31st December 2025

Reporting deadline by the 3rd week of January 2026

# Selection procedure

A selection committee will be established within the WAVE office to oversee the grantee selection process. The committee will include three WAVE office staff members from diverse roles: the Grant Management Coordinator, the Executive Director, and a rotating member from either the Senior Advocacy Advisor or the Network and Project Coordinator position. This rotation aims to minimize potential biases. Additionally, the WAVE office seeks to incorporate the expertise of WAVE-affiliated academics, partners or individual members depending on availability and geographical distribution of grant applications. A key qualifying criterion for these selection committee members is that they are themselves ineligible to apply for the WAVE FSTP and offer relevant expertise. For compliance reasons, WAVE board members and WAVE members will not be involved in the selection process.

Applications will be ranked according to:

* + **Relevance**: To what extent do the proposals match the objectives defined in the call, especially in terms of target groups and activities? Projects targeting minoritised women (e.g., women of colour, disabled women, women belonging to an ethnic minority, people with marginalised gender identities, older women, single mothers, undocumented women, etc.) will be prioritised.
  + **Quality**: Do the proposed activities follow a logical flow and does the project have a clear methodology? Are the suggested activities within the proposed time frame? Does the WAVE member have appropriate experience and sufficiently trained people to implement the activities? Is the budget understandable and clearly linked to the project?
  + **Impact**: What is the proposed impact on the target group? How does the WAVE member ensure the sustainability of the results after the end of the grant period?

All applicants will get a personalised email with information about the overall result of the evaluation and will be offered detailed feedback on request. The outcomes of the call will be published on the WAVE website and will include a description of the selected projects, award dates, project durations as well as the names and countries of the grantees.

A grant agreement will be set up between WAVE and the grantee. The awarded amount will be transferred to the beneficiary’s bank account within 10 working days after receipt of the signed grant agreement by WAVE.

## REPORTING

**By the third week of January 2026**, grantees will have to submit a final narrative and financial report, accompanied by the documents justifying their expenses.

Grantees will receive templates for the required narrative and financial reports along with detailed information about the requirements in the templates themselves as well as in a kick-off meeting at the beginning of the project (exact date will be announced to the grantees).

The reports will be collated and analysed by the WAVE staff.

1. https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/gender-equality/gender-equality-strategy\_en [↑](#footnote-ref-1)