

# Trainers' Digest



**ETUI-REHS**

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## **Budget heading 04.03.03.01 "Industrial Relations and Social Dialogue" Call for proposals 2009**

The European Commission has launched a [Call for proposals](#) for implementing the budget heading 04.03.03.01 intended to cover grants for promoting social dialogue at the cross-sectoral and sectoral levels in accordance with Article 138 of the EC Treaty.

The appropriation will therefore be used to finance consultations, meetings, negotiations and other activities designed to achieve these objectives and to promote actions outlined in the European Commission's Communication on "The European social dialogue, a force for innovation and change (COM(2002) 341 final)" and in the Communication "Partnership for change in an enlarged Europe - Enhancing the contribution of European social dialogue (COM(2004) 557 final)". The measures should help social partner organisations to contribute to addressing the overarching challenges facing European employment and social policy as laid down in the EU Lisbon Strategy and in the Commission's Communication on the Renewed Social Agenda (COM(2008) 412 final, 2 July 2008)

Objectives of the 2009 Call include measures addressing modernisation of the labour market, anticipation and management of change, flexicurity, mobility and migration, youth employment, contributions to the health and safety strategy, reconciliation of work and family life, gender equality, action in the field of anti-discrimination, active ageing, active inclusion and decent work.

The EC will welcome measures contribute to addressing the employment and social dimensions of EU priorities relating to: the current economic crisis, tackling climate change and preparing for the follow-up to the Lisbon Strategy from 2010. The activities should also involve social partner representatives in the candidate countries. Special attention will be paid to improving the level of female participation. These two components are of a horizontal nature, i.e. they apply to both sub-programmes. Access for disabled persons must be guaranteed for measures funded under this heading.

We welcome any suggestions you may have to help us improve this newsletter

## Structure and activities

The budget line is structured into 2 sub-programmes:

- **Subprogramme 1 - Support of the European social dialogue** will support the following activities:
  - measures to prepare European social dialogue, e.g. preparatory surveys, meetings and conferences;
  - measures regarded as part of the social dialogue (Article 138 of the Treaty), including negotiations, meetings to prepare for negotiations or relating to the implementation of negotiated agreements and other negotiated outcomes;
  - measures to implement the European social partners' work programmes (e.g. round tables, exchanges of experience and networks of key actors);
  - measures to monitor and follow up European social dialogue activities and outcomes, e.g. conferences and initiatives to disseminate the results of European social dialogue through European or national events, whether as paper publications or in electronic form (including translations);
  - measures to strengthen the capacity of social partners to contribute to European social dialogue with particular attention to New Member States and Candidate Countries (such as information and training seminars);
  - measures by social partners which contribute to the Lisbon strategy and in particular to its employment dimension, and actions to implement the European employment strategy (EES) and to monitor and analyse its impact on labour markets.
- **Subprogramme 2 - Improvement of expertise in the field of industrial relations** will support the following activities:
  - seminars or conferences on industrial relations, including preparatory studies, round tables, exchanges of experience and networks of players and/or experts;
  - initiatives designed to further the collection and use of information on national industrial relations systems and on developments at European level
  - initiatives designed to promote knowledge on effective industrial relations practices, including successful forms of worker participation;
  - initiatives connected with the use (i.e. presentation, discussions and dissemination) or preparation of the European Commission's Industrial Relations in Europe report

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## What kinds of organisations are eligible to be promoters?

To be eligible, applicants must:

- be properly constituted and registered legal persons. In application of Article 114 of the Financial Regulation, social partner organisations without legal personality are also eligible provided that their representatives have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf and assume financial liability;
- fall within one of the following categories:

### 1. Social Partners:

- European social partner organisations currently consulted in accordance with Article 138 of the Treaty. An up-to-date list of these organisations can be found at:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/social\\_dialogue/consultations\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/social_dialogue/consultations_en.htm)
- National or regional organisations affiliated to European social partner organisations as long as the project has a European approach;
- European social partner organisations not covered by the above, for example for operations involving the preparation and launch of European social dialogue at sectoral level.

### 2. Organisations linked to Industrial Relations such as non-profit-making organisations, research centres and institutes, universities, non-profit-making networks of companies or of workers' organisations.

### 3. Public authorities

### 4. International organizations (such as UN Agencies) active in the fields of social dialogue and/or industrial relations)

- Have their registered offices in one of the EU Member States-in derogation to this point, international organisations (such as UN Agencies) active in the fields of social dialogue and/or industrial relations having their registered offices outside the EU are eligible;
- Not be in one of the situations referred to in Articles 93(1), 94 and 96(2)(a) of the EU Financial Regulation (like bankruptcy, compulsory winding up, under court administration).

## Deadlines and procedure for submission of proposals

The Call for proposals 2009 specifies priorities, eligibility rules, deadlines, the scale of funding and procedures.

The deadlines for the submission of applications are as follows:

- **2 March 2009** for actions commencing no earlier than **2 May 2009**
- **1 September 2009** for actions commencing no earlier than **1 November 2009** and no later than **22 December 2009**

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N.B.: proposals which indicate an earlier starting date than the ones indicated above will not be considered by the Evaluation Committee.

The compulsory on-line grant application form as well as other useful documents (e.g. the European Communities' Financial Regulation and Implementing Rules) can be found at the following Internet address:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=630&langId=en&callId=196&furtherCalls=yes>

Send your covering letter of application, together with all the other documents listed in the table under section "Eligible applications" of the Call, as originals as well as one copy of all of these documents, by the deadlines indicated above, to the following address:

**Call for proposals VP/2009/001**  
**Budget heading 04.03.03.01**  
**European Commission – DG EMPL/F.1**  
**J54 01/004**  
**B – 1049 Brussels**  
**Belgium**

Please send your application by registered mail or express courier service only and keep proof of the date of sending (the date of the post office stamp or express courier receipt will be considered as proof of the date of sending).

Hand-delivered applications must be received by the European Commission on the last day for submission.

The address for hand deliveries of documents for the European Commission is:

**Avenue du Bourget n° 1**  
**B-1140 Evere**  
**Belgium**

Proof of delivery is a signed receipt from the Commission's Archives Service stamped with the date of the last day for submission or earlier.

### What scale of funding is available?

EU contribution will be a maximum of 80% of the total costs - applicants must contribute at least 20% of the total cost of the operation. Contributions in kind will not be taken into account. In derogation from the previous paragraph, the European Commission may decide to finance up to 95 % of the total cost of social dialogue actions involving negotiations in accordance with Articles 138 and 139 of the Treaty, meetings to prepare for negotiations (sub-programme I – second bullet point), or joint social partner actions relating to the implementation of the results of European social dialogue negotiations. Social dialogue meetings organised by the European social partners themselves can also be financed up to a rate of 95 %.

### Enquiries

Enquiries by ***e-mail only at:***  
[empl-04-03-03-01@ec.europa.eu](mailto:empl-04-03-03-01@ec.europa.eu)

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