C/2025/3436

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Call for proposals (No IX-2026/02)

'GRANTS TO EUROPEAN POLITICAL FOUNDATIONS'

(C/2025/3436)

CONTENTS

Page

A. Introduction and legal framework 1

B. Objective of the call 2

C. Purpose, category and form of funding 2

D. Budget available 3

E. Admissibility requirements for Funding applications 3

F. Criteria for evaluation of funding applications 3

F.1. Exclusion criteria 3

F.2. Eligibility criteria 4

F.3. Selection criteria 4

F.4. Award criteria and distribution of funding 4

G. Shared control by European Parliament and authority 4

H. Terms and conditions 5

I. Timing 6

J. Disclosure and Processing of personal data 6

K. Other information 7

Annex – Funding application form 8

A. INTRODUCTION AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

1. Article 10(4) of the Treaty on European Union stipulates that 'political parties at European level contribute to forming European political awareness and to expressing the will of citizens of the Union'.

2. In accordance with Article 224 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the European Parliament and the Council lay down the regulations governing political parties at European level and in particular the rules regarding their funding. These rules are laid down in Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations ([1]), as subsequently amended.

3. Pursuant to Article 2(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, a European political foundation is 'an entity which is formally affiliated with a European political party, which is registered with the Authority in accordance with the conditions and procedures laid down in this Regulation, and which through its activities, within the aims and fundamental values pursued by the Union, underpins and complements the objectives of the European political party'.

([1]) OJ L 317, 4.11.2014, p. 1. Two amendments were published in OJ L 114 I, 4.5.2018, p. 1, and in OJ L 85 I, 27.3.2019, p. 7.

4. Pursuant to Article 17(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, a European political foundation which is affiliated with a European political party eligible to apply for funding under Article 17(1) of the regulation, which is registered in accordance with the conditions and procedures laid down in the regulation, and which is not in one of the situations of exclusion referred to in Article 138(1) of the Financial Regulation may apply for funding from the general budget of the European Union, in accordance with the terms and conditions published by the Authorising Officer of the European Parliament in a call for proposals.

5. Hence, the European Parliament is launching this call for proposals with a view to awarding grants to European political foundations ('call') for the financial year 2026.

6. The basic legal framework is defined in the following legal acts:

   (a) Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014;

   (b) Decision of the Bureau of the European Parliament of 1 July 2019, laying down the procedures for implementing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations ([2]) ('Bureau Decision of 1 July 2019');

   (c) Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast) ([3]) ('Financial Regulation');

   (d) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2015/2401 of 2 October 2015 on the content and functioning of the Register of European political parties and foundations ([4]);

   (e) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2246 of 3 December 2015 on detailed provisions for the registration number system applicable to the register of European political parties and European political foundations and information provided by standard extracts from the register ([5]);

   (f) European Parliament's Rules of Procedure ([6]).

B. OBJECTIVE OF THE CALL

7. The objective of this call is to invite registered European political foundations to submit applications for funding from the Union budget ('funding applications') and to determine the nature of eligible costs in application of article 25(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 and article 208(2) of the Financial Regulation.

C. PURPOSE, CATEGORY AND FORM OF FUNDING

8. The purpose of the funding is to support the European political foundations' work programme for the financial year from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2026 under the terms and conditions set out in the grant agreement to be concluded between the beneficiary European political foundation and the European Parliament.

9. The category of the funding is the grant to European political foundations, pursuant to Title VIII of the Financial Regulation ('grant'). The grant takes the form of a reimbursement of a percentage of eligible costs actually incurred.

10. The maximum amount paid to the beneficiary by the European Parliament shall neither exceed 95 % of the eligible costs indicated in the estimated budget nor 95 % of the eligible costs actually incurred.

([2]) OJ C 249, 25.7.2019, p. 2.
([3]) OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1.
([4]) OJ L 333, 19.12.2015, p.50.
([5]) OJ L 318, 4.12.2015, p. 28.
([6]) European Parliament's Rules of Procedure: https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/lastrules/TOC_EN.html?redirect.

D. BUDGET AVAILABLE

11. The foreseen funding for the financial year 2026 under Article 403 of the European Parliament's budget 'Funding of European political foundations' amounts to EUR 25 000 000 as proposed in European Parliament's preliminary draft estimates. The available appropriations to be distributed will be established by the budgetary authority in the final approved budget for the year 2026.

E. ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR FUNDING APPLICATIONS

12. Funding applications will be admissible if they:

(a) are submitted in writing using the funding application form as annexed to this call, including all supporting documents required therein;

(b) contain the commitment, expressed in writing by signing the declaration form which is included in the funding application file mentioned under paragraph 13, that the applicant agrees to the terms and conditions as well as to the exclusion criteria specified in Annex 1b to the Bureau Decision of 1 July 2019;

(c) contain a letter of legal representative(s) certifying the authorisation to undertake legal obligations on behalf of the applicant;

(d) are sent to the President of the European Parliament **by 30 September 2025,** as electronic copy or as electronic original (containing qualified electronic signature ([7])) to the following functional mailbox: fin.part.fond.pol@europarl.europa.eu by using the CoFile platform ([8]). Supporting documents are to be submitted in editable format, tables preferably in Excel.

13. Applicants are invited to use the funding application file made available on the European Parliament's website, and to follow the instructions included therein (https://www.europarl.europa.eu/contracts-and-grants/en/list-of-notices/).

Where a signature is required, it has to be either handwritten signature or qualified electronic signature (QES), the latter in compliance with the Electronic Identification and Trust Services (eIDAS) Regulation ([9]).

Applications are to be submitted electronically; where certain pieces of documentation bear handwritten signatures, the applicant shall keep and produce any original **upon request** of the European Parliament.

F. CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION OF FUNDING APPLICATIONS

F.1. **Exclusion criteria**

14. Applicants shall be excluded from funding procedure, if they are:

(a) in one of the situations of exclusion referred to in Article 138(1) or 143 of the Financial Regulation;

(b) registered as excluded in the database referred to in Article 144 of the Financial Regulation;

(c) subject of any of the sanctions provided for in Article 27(1) and in Article 27(2)(a) points (v), (vi) and (vii) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.

([7]) Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market and repealing Directive 1999/93/EC (OJ L 257, 28.8.2014, p. 73).
([8]) https://cofile.europarl.europa.eu/login.
([9]) Regulation (EU) No 910/2014.

F.2. **Eligibility criteria**

15. In order to be eligible for Union funding, applicants must satisfy the conditions laid down in Articles 17 and 18 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, i.e. the applicant

(a) must be registered with the Authority for European political parties and European political foundations ([10]) (the 'Authority') in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014;

(b) must be affiliated to a registered European political party;

(c) must comply with the obligations listed in Article 23 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, i.e. it must have submitted the annual financial statements ([11]), external audit report and the list of donors and contributors, as specified therein.

F.3. **Selection criteria**

16. Pursuant to Article 201 of the Financial Regulation 'the applicant shall have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain his or her activity throughout the period for which the grant is awarded and to participate in its funding ("financial capacity"). The applicant shall have the professional competencies and qualifications required to complete the proposed action or work programme unless specifically provided otherwise in the basic act ("operational capacity")'.

F.4. **Award criteria and distribution of funding**

17. In accordance with Article 19 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the respective available appropriations shall be distributed annually. They shall be distributed among the European political foundations whose applications for funding have been approved in the light of the eligibility and exclusion criteria, on the basis of the following distribution key:

(a) 10 % will be distributed in equal shares among the beneficiary European political foundations;

(b) 90 % will be distributed among the beneficiary European political foundations in proportion to the share of elected members of the European Parliament of the beneficiary European political parties to which the applicants are affiliated.

G. SHARED CONTROL BY EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND AUTHORITY

18. Article 24(1) and (2) ([12]) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 foresee shared control between the European Parliament and the Authority.

([10]) Established pursuant to Article 6 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.

([11]) Unless the applicant was not subject to the control under Article 23 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 (for example: newly created, etc.).

([12]) Article 24(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 - General rules on control:
'1. Control of compliance by European political parties and European political foundations with their obligations under this Regulation shall be exercised, in cooperation, by the Authority, by the Authorising Officer of the European Parliament and by the competent Member States.
2. The Authority shall control compliance by European political parties and European political foundations with their obligations under this Regulation, in particular in relation to Article 3, points (a), (b), and (d) to (f) of Article 4(1), points (a) to (e) and (g) of Article 5(1), Article 9(5) and (6), and Articles 20, 21 and 22.
The Authorising Officer of the European Parliament shall control compliance by European political parties and European political foundations with the obligations relating to Union funding under this Regulation in accordance with the Financial Regulation. In carrying out such controls, the European Parliament shall take the necessary measures in the fields of the prevention of and the fight against fraud affecting the financial interests of the Union.'

19. Where pursuant to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the Authority is competent for controlling compliance with the provisions of that Regulation, the European Parliament will forward the funding applications to the Authority.

20. At all stages of the award procedure, applicants continue to be required by Article 24(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 to provide, upon request of the Authorising Officer of the European Parliament and the Authority, any information necessary for the purpose of carrying out the controls for which they are responsible and in the requested format.

H. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

21. Applicants are obliged to notify the European Parliament of any changes as regards the documents submitted or any information referred to in the application within two weeks of such a change. Failing such notification, the Authorising Officer of the European Parliament may decide on the basis of the information submitted, notwithstanding any information provided at a later stage or published through other channels.

22. In respect of the condition that the applicant continues to fulfil the criteria for funding, the burden of proof rests with the applicant.

23. The terms and conditions as regards Union funding to be awarded under this call are laid down in Annex 1b to the Bureau Decision of 1 July 2019 and are stipulated in the contribution agreement. In application of article 25(1) of Regulation No 1141/2014, article 163(1) and (2) and article 208(2) of the Financial Regulation, this call clarifies those terms and conditions as follows: the expenditure to be covered by the funding awarded under this call must comply with the following requirements:

(a) personnel policy:

(i) total personnel costs should be reasonably balanced compared to the operational costs;

(ii) the staffing plan is adapted to the organizational and operational needs;

(iii) the decision on recruitment and remuneration is taken by the appropriate governing bodies, according to the beneficiary's statutes and specific internal rules, based on best practice and general principles like transparency, equal treatment, absence of conflict of interest;

(iv) the remuneration rates and other fringe benefits (if any) take into account the average rates on the relevant employment market;

(b) procurement procedures for contracts over EUR 60 000 per provider:

(i) the written invitations to bid (call for tenders) must contain *inter alia* exclusion criteria, selection criteria (e.g. minimum financial and technical capacity), award criteria (price and quality or only price) and technical specifications (expected deliverables, etc.) against which beneficiaries must assess offers; the call for tenders must require bidders to provide offers that are dated, signed and include prices per unit (if applicable) and other supporting documents allowing the offers to be compared against each other;

(ii) the call for tenders must be sent/published through appropriate channels, in order to ensure adequate dissemination and the broadest possible competition; they must set reasonable deadlines (ideally 10 days at least) for submission of applications/offers and avoid any conflict of interest;

(iii) the evaluation of the offers must be based on the criteria set in the call for tenders; the evaluation report must highlight the comparative advantages of the successful tender in line with those criteria; it must be signed and dated by the representative(s) of the beneficiary in the procedure avoiding any situation of conflict of interest;

(iv) the contracts must be signed and dated by both parties and contain the same terms as in the offer; the duration can include possible extensions, but is limited to a total of 5 years;

(v) artificial splitting of contracts must not be used in order to circumvent the rules on procurement;

(vi) subcontracting should be kept as low as possible and amounts invoiced by the subcontractor must remain transparent.

24. Each applicant shall accept the terms and conditions referred to in paragraph 21 to 23 above, by signing the declaration form, which is included in the funding application file referred to in paragraph 13.

I. TIMING

25. The deadline for submitting the funding applications is **30 September 2025**.

26. The Authorising Officer of the European Parliament shall adopt a decision within three months after the closure of the call for proposals. Following that decision, individual decisions signed by the President of the European Parliament are notified to the applicants.

27. It is expected that successful applicants will receive in January 2026 for signature the draft grant agreement. The grant agreement may be signed by qualified electronic signature (QES) upon request. After signature of the agreement, the payment of the pre-financing shall take place in accordance with the schedule established in article I.5 therein.

J. DISCLOSURE AND PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

28. The European Parliament and the Authority shall publish, including on the internet, information pursuant to Article 32 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.

29. Any personal data collected in the context of the present call shall be processed in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC ([13]) and pursuant to Article 33 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.

30. Such data shall be processed for the purpose of evaluating the funding applications and safeguarding the financial interests of the Union. This is without prejudice to the possible transfer of this data to the bodies responsible for carrying out verification and audit tasks in accordance with Union law, such as internal audit services of the European Parliament, the Authority, the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO), the European Court of Auditors, or the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF).

31. On the basis of a written request, any natural person related to the beneficiary may obtain access to his or her personal data and rectify any inaccurate or incomplete data. The request concerning the processing of his or her personal data may be submitted to the European Parliament's Directorate-General for Finance or the European Parliament's Data Protection Officer. The person concerned may, at any time, lodge a complaint to the European Data Protection Supervisor concerning the processing of his or her personal data.

([13]) OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p 39.

32. Personal data may be registered in the Early Detection and Exclusion System by the European Parliament, should the beneficiary be in one of the situations mentioned in Article 138(1) and 143 of the Financial Regulation.

K. OTHER INFORMATION

33. Any questions relating to this call should be sent by e-mail, quoting the publication reference, to the following email address: fin.part.fond.pol@europarl.europa.eu

34. The basic legislation specified in paragraph 6((b) of this call and the funding application file are made available on the European Parliament's internet site (http://www.europarl.europa.eu/tenders/invitations.htm).

ANNEX

FUNDING APPLICATION FORM

To the attention of the President of the European Parliament c/o Didier Klethi, Director General for Finance

[insert applicant's name], legally represented by [insert name of representative(s)] hereby apply for funding for the financial year 2026 under the call No IX-2026/02 for an amount of [insert amount ([1])], and certify that the following documents are provided with the application.

No	Documents to be supplied ([2])	Yes/ n.a.
1.	Letter of legal representative(s) certifying the authorisation to undertake legal obligations on behalf of the applicant	
2.	List of the persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control over the applicant organisation, like the President, members of the Board, Secretary-general, Treasurer, including reference to relevant provisions of the applicant's Statutes	
3.	Proof of registration by the Authority for European political parties and European political foundations at the date of funding application (only for applicants for which the decision for registration is not yet publicly available, i.e. not yet published on the website of the Authority or in the Official Journal)	
4.	Detailed work programme outlining activities categorized into conferences, seminars, publications, etc. Each category includes specific details such as the subject matter, timeline, designated location (city and/or country), and the intended audience or participants	
5.	Declaration of the legal representative regarding the bank details including a duly filled Financial identification form (the latter only in case of a new applicant OR for applicants for which a change in the name, address or bank account occurred compared to the previous exercise)	
6.	Declaration on general terms and conditions as well as exclusion criteria	
7.	Estimated budget (balanced)	
8.	Declaration that the application is submitted through the affiliated European political party	

[insert applicant's name] requests the payment of the funding to occur [in a single payment on DD.MM.2026 / within 30 days following the date of entry into force of the agreement] OR [in 4 instalments within 30 days following the date of entry into force of the agreement, in April 2026, in July 2026 and the remainder in October 2026].

Date and location: Signature(s):

([1]) This amount must match the figure shown in line D.1.2. of the Estimated budget (document No 8 of the funding application file).

([2]) Templates are provided on EP website for the items 2, 6, 7, 8 and 9 (https://www.europarl.europa.eu/contracts-and-grants/en/list-of-notices/).