

EU Call – Describe RELEVANCE

1.2.2. Objectives of this Call for Proposals

The **general objective** of this Call for Proposals is to contribute to the development and consolidation of democracy and the rule of law and respect for all fundamental freedoms as a complementary programme to the Community's policy on development cooperation, and economic, financial and technical cooperation with third countries, and consistent with the European Union's foreign policy as a whole.

The **specific objectives** of this programme are to support civil society in developing greater cohesion in working on human rights (notably civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights), political pluralism and democratic political participation and representation. The European Union recognises the expertise that civil society in Armenia possesses and its fundamental role in promoting peaceful conciliation of group interests, in fighting against discrimination on any ground, and in developing equal gender participation in social, economic and political life, thus becoming an effective force for positive change, through effective cooperation among local civil society organisations and stakeholders.

The actions proposed may involve activities in the fields of gender equality, the rights of the child, the rights of minority groups and indigenous people, returnees, media, and the rights of persons with disabilities and the elderly are particularly relevant. (See an indicative list of types of activity in section 2.1.3).

1.2.3 Priorities

- Partnerships and/or networking of non-government organisations, community-based organisations, and other relevant stakeholders are encouraged under this programme.
- Emphasis should be given to strengthening and supporting local civil society organisations, building their capacity so as to ensure continuity and sustainability of the actions;
- Proposals for activities that aim to facilitate inter-community involvement and promoting conflict mitigation are particularly encouraged.
- Beneficiary and target group participation at the project design stage is encouraged and proposals should explicitly incorporate this as a part of project activities.