

Call for tenders for researcher / consultant

Research on building youth inclusion in Europe

Brussels, 24 May 2019

(1) Background

Eurodiaconia is a dynamic, Europe wide community of organisations founded in the Christian faith and working in the tradition of Diaconia, who are committed to a Europe of solidarity, equality and justice. As the leading network of Diaconia in Europe, we connect organisations, institutions and churches providing social and health services and education on a Christian value base on over 30 European countries. We bring members together to share practices, impact social policy and reflect on Diaconia in Europe today.

One of Eurodiaconia's areas of work is to identify and to promote innovative youth work among our members. Therefore, Eurodiaconia conducted its [Empower You\(th\)! Project](#) collecting and assessing innovative youth work models & methods and to analyse them regarding their international transferability. The results were compiled in an [Online Toolkit](#), which not only contains the collection of best practices but also an assessment of current challenges of European youth work, especially looking at excluded young people. Training events in Belgium provided a forum to work on the findings and to further develop different models and methods in youth work, while multiplier events youth workers in Sweden and Italy helped to disseminate these findings to more European organisations in the field. The project particularly looked into the challenges of (1) multicultural societies, (2) youth unemployment, (3) European identity, and (4) digitalisation.

Following-up the findings of [Empower You\(th\)! Project](#), Eurodiaconia is now looking to enlarge the collection of good practices and to further assess their role concerning specifically (1) youth unemployment, (2) marginalisation and (3) radicalisation prevention through social inclusion. Especially on the latter, Eurodiaconia recently [published a study](#) of our members' work in field, also touching upon the role of youth work in this area. Diaconal youth work represents a unique approach to youth work in Europe and contributes significantly to increased education & employability, social cohesion and provides young people with a narrative of hope – beyond denominational environments. The requested piece of research will look into how our members' best practices contribute to a positive development of youth empowerment in Europe and how this can contribute to successful European policy-making.

(2) Aim of the research

The aim of the research is to provide information about diaconal youth work in Europe building on the findings of the [Empower You\(th\)! Project](#) and its [Online Toolkit](#). The aim is to apply and further develop the results of the project looking into additional youth projects implemented by Eurodiaconia members in Europe and to specifically assess them concerning their contribution to fighting youth unemployment and marginalisation as well as their impact in terms of social inclusion and radicalisation prevention.

An overview of current European youth policies should be included to strengthen our member's capacity on such policies. Policy recommendations based on the research's findings should provide the European Commission and other relevant decision-makers with informed and evidence-based suggestions for future policies in the field of youth.

(3) Research objectives, audience and use of findings

The paper will provide Eurodiaconia members and the European Commission with good practice examples in the area of diaconal youth work and its relevance in terms of fighting youth unemployment, marginalisation and radicalisation prevention through social inclusion. It will develop policy recommendations for the EC and discuss policies already in place showing its relevance for members also in terms of potentials using EU-funding to support members evolving work in this area. A public presentation of the results is envisaged in late 2019 in the European Parliament.

The paper should gather the following elements in about 20-30 pages in total:

1. **Overview and assessment** of current EU policies & state of play on youth unemployment, marginalisation, and radicalisation prevention through social exclusion.
2. **Collection of best practices** from the Eurodiaconia membership building on already existing findings of the Empower You(th)! Project and testing it against current EU policies concerned.
3. **Set of policy recommendations** stemming from existing policies and evidence-based on the best practices of Eurodiaconia members.

(4) Suggested research methods

- Desk review of data and literature on the policy areas concerned.
- Interviews with selected member organisations of Eurodiaconia active in youth work.
- Analysis of the findings of the interviews.
- Compiling the findings of the desk research and the interviews to formulate relevant policy recommendations for European policy- and decision-makers.

(5) Timetable and deliverables

- Application deadline: **16 June 2019**.
- The contract will be awarded the **latest by 24 June 2019**.
- Preliminary report to be submitted by **13 October 2019**.
- Final report to be submitted by **3 November 2019**.

The findings of the report will be discussed by the researcher-consultant with Eurodiaconia and the contributing member organisations. The final version of the report will require approval by Eurodiaconia.

(6) Research Management

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(7) Qualifications and experience required

- Relevant university degree or work experience
- Proven research and/or consultancy record in the area of European youth work (esp. employment and social exclusion); if in a diaconal/church setting it would be an asset
- Knowledge of contemporary European youth policies.
- Excellent reporting skills in English.
- Knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methods.

(8) Payment

The maximum budget foreseen for carrying out the study is **EUR 4,000** including all taxes and overheads.

Payments for the researcher's services will be transferred in two instalments following each deliverable (preliminary report and final version).

(9) Tenders/offer

The tender should include at least:

- a brief note reflecting your understanding of the research expected and the methodologies foreseen
- a draft work plan reflecting the above elements and expected time needed for each stage (incl. an indication of how many days will be required to carry out the research)
- a justification showing how your profile matches the requirements listed in point 7, including your CV and previous output/publications related to the topic.

The tender shall be entirely drafted in English. The proposal shall be submitted at the latest by 16 June 2019 at 23:59 CET by e-mail to florian.tuder@eurodiaconia.org.

Should any problems of interpretation arise in the course of drawing up the tender documents, interested parties may submit via e-mail (florian.tuder@eurodiaconia.org) a request for further information, no later than seven (7) calendar days before the deadline for the receipt of tenders. The answers given to such questions will be published on the same web page as the present call for tenders.

There is no commitment on the part of Eurodiaconia to accept any tender or part thereof that is received in response to this call for tenders. Eurodiaconia reserves the right to accept tenders with non-substantial defects and to reject tenders received after the deadline for receipt of tenders, without indemnity or justification. Eurodiaconia also reserves the right to select a tender before the closing of the deadline.

Eurodiaconia reserves the right to modify or cancel all or part of the call for tenders, should the need arise, without having to justify its actions and without such action conferring any right to compensation on applicants. Eurodiaconia reserves the right to extend the deadline for receipt of the tenders. In that case, all the applicants and applications will be subject to this new deadline. Tenders are not paid. No reimbursement of expenses related to the preparation of any tender will be made by Eurodiaconia. The call for tenders and any further information communicated to the applicant or which come to his knowledge in the course of the call for tenders and the performance of the work, are confidential, in line with current GDPR regulation and are strictly dedicated to the purpose of the call for tenders.