



Brussels, 14.12.2021
C(2021) 9499 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 14.12.2021

**on Annual Action Programme 2021 for the Conflict Prevention, Peace-building and
Crisis Preparedness part of the thematic programme Peace, Stability and Conflict
Prevention**

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 14.12.2021

on Annual Action Programme 2021 for the Conflict Prevention, Peace-building and Crisis Preparedness part of the thematic programme Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009², and in particular Articles 23(1) and Article 24(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the Annual Action Programme 2021 for the Conflict Prevention, Peace-building and Crisis Preparedness part of the thematic programme Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention, it is necessary to adopt a financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2021. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU³.
- (3) The Commission has adopted on 14 December 2021 the Global Europe – Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention Thematic Programme 2021-2027⁴. The priorities set out under the area of intervention “Conflict prevention, peacebuilding and crisis preparedness” pertaining to this Annual Action Programme aim to enhance capabilities relating to analytical tools, methodologies, and mechanisms to better detect early signs of conflict; promote conflict prevention and conflict resolution measures, including by facilitating and building capacity in confidence-building, mediation, dialogue and reconciliation processes; and to support peace processes and

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

³ www.sanctionsmap.eu. Note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy, the OJ prevails.

⁴ C(2021)8985.

transitions of conflict-affected societies / communities, including stabilisation and peacebuilding efforts.

- (4) The specific objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme 2021 for the Conflict Prevention, Peace-building and Crisis Preparedness part of the thematic programme Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention are to support measures building and strengthening the capacity of the Union and its partners to prevent conflict, build peace and address pre- and post-crisis needs in close co-ordination with international, regional and sub-regional organisations, state and civil society actors.
- (5) The action programme comprises six actions:
 - The Action entitled “**Support to in-country civil society actors in conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness**” aims at supporting in-country civil society actors in their effort to prevent conflicts, respond to crises and build peace. Through actions implemented by civil society (local civil society organisations, international non-governmental organisations) in conflict-affected contexts, their institutional, operational and networking capacity will be strengthened in four priority areas relating to conflict prevention and peace-building: i) security and stabilisation; ii) women, youth, peace and security; iii) media and conflict; and iv) culture and peace.
 - The Action entitled “**Early warning and conflict analysis**” aims at enhancing capabilities, tools and methodologies of the Union and local actors in third countries to detect early signs of conflict, analyse conflict risk data and develop options for prevention and response to conflicts, including mass atrocity crimes. It will do so by increasing local and global awareness of conflict risks; enhancing tools and methodologies for data collection, conflict analysis and early warning, including in relation to mass atrocity crimes; developing in-country capacities and tools to detect, monitor, analyse and respond to conflict risks; and enhancing cooperation between key local and global stakeholders to identify strategies to prevent and address conflict risks.
 - The Action entitled “**Tackling disinformation in conflict-affected contexts**” intends to strengthen capacities of civil society, media and state actors to better detect, monitor and respond to disinformation flows and to protect peace processes from harmful content spread on social media, thereby strengthening resilience and stability of fragile and conflict-affected countries and societies.
 - The Action entitled “**Climate change and security: conflict sensitive community based technological solutions for conflict prevention**” aims at encouraging and facilitating conflict sensitive, climate change community-based technological solutions ultimately strengthening resilience, providing opportunities for cooperation across the dividing lines on common issues and decreasing risks from disasters and conflicts. The action will boost growth and competitiveness of community-based, innovative low-carbon technologies with high-impact to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while building capacity of local communities and fostering participation and leadership of women and youth on climate change related technology initiatives and conflict resolution mechanisms.
 - The Action entitled “**Underpinning multilateral solutions to sustain and build peace through the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund**” intends to further contribute to more concerted and coherent international efforts to

sustain and build peace through support to the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), thereby underpinning the UN Peacebuilding Commission and at the same time enhancing the overall capacity of the UN to fulfil its mandate on peace and security.

- The Action entitled “**Support Measures**” aims at establishing a flexible structure to provide reliable and effective technical assistance to beneficiaries in the areas covered by the Conflict Prevention, Peace-building and Crisis Preparedness part of the thematic programme Peace, Stability and Conflict prevention of the NDICI-GE. This may, inter alia, include risk analysis, gender analysis, trainings, strategy support, and needs assessment missions.
- (6) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
 - (7) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action.
 - (8) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046. To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046⁵ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 before a contribution agreement can be signed.
 - (9) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
 - (10) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the action programme, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
 - (11) The action programme provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument Committee.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1- The Annual Action Plan

The annual financing decision, constituting the Annual Action Programme 2021 for the implementation of the Conflict Prevention, Peace-building and Crisis Preparedness part of the thematic programme Peace, Stability, and Conflict Prevention, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The programme shall include the following actions:

- Support to in-country civil society actors in conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness, set out in Annex I;
- Enhance Union and local capabilities for early warning and conflict analysis, set out in Annex II;

⁵ Except for the cases of Article 154(6) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment.

- Tackling disinformation in conflict-affected contexts, set out in Annex III;
- Climate change and security: conflict sensitive community based technological solutions for conflict prevention, set out in Annex IV;
- Underpinning multilateral solutions to sustain and build peace through the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, set out in Annex V;
- Support measures, set out in Annex VI.

Article 2 – Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme for 2021 is set at EUR 33 200 000 and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in budget line 14 02 02 30 of the general budget of the Union.

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

Article 3 – Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4.3.2 of Annexes II, III, IV, V and VI.

Article 4 – Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20% of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution, as well as extensions of the implementation period shall not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 provided that these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Article 5 – Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annexes. Grants may be awarded to the bodies referred to or selected in accordance with point 4.3 of Annexes I, II, III, IV and VI.

Done at Brussels, 14.12.2021

For the Commission
Josep BORRELL FONTELLES
High Representative / Vice-President