



Brussels, 5.12.2016
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 5.12.2016

**on the adoption of the 2017 work programme and the financing for the implementation
of the Europe for Citizens programme**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to the Council Regulation (EU) 390/2014 of 14 April 2014 establishing the “Europe for Citizens” programme for the period 2014-2020¹, and in particular Article 8 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union², and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure implementation of the Europe for Citizens programme it is necessary to adopt a financing decision and the work programme for the year 2017. Article 94 of the Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012³ establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) It is appropriate to authorise award of grants without a call for proposals to the bodies identified in the work programme and for the reasons provided therein.
- (3) It is necessary to allow the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Article 111(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.
- (4) In order to provide for some degree of flexibility while applying specific actions covered by this Decision, it is necessary to foresee a possibility for the authorising officer to introduce non substantial changes on specific actions. Such changes should not however have a disproportionate impact on the budget line concerned and they should not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the action.
- (5) For the application of this Decision, it is appropriate to define the term 'substantial change' within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.
- (6) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Europe for Citizens Programme Committee,

¹ OJ L 115, 17.4.2014, p. 3.

² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

³ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.).

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The work programme

The annual work programme for the implementation of the "Europe for Citizens" programme for 2017⁴, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The annual work programme constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

Article 2

Union contribution

The maximum contribution for the implementation of the programme for the year 2017 is set at EUR 23 231 000, and shall be financed from the budget line 18.04.01.01 of the general budget of the European Union for 2017.

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

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft budget for 2017 after the adoption of the budget for 2017 by the budgetary authority or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

Article 3

Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20 % of the maximum contribution set in Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and objective of the work programme. The increase of the maximum contribution set in Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20 %.

The authorising officer responsible may adopt the changes referred to in the first paragraph in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

⁴ This amount does not include contributions from the third countries associated to the Programme (EUR 97 868).

Article 4

Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to the Europe for Citizens Contact Points in Member States and participating countries (ECP) in accordance with the conditions specified in the Annex.

Done at Brussels, 5.12.2016

For the Commission
Dimitris AVRAMOPOULOS
Member of the Commission