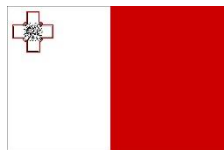


Iceland
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Norway
grants

Active Citizens Fund

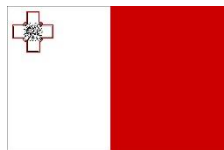
Malta



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The **EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021** represent funding from **Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway** to reduce economic and social disparities and strengthen cooperation with 15 EU countries in Northern, Central and Southern Europe. For the period 2014-2021, a total contribution of €2.8 billion has been agreed of which Malta has been allocated **€700,000** under the Civil Society Programme Area.

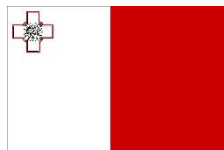


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The overall objective of the Civil Society Programme Area is:

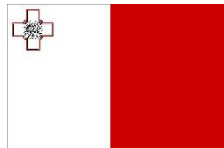
‘Civil society and active citizenship strengthened and vulnerable groups empowered’.



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The Active Citizens Fund 2014-2021 in Malta shall seek to develop the long-term sustainability and capacity of the civil society sector, with the aim of strengthening its role in promoting democratic participation, active citizenship and human rights.

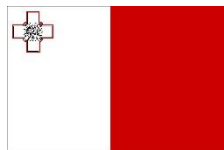


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Four key areas of support:

1. Democracy, active citizenship, good governance and transparency
2. Human rights and equal treatment through combating any discrimination on the grounds of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, gender disability, age, sexual orientation or gender identity
3. Social justice and inclusion of vulnerable groups
4. Environment and climate change

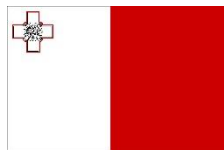


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Challenges:

- The general public of Malta not engaged with core Human Rights issues;
- Lack of interest and means of general public to actively participate in advocacy and campaigns;
- Lack of critical thinking skills and civic education among youth;
- Lack of capacity of civil society;

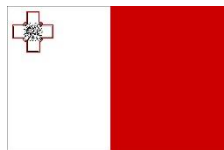


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Challenges:

- Vulnerable people and minorities are not given sufficient attention and support;
- Development of legislation and prosecution of violations of human rights are not given adequate objective media coverage;
- Civil society is not appropriately equipped to react and mitigate violations of human rights;

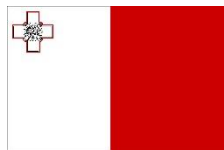


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Challenges:

- Freedom of speech and journalism under threat;
- Growing hate speech and discrimination representing a threat to minorities;
- High landfill and low recycling rates, the air quality and conservation of protected species and habitats and the systematic erosion of the countryside and building in Outside Development Zone (ODZ) areas.

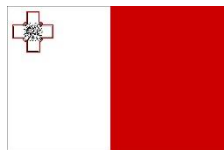


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Key Programme Components:

- 12 Projects selected through an open Call
- Pre Defined Project – Online Lab for active citizenship
- Bilateral activities
- Regional Civil Society activities
- Capacity Building



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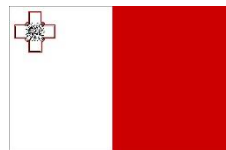


Online Lab for active citizenship:

Advisory board of experts – at the service of
CSO's and citizens

Active citizen alert app and forum - citizen
journalism

Education: human rights, watchdog role
of civil society, media literacy

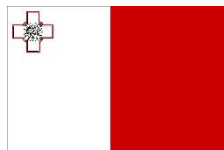


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Desired outcomes:

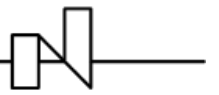
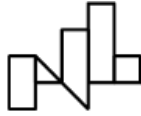
- Increased support for human rights and social inclusion
- Increased citizen participation in civic activities
- Enhanced capacity and sustainability of civil society



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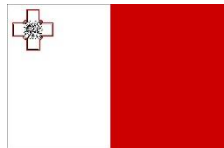


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Thank you for your attention!



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