

March 2026

Welcome!

In our March edition, we look back at our recent CERV Spotlight event, invite you to meet us at The Wheel Roadshow in Athlone, and highlight new EU funding opportunities under CERV and Creative Europe.

As always, you will also find the latest EU funding deadlines, training and events, and relevant EU policy news.

Visit the [Access Europe website](#) for more information and [follow us on LinkedIn](#) for weekly EU funding updates. If you have an EU funding related event or news you would like to share, please email europe@wheel.ie to have it included in our next edition.

Enjoy the read and thanks for joining us!

Updates & Opportunities



Access Europe EU Project Managers Network

Join Our EU Project Managers Network on LinkedIn!

Are you actively involved in delivering EU funded projects? If so, [join our EU Project Managers Network on LinkedIn!](#) Newly launched, this is a space for Irish organisations to:

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- Promote their EU funded project activities and events
 - Share their learnings and experiences
 - Request and receive peer support

In addition to moderating the network, the Access Europe team will:

- Share relevant EU funding opportunities and partner requests
- Organise trainings on EU funding related topics as requested
- Disseminate your projects and related activities within our wider The Wheel networks.

If there's anything else you would like to see in the LinkedIn group, [please let us know via this Menti survey.](#)

Watch Now: Funding Active Citizenship, Rights and Equality with CERV

On Wednesday, 25 February, we held our CERV Spotlight event [Funding Active Citizenship, Rights and Equality: CERV Opportunities for Civil Society](#). The session offered a practical overview of the CERV Programme, insights into current calls, and available support from the CERV Citizens' Forum, alongside a valuable case study from AkiDwA Ireland. Missed it? [Watch the full recording here.](#)

Meet us in Athlone for The Wheel Roadshow (31 March 2026)

On Tuesday, 31 March 2026, The Wheel Roadshow is heading to the Dean Crowe Theatre in Athlone! Join The Wheel's team for a day of practical insights, expert guidance, and valuable networking opportunities, all free of charge and open to all. Access Europe will be there on the day to discuss all things EU funding. [Register now.](#)

EU News & Policy



Apply now: REGIOSTARS Awards 2026

Do you have an EU-funded project that made a real difference in your region? The REGIOSTARS Awards celebrate outstanding EU-funded projects driving regional development. Each year, a jury of experts selects finalists and winners, who are celebrated during the European Week of Regions and Cities in Brussels. In addition, the public can vote online for their favourite project, awarding a special Public Choice Award. [Apply by 22 May 2026.](#)

Two EU Funding Opportunities Now Open for Civil Society Organisations

Civil society organisations in Ireland currently have two important opportunities to access European funding for projects that strengthen democracy, citizen participation, and cultural cooperation across Europe. Two major EU programmes, Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) and Creative Europe, have opened new calls for proposals.

The [Citizens' Engagement and Participation Call](#) under the CERV programme is now open for applications, offering funding for projects that strengthen democratic life and citizen participation across Europe. With a total budget of €30 million, the call supports initiatives that encourage active civic engagement and protect democratic processes.

The [2026 Creative Europe call for European Cooperation Projects](#) is also open and will support collaborations across Europe in the cultural and creative sectors. With a budget of approximately €60 million, the call aims to strengthen cross-border cooperation between cultural organisations and support the creation and circulation of European artistic works.

Explore Irish partner projects and artists funded by Creative Europe

A new publication highlights the breadth of Irish participation in the Creative Europe programme. [Across Borders - Across the Board, Vol. 6 \(2023–2024\)](#), released by Creative Europe Desk Ireland Culture Office, showcases a wide range of projects and artists funded under the Culture strand. Through case studies and testimonials, it offers insight into the impact of Creative Europe funding across different art forms and regions, while also serving as a practical resource for those interested in applying. The publication includes guidance on getting started with EU funding, as well as an overview of funding strands, prizes, and recent results. [Download Across Borders - Across the Board 2023 - 2024.](#)

Partner Profiles

The [Access Europe partner database](#) connects Irish civil society organisations with organisations across Europe for partnership in EU projects.

Every month we present three new profiles of Irish organisations. Visit the full profiles and get to know them!

Are you an Irish organisation interested in creating your own profile? [Register here!](#)



[Visit profile](#)

Nevin Economic Research Institute (NERI)

The purpose of the Nevin Economic Research Institute is to influence policy outcomes that have the greatest effect on the achievement of equity and fairness on the island of Ireland, to the benefit of working people, their families and communities and to the enhancement of the quality of life of all people. This is achieved through the provision of high-quality macro and micro economic research and analysis, awareness and capacity building programmes.



[Visit profile](#)

Love Drogheda BID

Love Drogheda Business Improvement District (BID) is a not for profit dedicated to enhancing the economic, social and cultural fabric of Drogheda. They represent 1478 business members by developing and delivering annual operational plans that promote Drogheda as a great place to live, work and enjoy. They work with all stakeholders to enhance the towns brand and their work focuses on creating long lasting incremental improvements for the town and district.



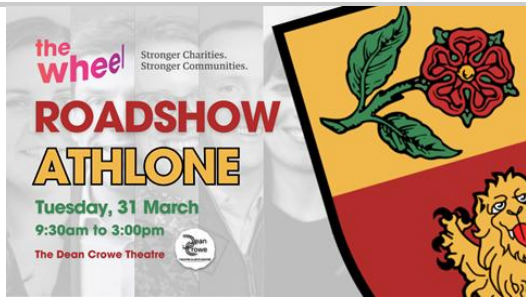
Solutions for families with neuro-physical disabilities

[Visit profile](#)

The Crann Centre

The Crann Centre offer a 2Generation life-long approach to 600+ registered families of all ages living with congenital, progressive or acquired neuro-physical disabilities across Cork and Munster. Services include Psychological Wellbeing, Health & Continence, Education & Career Pathways, Mobility, Independent & Social Capital. Disability has a profound impact on the fabric of the family. Research validates that 2Generation approaches ensure long-term success for individuals and stability for the whole family.

Events



The Wheel Roadshow- 31 March 2026 (Athlone)

The Wheel

On Tuesday, 31 March 2026, The Wheel

Roadshow is heading to the Dean Crowe Theatre in Athlone!

Join The Wheel's team for a day of practical insights, expert guidance, and valuable networking opportunities - all free of charge and open to all. Access Europe's Emily Nelson will be there on the day to discuss all things EU funding !

[Register here](#)



EUI: Fourth Call for Innovative Actions – First Q&A session - 9 April (Online)

European Urban Initiative

Join this interactive online Q&A session!

The team will address your questions about the Fourth Call for Proposals and introduce the **updated support framework for cities**. Whether you're already familiar with



Online Change Maker Webinar Series - 31 March & 1 April (Online)

SEUPB, Co-operation Ireland, East Border Region and Rural Action

This webinar will provide guidance on how to apply for a grant of €10,000 to €100,000 under the Change Maker Funding Programme.

The webinar will cover: about Investment Area 1.2 & 6.2 of the PEACEPLUS Programme, what the grants will fund - 'People to People' projects, how to apply for a grant, pre-submission checks and support for applicants, and more.

[Register here](#)



Europe, let's cooperate! 2026 - 16 April (Copenhagen)

Interreg Europe

The 2026 event will explore the future of Interreg Europe while reflecting on the programme's achievements and results to date.

EUI–Innovative Actions or just starting to explore the application process, experts from the EUI Permanent Secretariat will be there to guide you and clarify what's new in Call 4.

The Fourth Call for Innovative Actions closes in June. Don't miss your chance to ask all your questions about your application to the team.

[Register here](#)



Grant Writing Tips & Tricks - 17 April (Online)

Access Europe

This webinar offers a practical model to help your organisation improve grant writing. It helps assess funding opportunities and enhances project impact through smart design and implementation.

You can adapt the model for any funding level, from small local grants to large European and international programmes.

[Register here](#)

Over two days, participants will discover the benefits of interregional cooperation and learn more about the services offered by the Policy Learning Platform. The event will also showcase inspiring examples from institutions and regions with hands-on experience in implementing projects and collaborating across regional borders.

[Register here](#)



EU LIFE Info Days 2026 – 28 -30 April (Online)

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency

The 2026 LIFE Calls for proposals will be published in April. Join the #EULIFE26 info days from 28 to 30 April! This event is organised by the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA) to inform and support potential applicants.

Dedicated information sessions will provide insights into the four LIFE sub-programmes, highlight the Calls' priority topics for 2026 and give advice on how to prepare a good proposal for your project. The info days will be live-streamed and the questions from the audience will be answered live

[Register here](#)

Current EU Funding Opportunities

PPPA – Advancing Social Cohesion in the Face of Polarized Public Discourse

Deadline: 31 March 2026

This call aims to pilot a neutral, scientifically robust and GDPR-compliant approach to analysing and mitigating online political polarisation in the EU, in order to strengthen social cohesion, democratic resilience, and evidence-based policy-making.

[FULL INFO](#)

Erasmus+ – Adult Education: Motivation in Motion: Empowering Adults to Up- and Reskilling

Deadline: 8 April 2026

This call aims to support innovative approaches to stimulate adults to engage in learning activities in their usual and trusted environments.

[FULL INFO](#)

Erasmus+ – Vocational Education and Training: Developing basic skills in Vocational Education and Training

Deadline: 8 April 2026

This call aims to fund projects to test and pilot promising and innovative practices to improve basic skills in VET

[FULL INFO](#)

Erasmus+ – Digital Education: AI-powered Personalised Learning Pathways for Basic Skills

Deadline: 8 April 2026

This call aims to foster the application of (ethical, transparent, and explainable) AI-based PLPs at school education and initial VET level.

[FULL INFO](#)

Erasmus+ – Digital Education: Public-private partnerships for ethical design, development and use of Artificial Intelligence tools in education and training

Deadline: 8 April 2026

This call aims to support proposals that establish public-private partnerships for the pedagogically driven design,

[FULL INFO](#)

development, deployment and use of ethical, trustworthy AI-based resources to improve teaching and learning.

Erasmus+ – Digital Education Content: success factors in decision making and use by teachers, trainers and school/institution leaders

Deadline: 8 April 2026

[FULL INFO](#)

This call aims to promote and establish collaboration and agreement between teachers/educators, creators/providers of digital education content.

Erasmus+ – Micro-credentials – focus on eco-systems

Deadline: 8 April 2026

[FULL INFO](#)

This call aims to support developing micro-credentials' eco-systems in STEM.

Horizon Europe – MSCA COFUND

Deadline: 8 April 2026

[FULL INFO](#)

MSCA COFUND co-finances new or existing doctoral programmes and postdoctoral fellowship schemes with the aim of spreading the best practices of the MSCA.

Biodiversa+: Restoration of ecosystem functioning, integrity, and connectivity

Deadline: 14 April 2026

[FULL INFO](#)

This call is focused on fostering innovative research to be integrated into nature restoration practices for interconnected and well-functioning ecosystems and habitats, with special consideration for long-term sustainability and future-proofing of restoration efforts across spatial scales, including their evaluation.

CERV – Network of Towns

Deadline: 16 April 2026

[FULL INFO](#)

The programme promotes exchanges between people of different countries, reinforces mutual understanding and

tolerance and gives them the opportunity to broaden their perspective and develop a sense of European belonging.

Horizon Europe – MSCA Staff Exchanges

Deadline: 16 April 2026

MSCA Staff Exchanges promote innovative international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration in research and innovation through exchanging staff and sharing knowledge and ideas at all stages of the innovation chain.

[FULL INFO](#)

Creative Europe – Creative Innovation Lab

Deadline: 23 April 2026

This call aims to support policy cooperation and innovative actions supporting all strands of the Programme and to promote a diverse, independent and pluralistic media environment and media literacy.

[FULL INFO](#)

CERV – Supporting work-life balance, equal share of care responsibilities, family-friendly policies among employers and the value of care sector jobs

Deadline: 28 April 2026

This call aims to promote work-life balance, an equal sharing of care responsibilities, family-friendly workplace practices, and the social and economic value of care work.

[FULL INFO](#)

CERV – Promoting and supporting the implementation of the provisions of the Pay Transparency Directive and respect of equal pay for equal work and work of equal value

Deadline: 28 April 2026

This call aims to strengthen pay transparency, promoting equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, and building the capacity of employers, social partners, and public authorities to prevent and address gender-based pay discrimination.

[FULL INFO](#)

Deadline: 28 April 2026

CERV – Supporting equal participation and representation of women and men in economic and political decision-making

[FULL INFO](#)

This call aims to strengthen the equal participation and representation of women and men in political and economic decision-making, including in corporate leadership and public life.

CERV – Tackling gender stereotypes in media and advertising **Deadline: 28 April 2026**

[FULL INFO](#)

This call aims to challenge and reduce gender stereotypes and bias in media and advertising through capacity building, awareness-raising, and the promotion of gender-sensitive practices.

CERV – Supporting free, fair and inclusive electoral processes **Deadline: 29 April 2026**

[FULL INFO](#)

This call focuses on supporting free, fair and inclusive electoral processes.

CERV – Promoting citizens' active engagement and democratic participation in public policymaking, beyond elections, as well as broader civic engagement **Deadline: 29 April 2026**

[FULL INFO](#)

This call focuses on promoting citizens' active engagement and democratic participation in public policymaking, beyond elections, as well as broader civic engagement.

CERV – Countering the spread of disinformation and foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI) in democratic debate and processes **Deadline: 29 April 2026**

[FULL INFO](#)

This call focuses on countering the spread of disinformation and foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI) in democratic debate and processes.

Culture Moves Europe - Individual Mobility of Artists + Cultural Professionals

Deadline: 30 April 2026

This call offers mobility grants to individual artists and cultural professionals willing to implement a project abroad.

[FULL INFO](#)

Creative Europe – European Cooperation Projects Small Scale

Deadline: 5 May 2026

European Cooperation Projects are **transnational projects** involving organisations in the cultural and creative sectors from different countries taking part in the programme.

[FULL INFO](#)

Creative Europe – European Cooperation Projects Medium Scale

Deadline: 5 May 2026

European Cooperation Projects are **transnational projects** involving organisations in the cultural and creative sectors from different countries taking part in the programme.

[FULL INFO](#)

European Urban Initiative – Innovative Actions

Deadline: 15 June 2026

This call aims to bring together urban authorities to tackle a joint challenge.

[FULL INFO](#)

Erasmus+ – Centres of Vocational Excellence

Deadline: 3 September 2026

This call aims to support the establishment and development of transnational collaborative networks that bring together local and regional VET stakeholders.

[FULL INFO](#)

PEACEPLUS – Change Maker Funding Programme

Deadline: 31 December 2026

The PEACEPLUS Change Maker Funding Programme will focus on activities which enhance community cohesion and bring communities and groups together on a cross community or Cross Border basis, with the aim of embedding and enhancing existing relationships, and establishing new relationships and networks.

[FULL INFO](#)

European Urban Initiative: City-to-City Exchanges - Capacity Building

Deadline: 29 December 2027

This call aims to bring together urban authorities to tackle a joint challenge.

[FULL INFO](#)

LEADER Funding

Deadline: 31 December 2027

LEADER funding is available to private businesses or community-based groups in rural areas.

[FULL INFO](#)

Meet the Access Europe Team



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