

Supporting Civil Society Organisations: Ways to Sustainable Funding

Agenda

Organised by the EU4Health Civil Society Alliance

Hosted by MEP István Ujhelyi

26th of June

15.00-16.30 – European Parliament, room SPINELLI 3H1

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) across the EU are facing increasing barriers in the implementation of their activities, as outlined in the 2022 European Commission's rule of law report and a European Civic Forum [report](#).

In addition to a shrinking space CSOs are facing difficulties in securing safe, regular and sustainable funding. As there is a wide discrepancy in the availability of sustainable funding for CSOs across policy sectors, CSOs in some sectors are particularly affected.

Access to sustainable and regular funding allows CSOs to plan their activities, advocate in public interest in policy-making processes, and give a voice to the citizens, in particular vulnerable groups. EU funding through operating grants, in particular, is a vital source of funding for European CSOs, as it allows them to efficiently and sustainably support EU policy making and is crucial to guarantee independence in CSOs work.

European institutions play an essential role in supporting CSOs across the Union. Against this background, MEP István Ujhelyi has partnered with the EU4Health Civil Society Alliance for this event to discuss ways of mainstreaming frameworks at the EU level that would allow for sustainable funding of civil society across sectors.

This event follows the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe, calls for a Civil Society Strategy and a structured and guaranteed civil dialogue, as well as the development of the Defense of Democracy Package.

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15.00-15.10: Welcome and introductory note – MEP István Ujhelyi

15.10- 15.20: The EU4Health Civil Society Alliance's campaign – Dr Milka Sokolović, European Public Health Alliance (EPHA)

15.20-16.00: Panel discussion: ways forward to guarantee sustainable funding for CSOs from all sectors:

Moderator: Dr Milka Sokolović, European Public Health Alliance (EPHA)

- Faustine Bas-Defossez, European Environmental Bureau (EEB)
- Carlotta Besozzi, Civil Society Europe
- Floriana Cimmarusti, Safe Food Advocacy Europe (SAFE)
- Diana Faccio, Health Care Without Harm Europe (HCWH)
- Dorota Sienkiewicz, EuroHealthNet
- Freek Spinnewijn, European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA)

16.00-16.25: Q&A

16.25-16.30: Conclusions: MEP István Ujhelyi, Dr Milka Sokolović, European Public Health Alliance (EPHA)