

Voicing Youth Knowledge in Action FAQs

Q1. Are youth affiliated with a non-profit organisation eligible to apply?

The call is primarily for those who are indeed affiliated with universities (undergraduate, post-graduate student, PhD Candidate, Post-doc researcher, or other), specialised research centres, and/or think tanks. The idea behind this is to attract candidates who are experienced in and familiar with research tools and methodologies in their field, as well as to make sure they have the adequate support from their institution to conduct their research for this project.

Youth affiliated to NGOs can apply only if their organisation has an evidence-based and policy-oriented research project or unit or work strand, in a way that renders this NGO a semi-think tank or research centre.

Q2. What is meant by EuroMed scope and approach?

The MYA programme in general embraces a Euro-Med approach, bridging divides and promoting dialogue, cooperation, and understanding across borders.

The Voicing Youth Knowledge call is looking for research proposals on an evidence-based and policy-based research subject. The Euro-Med approach in this respect concerns:

- The potential research subjects that focus on key policy areas in the Euro-Med region and are identified in detail in the call;
- Taking into consideration the Euro-Med policy framework, in other words, the existing policy framework governing Euro-Med relations and realities;
- The evidence-based nature of the proposed research, in other words, the necessity for the proposed research to base its arguments and findings on the complex and special reality on the ground in the Euro-Med region, according to data gathered.

Q3. What are the topics of the online workshop, and the face-to-face knowledge Workout Workshop, please?

The online workshop is designed to enhance the policy analysis and research skills of the pre-selected 50 young researchers, especially focusing on the Euro-Med context. An expert or experts in these fields will provide guidance and interactive sessions to strengthen the understanding and capacities of the participating young researchers and prepare them for the task of conducting evidence-based, policy-oriented research and of drafting a policy brief.

The face-to-face knowledge workout workshop is designed to offer a platform for the selected 25 young researchers to present their extended policy-oriented research proposal to an audience of peers and selected stakeholders, receiving valuable feedback in order for them to refine their work. Moreover, the workshop will aim to further enhance the skills and knowledge of the selected young researchers on policy analysis and the Euro-Med context. Lastly, it is designed to provide a unique opportunity to foster a sense of community and collaboration on the Euro-Med scale, enhancing connectivity and synergy among young researchers from diverse backgrounds.

Q4. Can a group of applicants come together and apply with a single application?

Yes, an application can refer to a research proposal to be conducted by more than one researcher. However, the lump sum for the publication of the policy brief and the organisation of the academic and civil society dialogues is only one per research proposal (and not one per researcher). Also, a lead researcher will have to be designated by the group of applicants and this person should fill in the application form, also naming the rest of the applicants.



Q5. Do the applicants' institutions have to be members of one of the ALF National Civil Society Networks?

No, it is not necessary for the affiliated institution to be an ALF National Civil Society Network member. However, such membership is welcome. When filling out the application, you will be asked whether your institution is a member of the ALF National Civil Society Networks. If yes, you will be asked to provide the link proving this membership. If not, you will be asked whether your organisation has applied to become a member in the past.

Q6. How often will the online workshop take place and what is the commitment expected?

The online workshop will be held once, in July. It will consist of 6 hours of total workshop time, plus 2 more hours of breaks in total. The commitment will most probably be for two sessions of 4 hours each within one week, with one or two days break in between the two sessions.

Q7. What should the content of the civil society outreach dialogues that will be organised by us be?

The civil society outreach dialogues should be organised nationally by the selected young researchers who will have published their policy briefs, with the support of the respective ALF National Civil Society Network. These sessions are designed to involve local stakeholders and civil society representatives working and focusing on the subject area that the respective young researcher has conducted their research on. The topic of these dialogues can be wider than the exact focus of the respective young researcher's policy brief, in order to encompass various angles of the topic and to stimulate engaging and fruitful discussions.

Q8. What kind of financial contribution will selected young researchers receive under this project and for which activities?

Selected young researchers (approx. 10-15) will be tasked with crafting a 3,500 words policy brief, a blog post of 500 words, and other material to be used for communications and promotional purposes. They will be provided with a financial contribution of 1.000 EUR, in order to financially support the conducting of their research. It is up to each individual researcher to decide how to use this lump sum. The lump sum will be provided to the young researchers upon the final evaluation of quality and content and the approval of their submitted policy brief to the ALF Secretariat.

The young researchers who will have been chosen to publish their policy briefs, will be provided with financial support to organise academic dialogues within their affiliated institutions and, thus, disseminate their research; and to organise civil society outreach dialogues and, thus, make their research known to their communities and connect research with evidence and realities on the ground.

