



FACING FACTS

Terms of Reference (ToR) External evaluation of the “Facing Facts Network”

1. Background and Context

Facing Facts Network is a project co-funded by the European Commission, under the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (call reference: CERV-2021-OG-FPA). It is led by CEJI—A Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe. The project activities will last for 48 months and started on 1 January 2022.

Hate crime and hate speech comprise some of the most serious violations of human dignity and acts of discrimination against persons belonging to minorities in the EU. Effective responses to these violations are essential if the values of respect, equality, the rule of law, expressed by the Treaty on the European Union, and the prohibition on discrimination as defined by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union are to be a reality for all. The Network aims to support the consistent and effective implementation of these values, rights and duties by improving understandings and responses to hate crime and hate speech, including by developing the necessary knowledge, skills and behaviours to encourage the reporting of hate crime and hate speech, to ensure quality support services, and to ensure the effective recording, investigation and prosecution of hate crimes.

Our multi-stakeholder membership comprising CSOs and public authorities will support a constructively challenging approach. The Network builds on Facing Facts’ own research findings, as well as FRA’s forthcoming report on hate crime reporting, the recently published High Level Group Key Guiding Principles on encouraging reporting, and the forthcoming Key Guiding Principles on CSO-Public Authority cooperation currently being developed by FRA to further understand and help distil the key characteristics of a safe reporting environment for victims.

Today the Facing Facts Network counts 25 members in 15 countries. The network brings together civil society organisations, public authorities and change agents across Europe to make visible the nature and impact of hate and the relationships and national partnerships that must work together to address it.

The Facing Facts network aims to dig deeper into promising local and regional practice and bring these findings into transnational exchanges regarding what supports a collaborative and effective approach to creating safe environments for victims to report hate crime and to receive appropriate, tailored support.



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All network meetings and specific multi-country projects have a significant transnational dimension, which will contribute to developing mutual trust and cross-border cooperation.

More specifically, in the next four years the Facing Facts Network aims to:

- A) Inform programmes and strategies of the Commission, EU agencies and other international organisations and agencies (IGOs) that aim to combat hate crime and hate speech in Europe.
- B) Improve the visibility and influence—at the transnational, European level—of national and local organisations that are at the forefront of supporting victims and collaborative practice.
- C) Support the success and effectiveness of national projects related to hate crime and hate speech training and capacity building activities.
- D) Co-develop capacity-building programmes and share and develop expertise in online learning.
- E) Harness national evidence and practice to inform new areas of research in the field of hate crime, hate speech and discrimination.
- F) Produce regular policy briefings on international developments and trends, and share national members' inputs in policy-influencing forums.
- G) Sustain an active, multidisciplinary, professional community which aims to understand the problem of hate with its complexities and challenges, and to innovate for effective responses.

2. Evaluation purpose and target audience

The external evaluation is part of a bigger concept assuring the quality of the project and will allow us to yearly monitor and assess the impact of the activities. The evaluation is intended to be formative, providing feedback throughout the project's lifecycle about preliminary results so that the Facing Facts Network consortium can reflect on how to best improve its positive social impact. The target audience is the partnership and any practitioner from a CSO, law enforcement, criminal justice or policy perspective with responsibility to understand and respond to hate crime and hate speech.



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3. Evaluation objectives and scope

- To enhance processes and have a bigger impact
- To adapt the Network development plan according to the needs of the members and the target groups
- To act as a critical friend by providing supportive, constructive, critical guidance to the Network coordinator as appropriate and within the time and financial constraints of the project
- To guarantee efficient leadership
- To reinforce accountability, transparency and participation
- To determine whether the results contribute to the project's overall goal
- To identify lessons learned and provide recommendations
- To guarantee that the ethical grounds of the project are sound
- To empower members to improve and develop new capacities

The evaluation shall reflect on the following aspects:

- Deviations from the original context and needs analysis as described in the project application (e.g. new policy developments or practices that are notably important) for the members to decide if and how to incorporate
- Project effectiveness – based on the project timeline set by the coordinator
- Assess progress of the project made towards the achievement of results at the output and outcome levels
- Efficiency of resources and budget allocation
- Partners ownership of the project
- Impact of project on partners, stakeholders, participants
- Impact of project on national policy and practice
- Impact of project on European policy and practice
- Satisfaction of participants to the different events of the project (training of trainers, online cohorts, national gatherings etc)
- Quality of the educational material and its comprehensibility
- To determine whether the results offer value for money

4. Deliverables

The following are expected deliverables:

- Written detailed evaluation plan
- Online survey methodology for long-term implementation with online and offline training participants
- Bi-weekly progress updates with Facing Facts Network Director
- 3 interim reports
- Final full report including recommendations
- Executive summary for public consumption



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Estimated completion date: December 15, 2025

5. Evaluation team composition and required competences

We welcome proposals by individual evaluators, evaluation teams as well as organizations or consortiums.

The selected evaluator(s) shall:

- Have a full working proficiency in English (other languages of the project partner countries are an asset)
- Be familiar with and demonstrate working experience in the fields of hate crime, hate speech, discrimination and education
- Demonstrate experience in evaluating Civil Society projects, preferably in the framework of European Commission funding

6. Management arrangements

The party responsible for the external evaluation on behalf of all project partners is the Project coordinator – CEJI. Therefore, all the management agreements related to the evaluation process will be done via designated CEJI staff.

7. Budget and payments

The estimated budget for the external evaluation is between €30.000 and €35.000 gross including tax and any other financial surcharge related to the way of payment. This has to include all the fees, as well as necessary material, travel and subsistence costs related to implementation of the evaluation activities.

Subcontractors are exclusively responsible for the payment of all income and other taxes and social contribution related to or incidental to the payment of the above amounts. CEJI is not responsible and shall therefore not pay any remuneration, benefits of health and retirement plans.

The bidder is free to propose a budget within this price and decide on categories and amounts that will allow to run a thorough evaluation and produce expected deliverables.

The payments will be arranged as follows:

- 25% April 2022
- 25% January 2023



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- 25% September 2024
- 25% May 2025

A different payment plan can be agreed upon considering the needs of the evaluators and of CEJI.

8. Proposal submission

There is no defined format for the proposals. The proposals should include following elements:

- Description of applicant organisation
- CV(s) of the evaluator(s)
- A sample of previous work, similar in scope and approach
- Description and outline of the proposed research approach
- A detailed budget and timeline for afore mentioned deliverables

Please send your proposal to melissa.sonnino@ceji.org by April 20th 2022.