

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002469/24
to the Commission
Monika Hohlmeier (PPE), Lukas Mandl (PPE)
(7 November 2024)**

Subject: Documentation and Advice Centre on Islamophobia and Anti-Muslim Racism

The Documentation and Advice Centre on Islamophobia and Anti-Muslim Racism ('Dokustelle' for short) was founded in 2014. 'Dokustelle' is involved in the Butterfly Effect project (project ID: 101084546) and is receiving support totalling EUR 467 858.14.

It was set up with backing from the Muslim Austrians' Initiative (IMÖ). Founding members attracted attention as a result, for example, of visits to meet the Muslim Brotherhood's guiding spirit, Yusuf al-Qaradawi, in Qatar and contacts with the Muslim Brotherhood's youth umbrella organisation (FEMYSO).

'Dokustelle' has also worked with CAGE and the CAGE subsidiary arm Assisting Children Traumatized by Police (ACT-P). Criticism has been levelled at CAGE for its support for terrorists. It is suspected of supporting terrorist organisations such as Al-Qaeda. During Ramadan this year, CAGE organised an Iftar celebration in Vienna; about 200 people took part. The German Salafist Marcel Krass was invited to speak there. Krass is under surveillance by the German domestic intelligence service. In the 1990s he cultivated contacts with someone who became one of the 9/11 attackers.

1. On what basis and in the light of what criteria did the Commission decide to allow 'Dokustelle' to take part in the Butterfly Effect project?
2. How much money has the Commission already disbursed to 'Dokustelle' under the project?
3. What is the position of the Commission on IMÖ and CAGE, and has it transferred funds to those organisations under other programmes?

Submitted: 7.11.2024

**Answer given by Ms Lahbib on behalf of the European Commission
(13 January 2025)**

The project Butterfly Effect aiming at tackling hate incidents was selected for funding under the 2022 EQUAL call⁽¹⁾ that supports projects fighting intolerance, racism, xenophobia and discrimination under the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme⁽²⁾.

The proposal was submitted by a consortium made of six beneficiaries and coordinated by Cooperazione Per Lo Sviluppo Dei Paesi Emergenti Onlus.

Submitted proposals are thoroughly evaluated against eligibility, selection and award criteria such as quality or relevance against the call objectives.

Only the best ranked proposals are selected for funding. As elaborated in the Commission's replies to questions E-006476/2020 and E-001741/2021, the Commission implements the mechanisms provided in the Financial Regulation for the award of funds.

It carries out rigorous selection processes, including several different checks on grant beneficiaries based on objective criteria. The award of funds is conditional to the absence of any exclusion grounds as set out in Article 138 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509⁽³⁾.

The total EU contribution for the project Butterfly Effect is EUR 467,858.14. Out of this amount, EUR 47,781.17 are allocated to 'Dokustelle'.

The detailed breakdown of the maximum EU contribution for each consortium beneficiary is available on the Funding & Tenders portal under the 'Project & results' section⁽⁴⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Call for proposals to promote equality and to fight against racism, xenophobia and discrimination- CERV-2022-EQUAL https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/cerv/wp-call/2022/call-fiche_cerv-2022-equal_en.pdf

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) 2021/692 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (OJ L 156, 5.5.2021, p. 1).

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast) (OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>).

⁽⁴⁾ Factsheet Butterfly project — Project ID 101084546 [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/43251589/101084546/CERV?](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/43251589/101084546/CERV?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=title&isExactMatch=true&frameworkProgramme=43251589&topicAbbreviation=CERV-2022-EQUAL)
order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=title&isExactMatch=true&frameworkProgramme=43251589&topicAbbreviation=CERV-2022-EQUAL

No funds have been transferred to the two organisations specified in the question (IMÖ and CAGE International), neither under the CERV programme nor through other EU funding programmes.
