

EN

E-004626/2025

Answer given by Ms Šuica
on behalf of the European Commission
(3.3.2026)

The Commission pays close attention to demographic change, as this has a direct impact on the EU's societies, its competitiveness and the sustainability of the EU's social model. The Demography Toolbox¹ is a comprehensive strategy to support Member States in managing demographic change.

While family policies are primarily a competence of Member States, the Toolbox contains initiatives, tools and funding opportunities that can help create favourable conditions for people to pursue their life and family aspirations.

Calls for proposals under EU funding programmes are assessed based on their merits in accordance with the call document's provisions, theme, and award criteria, and in compliance with the Financial Regulation².

After being checked for admissibility and eligibility, proposals are evaluated and scored according to their merits in responding to the award criteria. In open calls for proposals, only the proposals with the highest scores can be funded (others are placed on a reserve list or rejected, regardless of their potential merit). The proposal referred to in the question was fully evaluated and all its aspects were considered, but it obtained a score which was not high enough to secure funding.

It can also be noted that the Commission funds a variety of organisations, including some that place family at the centre of their activities. Federation of Catholic Family Associations in Europe (FAFCE) is very welcome to continue participating in future Commission calls for proposals.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52023DC0577>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32024R2509>.