

## EU partners available for CS call for proposal

### ❖ CHOICES SUPPORT CENTER

CERV eligible country	Netherlands
Contact person, email address and website	Jason Farrell <a href="mailto:jason@choicescenter.nl">jason@choicescenter.nl</a>
The mission of the organization	Choices is a community-based organisation that provides support and guidance to individuals struggling with risk behaviours related to drug use and sex, particularly within the LGBTQ+ community, including asylum seekers and status holders. The foundation of our work is utilising proven behavioral interventions, tailored to the individual. Our mission is to connect people with appropriate addiction, mental health and medical treatment by providing advocacy, support services, and assistance needed to improve treatment outcomes and retention.
How do we intent to get involved in a possible CS project.	<p>Choices Support Centre (Choices) proposes to conduct a study and produce a concise recommendation document intended as a guide for improving policies, procedures and laws impacting LGBTQ+ asylum seekers. This is to benefit this vulnerable population, as well as status holders who are still living in asylum centers while they await housing. Our research and recommendations are also for the benefit of organisations involved in the housing and reception of asylum seekers.</p> <p>In our work, we regularly hear from LGBTQ+ asylum seekers and status holders living in AZCs that they have issues, concerns, or complaints related to how they are treated by staff and by fellow residents. At the same time, we hear from some employees of organisations working directly with this target group that they are frustrated as they see daily how the laws, policies and procedures they are required to follow directly (negatively?) affect LGBTQ+ residents, but can do little to remedy it.</p> <p>What comes to our attention is on the one hand anecdotal; on the other, the frequency with which we hear similar statements is such that we assume that problems people are facing as a result of policies and procedures and how residents are being treated is widespread. We would therefore like to obtain a better understanding of this and establish a clearer picture as to better serve and support Choices' target population and carry out our mission. Our goal is to document the lived experiences of LGBTQ+ asylum seekers and status holders living in Dutch AZCs , as well as the people who work with them, to create a thorough report for policymakers, chain partners,</p>

	<p>care institutions, local authorities and other stakeholders with the hope to influence better policies, rules, procedures, working methods, interaction and communication Choices believes it is imperative that LGBTQ+ asylum seekers and status holders living in AZCs, and the COA workers themselves, have a voice in the legislative process, and indicate themselves where the bottlenecks are and how things can be improved, and not that others decide this for them based on their own impressions without involving them.</p> <p>Our proposed project is part of Research and analysis aimed at informing policymaking at European and national level, development of tools and standards to support European policies and actions in the field of preventing and combating GBV against LGBTQ+ persons' of stream 3.</p>
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❖ **ASOCIACIÓN VICTORIA KENT**

CERV eligible country	Spain
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The mission of the organisation	We are a non-profit organisation dedicated to fighting for people's rights and promoting a more just and supportive society. Our focus is on people in situations of or at risk of social exclusion, women victims of gender violence, people who have suffered homophobic and transphobic violence, women victims of trafficking and/or sexual exploitation, migrants, children, youth, prisoners and ex-prisoners, and assistance to refugees.
How do we intend to get involved in a possible CS project.	We are a very close-knit and hard-working team that, apart from doing things the right way, we do with respect and good practice. We think that we can offer a different point of view when working and carrying out activities, with respect to other countries. On the other side the participation in the project will allow us to learn and disseminate knowledge inside our team. All this combined with a long experience in different projects and areas, allows us to work with a good dynamic, a pleasant attitude and above all showing great collaboration between everyone, giving rise to a pleasant and successful work environment, thus obtaining a safe place where we can express ourselves freely. As the great Virginia Wolf said "There is no barrier, lock or latch that you can impose on the freedom of my mind."

❖ **ELLINIKO FOROUM PROSFIGON (GREEK FORUM of REFUGEES)**

CERV eligible country	Greece
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The mission of the organisation	<p>The Greek Forum of Refugees (GFR) is a refugee-led organization and a network of refugee and migrant communities and dedicated individuals advocating for the rights of refugees, migrants, and those affected by statelessness. Our mission is to promote an inclusive society where people with refugee and migrant backgrounds actively participate in all levels of society with equal rights and responsibility. Founded by refugees, for refugees, with refugees, GFR acts as a bridge between refugee/migrant communities and the host societies, facilitating effective inclusion and integration through self-advocacy, capacity-building, and raising awareness. Its core philosophy is committing to the principles of non-discrimination, mutual respect, and acceptance of every different identity. The organization aspires to promote in the best possible way an inclusive and democratic society with harmonious coexistence of all, both in Greece and Europe.</p> <p>Experience in Addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and LGBTQIA+ Violence: GFR's extensive experience as a grassroots organization allows us to directly engage refugee and migrant communities, particularly vulnerable groups such as survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and LGBTQIA+ individuals. GFR recognizes that these communities face multiple layers of discrimination and violence, both within their countries of origin and upon arrival in host countries like Greece.</p> <p>GFR prioritizes addressing GBV and LGBTQIA+ issues across all its activities, whether through grassroots engagement with communities and newcomers, collaboration with other CSOs, or advocacy efforts aimed at strengthening protections and improving frameworks at both the national and EU levels.</p>

<p>How do we intent to get involved in a possible CS project.</p>	<p><u>Future Plans and Commitment to Tackling GBV and LGBTQIA+ Violence:</u>  As part of our ongoing mission, GFR is committed to deepening its work in addressing GBV and violence against LGBTQIA+.  Our future plans include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Scaling up our Self-Advocacy Initiative to reach more refugee reception centers and communities.</li> <li>2. Increasing community engagement through campaigns and workshops aimed at challenging harmful stereotypes, promoting gender equality, and fostering acceptance of diverse sexual orientations and identities.</li> <li>3. Strengthening partnerships with NGOs, local authorities, and European organizations to ensure survivors of GBV and LGBTQIA+ violence have access to comprehensive support services.</li> <li>4. Continuing our policy advocacy work, collecting testimonies, and pushing for more inclusive, effective protection for vulnerable communities at national and EU levels.</li> </ol>
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