



Dear EU citizen,

We are delighted to share some exciting news about EU Voices, our project supporting EU citizens and the grassroots organisations representing them across the UK.

Together with our partners at Fondazione Giacomo Brodolini (FGB), we are pleased to announce the five successful organisations selected to receive grant funding through EU Voices.

EU Voices is a three-year project co-funded by the European Union, and delivered by the3million and FGB. It aims to strengthen the participation, visibility and influence of EU citizens in the UK, while building stronger connections between European communities, civil society and decision-makers.

Each selected organisation will receive €20,000 over two years, alongside opportunities for training, networking, capacity building and knowledge-sharing.

We are particularly excited about the diversity of the five projects. From supporting European women entrepreneurs in Sunderland to empowering children in Wales to speak up about discrimination, these initiatives show the creativity, experience and determination of our grassroots communities.

Meet our five successful organisations!

Citizens Rights Project – Glasgow and Edinburgh, Scotland

Project: Connecting Communities

Citizens Rights Project is a migrant-led Scottish charity that has been supporting EU citizens and their families since 2017, providing free, multilingual information and advice on immigration status, welfare rights and access to public services.

Its new Connecting Communities project will bring rights information, cultural activities and opportunities for participation directly into the spaces where communities already meet.

Through community learning sessions, local events and creative activities, the project will bring together EU citizens, other migrant communities and the wider Scottish public to explore shared concerns, build relationships and strengthen understanding.

The project will also create a community zine, sharing stories, practical information and experiences from participants.

By making rights information more accessible and creating opportunities for people to connect, Citizens Rights Project hopes to help EU citizens feel more confident, informed and empowered to participate in their communities.

Merseyside Polonia – Liverpool, North England

Project: Strengthening the Liverpool European Partnership

Merseyside Polonia has been connecting European communities across Liverpool since 2009. Originally established to support the Polish community, it has grown into an important voice for European citizens across the Liverpool City Region.

Through initiatives including the Liverpool European Festival and the Liverpool European Partnership, it has helped bring together community organisations, cultural institutions and decision-makers to celebrate European identity and strengthen participation.

Its EU Voices project will build on this work by strengthening the Liverpool European Partnership and developing a more sustainable network of European community organisations.

The project will engage more than 30 European organisations, identify the challenges they face and create new opportunities for collaboration, training and advocacy.

It will also develop a Liverpool European Partnership Portal, helping EU citizens access trusted information about their rights, services, volunteering and opportunities to get involved in civic life.

Through conferences, community engagement and activities leading towards Europe Day 2028, Merseyside Polonia aims to create a stronger collective voice for European communities in Liverpool, with lessons that can be shared across the UK.

ICOS – Sunderland, North England

Project: Supporting European Women in Business

The International Community Organisation of Sunderland (ICOS) is a peer-led charity supporting migrants across Sunderland and the surrounding areas, with particularly strong connections to Polish and other Central and Eastern European communities.

Its work includes advice, advocacy, wellbeing activities and community development, helping people overcome barriers to accessing services and participating in society.

Through EU Voices, ICOS will establish a dedicated European women's business network, supporting women who are running businesses or hoping to develop their own business ideas.

The project aims to support at least 40 women, including 15 aspiring entrepreneurs, through practical workshops, mentoring, networking opportunities and community business markets.

Participants will be able to develop skills, test business ideas, share experiences and build connections with other women and local business support organisations.

The project will also celebrate the achievements and entrepreneurial talents of European women through public events, including an International Women's Day celebration and a women's business showcase.

By creating opportunities for European women to develop their confidence, skills and professional networks, ICOS hopes to increase their visibility, independence and participation in local economic and community life.

RUDA – Birmingham, West Midlands

Project: Strengthening European Supplementary Schools

Români Uniți din Anglia (RUDA) is a grassroots, community-led organisation working with Romanian, Moldovan, Roma and wider European communities in England.

Its work brings families together through education, cultural activities, community engagement and rights awareness, including through the Nicolae Iorga Romanian Supplementary School in Birmingham.

RUDA's EU Voices project will focus on the important role that European supplementary schools play in preserving languages, celebrating cultural heritage and helping young Europeans develop a sense of belonging in the UK.

The project will map approximately 20 European supplementary schools, exploring their experiences, challenges and needs, including those serving Romanian, Moldovan, Polish, Ukrainian, Czech, French and Greek communities.

Through research, interviews and collaboration with school coordinators, RUDA will develop an evidence report, an interactive map and practical resources to help schools demonstrate their value and strengthen their work.

The project will also lay the foundations for a regional network of European supplementary schools, creating opportunities to share knowledge, strengthen advocacy and engage with policymakers.

By connecting schools and celebrating multilingualism, RUDA hopes to ensure that European languages, cultures and identities continue to thrive across generations.

TyRoots – Cardiff, Wales

Project: A Place Where We Belong

TyRoots is a Cardiff-based community organisation using arts and creativity to bring Eastern European families together and strengthen connections with wider Welsh society.

Working particularly with Polish and Ukrainian communities, it provides free creative programmes and cultural activities that help children celebrate their heritage, build confidence and feel a stronger sense of belonging.

Its new EU Voices project, A Place Where We Belong, will use creativity and community engagement to help children understand discrimination, hate crime, safety and their rights.

Over two years, 60 children will take part in activities including theatre, photography, art and creative workshops, exploring what makes them feel safe, welcome and included in their communities.

Working with organisations including South Wales Police and Calico Theatre Company, children will learn how to recognise discrimination, seek support and speak up safely.

Their experiences and ideas will be shared through community events and creative exhibitions, helping families, public services and the wider community better understand the experiences of Eastern European children in Wales.

The project will celebrate European cultures and identities while ensuring that children's voices are heard in conversations about safety, inclusion and belonging.

Building stronger European communities together

Although these five projects focus on different communities and challenges, they share a common ambition: ensuring EU citizens have the information, opportunities, confidence and collective voice to participate fully in UK society.

Their work will contribute to the four central priorities of EU Voices:

- Strengthening grassroots organisations and their ability to advocate for their communities.
- Promoting European cultures, languages and shared values.

- Improving access to rights, information and opportunities for civic and democratic participation.
- Building stronger partnerships between European communities, civil society organisations and public institutions.

The five organisations will also benefit from EU Voices' wider capacity-building programme, including training, peer learning and opportunities to connect with European institutions and civil society networks through a learning exchange visit to Brussels.

We are looking forward to working closely with Citizens Rights Project, Merseyside Polonia, ICOS, RUDA and TyRoots over the next two years, learning from their experiences and sharing the impact of their projects.

In solidarity,

Piotr

Piotr Kardynal is the Community Organiser (EU Voices) at the3million

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Report It!

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Thank you for reading our newsletter.

Did you know the3million is the leading grassroots organisation of EU citizens in the UK?

We are grateful for your support, as we simply couldn't have campaigned for citizens' rights since 2016 without you.

If you can afford it, please donate today to enable the3million to continue to uphold the Government to account and inform EU citizens of their rights:

Donate today