

CALL FOR RESEARCHER(S): SHAPING SOLIDAR'S VISION ON SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY

[SOLIDAR](#), a European network of civil society organizations, trade unions, and social movements, is dedicated to advancing social justice in Europe and beyond. Aligned with their strategic goals and the EU-funded program "Realising Social Europe for All and With All," SOLIDAR is currently seeking a researcher(s) to collaborate on developing its vision for the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE). This research will build upon the work and perspectives of SOLIDAR's member organizations throughout Europe, through interviews with member organisations and literature review.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The SSE offers a powerful alternative to traditional economic models, prioritizing social and environmental well-being alongside financial viability. This research will inform SOLIDAR's advocacy efforts to strengthen the SSE in Europe.

WHAT WILL THE RESEARCH ACHIEVE?

- Identify key SSE models and sectors within SOLIDAR member organizations.
- Analyze national and EU legislative frameworks impacting the SSE.
- Capture SOLIDAR members' perspectives on the state of the SSE in their countries, their economic visions, and positions on EU and national policies.
- Explore key issues and debates surrounding the SSE, including legal status, funding, taxation, and incentives.
- Assess the roles of key stakeholders – governments, CSOs, businesses, trade unions, and others – in shaping the SSE landscape.
- Provide recommendations for CSOs and policy makers regarding opportunities, strategic actions, partnerships, and coordination to strengthen the SSE in Europe that reflect the priorities and views of our members and ensure that the EPSR implementation is *fostered*.

SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY?

- Review existing literature, reports, and data related to SSE in Europe.
- Interview SOLIDAR members in the following target countries: Belgium, Italy, Spain, Germany, Serbia, and North Macedonia. Possibly in Croatia and Slovenia. Key SSE sectors

including care, welfare, catering, agriculture, fashion, restoration/upcycling, circular economy, etc.

- Highlight any notable trends or initiatives related to SSE in other European countries.
- Collect any data on the commitments, policy positions, and activities of SOLIDAR members and identified key stakeholders, focusing on SSE.
- Provide a detailed report presenting findings, analysis, and recommendations.

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

a. Description of the output and responsibilities of the researcher(s):

The selected researcher(s) will be responsible for producing a research report of 20 to 30 pages, including an executive summary, proofreading the materials and conducting all necessary desk research and interviews.

b. Description of the of the researcher(s):

- Demonstrated experience in research, stakeholder analysis, and policy analysis, particularly in the areas of social and solidarity economy, social justice, and labour rights.
- Strong research and analytical skills, including experience with data collection.
- In-depth knowledge of social and economic dynamics in Europe, with a focus on the SSE.
- Familiarity with relevant EU policy frameworks.
- Excellent communication skills, with the ability to present complex information clearly and concisely.

TIMELINE AND DELIVERABLES

No.	Activities	Timeline
1	Publication of the call for tenders	31 May 2024
2	Deadline to submit an application	20 June 2024
3	Evaluation of proposals	28 June 2024
4	Communication of results of selection	28 June 2024
5	Cooperation Agreements signed	5 July 2024
6	Presentation of preliminary results and feedback from member organizations	24-28 September 2024
7	Submission of the first version of the publication + a one-page executive summary + one-page table/infographics summarising the main proposals	8 October 2024
8	Submission of the second version of the publication + Short op-ed of approximately 800 words, useful to disseminate the results and ideas of the paper to a non-technical audience.	18 October 2024
9	Presentation of the publication in a roundtable discussion in Brussels	2-6 December 2024

BUDGET AND COMPENSATION

SOLIDAR offers a maximum of **EUR 4 600** (including VAT) to cover consultancy fees, research materials, and other project expenses. Payment will be divided into installments: 50% upon signed contract and 50% upon delivery and approval of the final report.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications need to be submitted electronically to Carlos ROLDAN (carlos.roldan@solidar.org) no later than 20 June at 18:00.

The proposal should include 2 sections:

1. The technical proposal:

1.1. A document that contains the following information:

- A cover page with title, authors and addresses.
- A short abstract of no more than one page.
- Background and objective(s), brief data description, expected value added, policy relevance, and references.
- A proposed timeline.

1.2. A copy of (each) expert's resume.

1.3. Proof of similar assignment(s) handled in the past years.

2. The financial proposal, including the breakdown of costs (e.g. personnel, travel, equipment, maintenance, other).

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The payment shall be made with the following instalments:

1. 50% of the total financial support paid after the cooperation agreement is signed.
2. 50% of the total financial support paid after the submission of the final paper approved by SOLIDAR team.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF THE PROPOSAL AND THE EXPERT(S):

a. Researchers

- Demonstrated experience in conducting research, stakeholder and policy analysis, preferably in the fields of economy (including circular and social and solidarity economy), social rights and social inclusion.
- Strong research and analytical skills, including proficiency in data collection.
- Knowledge of Europe's social and economic dynamics, particularly in relation to SSE.

SOLIDAR is a European and worldwide network of NGOs striving to advance social justice through a just transition in Europe and worldwide. SOLIDAR brings together over 50 member organisations, working together on Social Affairs, International Cooperation and Lifelong Learning.

- Familiarity with EU policy frameworks such as the EPSR and its Action Plan
- Excellent communication skills and the ability to present complex information clearly and concisely.

b. Proposals

Overview

- The title of the paper is adequate.
- The introduction/ background is rich enough to provide justification.
- The focus is clearly articulated.
- The objectives of the paper are clear.
- The literature review is appropriate/adequate to address the gaps.

Understanding of Policy Focus

- Originality
- Innovativeness

Quality of Research Design

- Relevant and reliable data used to support the analysis.

Potential Research and Policy Impacts

- Impact (policy and academic, if any).

Value for money

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- All information obtained during this project is confidential.
- All research outputs become the property of SOLIDAR and may be used for research, publication, and dissemination purposes.