

Dear [],

I am contacting you with regard to a proposal for an EU grant application – COST Action (<https://www.cost.eu/>) – on the topic of *Responsible Justice Innovation Network*.

Together with a group of partners among which the Justice Administration Research Association (<https://jar-association.eu/>), Tilburg University (the Netherlands), National Research Council of Italy, University of Limoges (France), Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies (Italy), University of Bologna, University of Latvia, Centre for Social Studies of the University of Coimbra (Portugal), Institute of Criminology Faculty of Law in Ljubjana (Slovenia), University of Jaume (Spain), University of Buckingham (United Kingdom) we are aiming to build a European network bringing together the research community, practitioners and policymakers to discuss and explore justice innovation developments from a multidisciplinary perspective.

Obtaining this European funding would allow the network of partners to organise different types of events and activities (e.g. conferences, workshops, networking events, professional exchanges, experiment with justice innovation in a safe sandbox environment) related to justice innovation that considers three drivers: managerialisation, digitalisation, and the European legislative framework and shared justice principles.

Tilburg University is leading the application process. The research proposal is currently being developed by volunteer researchers of the Justice Administration Research Association (JAR-Association) who are working at Tilburg University and the National Research Council of Italy with input from the other partners.

The presentation document attached provides you with some background information on the type of grant we want to apply for, describing its purpose, and general requirements. After this part, you will find a short introduction of the research idea background, the developments we would like to explore as part of the network events, and the type of activities that we aim to organise, if we receive the financing.

In order to be able to submit the COST Action Grant proposal, we need to rely on a network of application partners. For this we would like to appeal to your availability and interest in being part of this 'journey' via your [professional] institution. This will allow us to prepare a structure of partners that corresponds to the technical requirement of the grant and the topic of the COST Action proposal (see the presentation document further). This is a very important aspect for being able to participate and submit the application.

The submission deadline – 23 October 2024.

Becoming a partner for submitting the COST Action only requires you to create a personal COST profile in your own name (please see point no. 2 on how to become a COST Action participant of the attached presentation document). It does not require you to submit any support document from the legal entity you are affiliated with. Also, the application does not require you to provide a specific budget, provide us with such financial information, or any specific allocation of working hours.

If the application is successful, the budget allocation is taken care of by COST based on the events that the partners decide to organise in the timeframe of the four years for which finance is allocated. This grant also does not request of you to undertake specific research. COST Action

aims to give participants the opportunity to receive funds for extending their network and participating in events where they can share their knowledge and expertise, present and share information on projects they are already carrying out in the area of the COST Action project, and have the opportunity to have exchange stays at other organisations or receive researchers or practitioners as exchange at theirs. Participants choose which events they want to attend and correspond to their area of interest and expertise. It is not mandatory to participate in all the events organised as part of a COST Action.

Given your work/research/expertise in the areas covered by the COST Action Proposal on *Responsible Justice Innovation Network* we would like to invite you to participate in this COST Action application.

If you have further questions with regard to the project or the type of grant, please send me or Alina Ontanu (E.Ontanu@tilburguniversity.edu) an email, and we will try provide any additional information necessary.

I look forward to hearing from you in the hope we can collaborate for this initiative.

With best regards/Best regards,

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