

Projects funded under the Internal Security Fund call for proposals on the protection of public spaces:

ISF-2024-TF2-AG-PROTECT



This booklet provides an overview of projects funded as Union Actions under the Thematic Facility Work Programmes 2023–2025 of the Internal Security Fund (ISF). The primary objective of this call for proposal is to support the implementation of the EU Counter-Terrorism Agenda.

Thirteen selected projects, involving 163 participants from 22 EU Member States and two third countries, address the following priority areas:

- Protection of places of worship, schools, and community gatherings
- Protection of Jewish places of worship, schools, and community gatherings
- Protection against chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) threats in public spaces
- Protection against the misuse and trafficking of firearms
- Protection against potential threats posed by noncooperative drones

The project consortia bring together a diverse range of stakeholders, including law enforcement agencies, local governments, universities, and civil society organisations.

A total budget of €30 million, comprising €5 million for the priority "Protection of Jewish places of worship, schools, and community gatherings" and €25 million for other priorities, has been allocated for projects to be implemented over 24 to 36 months, starting in 2025.

Detailed information about each project, including abstracts, durations, participating organisations, public deliverables, and coordinator contacts, is available on the <u>EU Funding and Tenders Portal</u>. These projects are supported by the ISF. For more information, visit the <u>Internal Security Fund webpage</u>.

AEGIS

Project No. 101190865





PRIORITY AREA:

Protection of Jewish places of worship, schools, and community gatherings

The AEGIS project (Advanced thrEat identification and Response in Guarding JewIsh communities) aims to enhance the safety of Jewish communities by improving threat detection, response, and collaboration with law enforcement agencies (LEAs). Through a digital microservice integrating diverse data streams, AI-driven smart cameras, a tailored threat matrix, and joint training initiatives, the project fosters efficient data utilisation, customised crisis management plans, and stronger mutual understanding between Jewish communities and LEAs across Europe.

Countries: BE, ES, RO



CBRNe4rail

Project No. 101190621





PRIORITY AREA:

Protection against chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear (CBRN) threats in public spaces

The CBRNe4rail project (*CBRNe preparedness for passenger rail transport hubs*) aims to enhance the preparedness and security of railway operators against CBRNe threats by co-developing actionable security plans, guidelines, and a harmonised training programme for railway staff and first responders. Key activities include adapting best practices from EU and NATO projects, delivering VR-based and practical training, conducting in-situ exercises across four EU countries, and certifying the training programme to ensure its sustainability and broader adoption.

Countries: FR, IT, PL, SI, SE, ES



COURAGEOUS²

Project No. 101190646





PRIORITY AREA:

Protection against potential threats posed by non-cooperative drones

The COURAGEOUS² project (*Building a common understanding of the effectiveness of counter-UAS solutions*) supports the European Commission DG HOME in implementing the EU's strategy to counter potential threats posed by drones by building on the achievements of the original <u>COURAGEOUS project</u>. It focuses on refining a standard test methodology for counter-drone systems, enabling EU law enforcement agencies to achieve a common understanding of the performance and effectiveness of these solutions.

Countries: BE, NL, FR, EL, RO, PL, ES, EE, SE, FI



FORTIFY

Project No. 101190805





PRIORITY AREA:

Protection against the misuse and trafficking of firearms

The FORTIFY project (*Firearms Trafficking cooperation initiative: strengthening efforts*) focuses on combating firearms trafficking by strengthening and complementing the efforts of <u>EMPACT FIREARMS</u>, the EU's flagship initiative against serious and organised crime. It aims to enhance operational actions, identify and mitigate emerging threats, foster international cooperation, and implement targeted measures, including investigations, forensic capabilities, and capacity-building activities such as a specialised K9 training workshop for firearms detection.

Countries: ES, DE, BE, PT, NL, UA



MIX3D

Project No. 101190673





PRIORITY AREA:

Protection against the misuse and trafficking of firearms

The MIX3D project (*3D Technologies and Security:* Confronting the Challenges of Printed Firearms, Enhancing Crime Scene Analysis Training, and Promoting X3P Data Sharing for Europol's Ballistic Hub) addresses the growing threat of 3D-printed firearms by enhancing forensic and investigative capabilities, fostering EU-wide cooperation, and standardising ballistic data exchange through the X3P format. It also aims to inform policy and refine EU legal frameworks to better regulate and respond to the challenges posed by 3D-printed firearms.

Countries: DE, AT, ES, IT, SE, FR



PARTESS-COM

Project No. 101190916





PRIORITY AREA:

Protection of places of worship, schools, and community gatherings

The PARTESS-COM project (Participatory approaches to protecting place of worship, schools and community centres) aims to enhance the security of religious communities, places of worship, educational institutions, and gatherings by creating a knowledge hub with adaptable, inclusive security concepts based on state-of-the-art practices and scientific advancements. It employs a digital platform and app for reporting incidents, facilitates networking and capacity building, and promotes security awareness among citizens to empower communities and law enforcement to prevent and counter threats effectively.

PARTESS-COM continues the work initiated in the PARTES project.

Countries: AT, NL, DE, ES, LV, EL, FR, IE, RO, PL IT, BG



PROJECT FOCAL-SF 2

Project No. 101190799





PRIORITY AREA:

Protection against the misuse and trafficking of firearms

The PROJECT FOCAL-SF 2 (Fight Organised Crime Against Light Small Firearms) builds on its predecessor, PROJECT FOCAL-SF, to combat organised crime involving small firearms by strengthening National Firearms Focal Points (NFFPs) across the EU and expanding the model to third countries. It focuses on enhancing firearms legislation, intelligence sharing, and law enforcement capabilities through specialised training, equipment acquisition, and the digitalisation of firearms records, while also fostering international cooperation, particularly with Ukraine and Moldova, to reduce firearms proliferation and support EU integration efforts.

Countries: ES, AT, PT, MD, RO, BE, UA



SASCE2

Project No. 101190659





PRIORITY AREA:

Protection of places of worship, schools, and community gatherings

The SASCE2 project (Safer and Stronger Communities in Europe 2) continues efforts begun in the SASCE project to enhance the protection of places of worship across Europe through interfaith cooperation, addressing current and emerging threats of violence. Activities include developing a mobile security app, training community leaders and worshippers, organising conferences and workshops to strengthen cooperation with public authorities, and raising awareness through incident reporting, ultimately increasing security for at least 127 places of worship in 16 EU Member States and benefiting approximately 9 000 individuals directly.

Countries: BE, IE, IT



SENTINEL

Project No. 101190734





PRIORITY AREA:

Protection of Jewish places of worship, schools, and community gatherings

The SENTINEL project (*Strategic Engagement Network* for Threat Intelligence, Law Enforcement Liaison and Jewish Community Protection) seeks to enhance the protection of Jewish places of worship across Europe by improving threat assessment, response capabilities, and cooperation between Jewish communities, public authorities, and law enforcement. Over three years, the project will deliver AI-enhanced intelligence briefs, security training, mobile panic button applications, interactive incident mapping, and EU-wide and local workshops, reaching over 10 000 direct beneficiaries in 23 FU Member States.

Countries: BE, ES, CZ, NL, AT, HU, IT



UNICOPS

Project No. 101190929





PRIORITY AREA:

Protection against chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear (CBRN) threats in public spaces

The UNICOPS project (*Universal CBRNE protection system supporting the safety and open nature of higher education institutions*) aims to enhance the security and resilience of EU universities and their international students against terrorist and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosives (CBRNE) threats by analysing existing regulations, developing improved procedures, and creating innovative training tools, including VR scenarios and a gamified learning platform. Through collaboration with nine universities across six Member States, the project will validate its recommendations through large-scale exercises and disseminate its training programme for adoption by universities across the EU, benefiting over 260 000 individuals.

Countries: PL, SK, EL, CZ, CY, DE, ES



VIRTUOUS

Project No. 101190700





PRIORITY AREA:

Protection of places of worship, schools, and community gatherings

The VIRTUOUS project (*Vulnerability, Risk Assessment Tools and Training Exercises for the Active Protection of Religious Buildings*) aims to enhance the protection of places of worship, educational institutions, and community gathering spaces in Europe by leveraging innovative technologies like Building Information Modelling (BIM) for vulnerability assessment, improving awareness, and fostering interfaith cooperation. Through stakeholder collaboration and tailored security recommendations, the project seeks to increase preparedness against terrorist attacks and strengthen long-term resilience across diverse religious communities.

Countries: FR, IT, PL, HU, EL, ES, LV, BE, CY, AT, IE



VISTA

Project No. 101190832





PRIORITY AREA:

Protection against the misuse and trafficking of firearms

The VISTA project (*Violence with firearms: Incidents, Seizures and Trafficking of Arms*) aims to enhance the EU's intelligence on firearms trafficking by improving data collection and exchange on gun incidents and seizures, supporting law enforcement agencies with technological tools, and fostering international cooperation to combat the proliferation of illicit firearms. By upgrading real-time tracking systems and harmonising seizure data, VISTA seeks to strengthen efforts to reduce firearms-related violence and support the implementation of the EU Action Plan on Firearms Trafficking.

Countries: BG, BE, ES, NL



SHIELDed

Project No. 101190655





PRIORITY AREA:

Protection of places of worship, schools, and community gatherings

The SHIELDed project (*Schools, religious communities* and local authorities' Harmonised Initiative to Enhance Local resilience) aims to enhance the security of soft targets, such as schools and faith-based organisations, by fostering cooperation among religious, security, and educational stakeholders to prevent and mitigate religious and culturally motivated violence. Through capacity-building, awareness-raising, and the development of practical tools, SHIELDed seeks to create safer and more tolerant communities while promoting resilience and cross-sectoral collaboration in protecting vulnerable locations.

SHIELDed continues the work carried out under the previous <u>SHIELD project</u>.

Countries: PT, DE, NL, ES, PL, IE, AT, DE, IT, FR, HU







This project is being implemented with the support of the Internal Security Fund (ISF). For more information on ISF, please scan the QR code.