

Don't let them silence the fight against racism

Sign the petition to defend Europe's anti-racism work

Europe's largest anti-racism network is now at risk of closing.

For 28 years, the European Network Against Racism (ENAR) has connected more than 140 organisations fighting racism across Europe — helping them work together, supporting local organisations and ensuring that racialised communities have a voice in European decision-making.

Following a decision by an EU agency to reject ENAR's 2026–2028 funding application, the network could be forced to close by the end of 2026.

This is about far more than one organisation.

If ENAR disappears, anti-racist organisations across Europe lose a network that helps them connect, share knowledge, support each other and speak with a stronger collective voice.

At a time when racism, hate speech and attacks against racialised communities are increasing across Europe, we cannot afford to weaken the people and organisations working against them.

I stand with Europe's anti-racism movement

I call on the European Commission to:

- Ensure that independent organisations working to combat racism are assessed fairly, transparently and on the basis of objective evidence.
- Honour commitments under the EU Civil Society Strategy and Anti-Racism Strategy by supporting meaningful partnership with anti-racist civil society.
- Ensure that EU funding decisions affecting organisations defending fundamental rights are fair, transparent and based on objective evidence.
- Ensure that organisations fighting racism and discrimination have the space, independence and resources they need to do their work.

If you believe that everyone deserves equal rights, that people affected by racism deserve to be heard and that those fighting discrimination should not have to fight alone, [Sign the petition](#) and stand with Europe's anti-racism movement.

Why this matters

For almost three decades, ENAR has been Europe's largest anti-racism network, bringing together more than 140 organisations across the continent.

Since 1998, the network has helped shape some of the EU's most important equality and anti-discrimination initiatives. It has contributed to European anti-discrimination laws, advocated for EU action against racism, produced independent research on structural racism and supported organisations working directly with racialised communities.

But ENAR's importance is not simply what it does as an organisation. Its role is to connect a movement.

The fight against racism is strongest when it is collective, connected and visible. Through ENAR, organisations across Europe can learn from one another, coordinate their work, stand together and respond collectively when racism and discrimination threaten their communities.

If that network disappears, it means fewer organisations working together across countries. Less support for local communities experiencing racism and discrimination. Fewer resources reaching organisations working directly with those communities. Less independent evidence and scrutiny of those in power. And fewer opportunities for people affected by racism to influence decisions that shape their lives.

When organisations are weakened and isolated, everyone loses.

What happened?

In July 2026, following more than ten months of exchanges, the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), which manages EU grants on behalf of the European Commission, decided to reject ENAR's application for its 2026–2028 funding agreement.

ENAR strongly contests the basis of this decision and is challenging its legality before the General Court of the European Union.

During the process ENAR responded to five rounds of detailed requests concerning its governance and ability to operate. At the same time, it faced extensive audit and documentation requirements, including hundreds of pages of supporting evidence, often under very short deadlines.

ENAR responded to these requests while continuing its work and meeting its financial and reporting obligations. EACEA itself accepted ENAR's 2025 technical and financial reports.

Without access to its structural funding, however, ENAR's financial reserves will eventually run out. Unless the situation changes, the network may be forced to cease operations by the end of 2026.

This is bigger than ENAR

Racial justice depends on strong, independent organisations that can speak out, organise communities and hold those in power accountable.

When anti-racist organisations lose the resources they need to do their work, the communities they represent lose an essential voice — and the wider movements for equality, justice and human rights become more vulnerable.

What is happening to ENAR therefore matters far beyond ENAR itself.

Will Europe protect the independent organisations fighting racism, or allow the networks connecting them to disappear?

Add your name. Share the petition. Ask one friend, colleague or family member to do the same.

Help ensure that the voices fighting racism are not pushed into silence.

If this network disappears, it is not just one organisation that is lost!

It means fewer organisations working together across borders. Fewer resources reaching local communities. Less support for people experiencing racism. Less independent evidence holding governments accountable. And fewer opportunities for those most affected by discrimination to shape the decisions that affect their lives.