

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Emperor Maximilian Prize for European Service at the Regional and Local Level 2026

The Emperor Maximilian Prize recognises extraordinary projects by individuals, institutions or organisations that generate added value at regional and/or municipal level in Europe. Project entrants must be reliable and in the position to carry out and complete the project.

Particular consideration will be given to projects that make a special contribution to European harmony, European integration as well as peaceful coexistence and cohesion in Europe. There must be a reference to the local and regional level. Submitted projects must provide the potential to work out best practices that can be transferred to other communities and regions.

The high public profile should strengthen the idea of Europe among citizens. The project must not be aimed at profit or other asset gain and must not contravene legal provisions or general European legal principles.

Submitted projects should: have an innovative focus; pursue new approaches or organisational methods; and include an assessment of the effects and developments of the project objectives, or the expected effects. Decisive here are the diverse aspects of European integration. Critical criteria include: the effectiveness of the project; sustainability and creativity; and the focus on motivating other target groups to engage independently with Europe.

The Emperor Maximilian Prize is awarded every two years. The prize consists of a certificate, a medal (medallion of Emperor Maximilian I from 1509) and a cash prize in the amount of €10,000. The cash prize is earmarked for the winning project. The prize is awarded to an institution or organisation for European service at regional and local level.

Projects may only be submitted online via the website's integrated application platform: www.emperormaximilianprize.at. Projects must be submitted in English.