

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The National Dialogue on Portugal's vision for the future (2050) - a participatory and inclusive process

BACKGROUND

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation was created in 1956 by the last will and testament of Calouste Sarkis Gulbenkian, a philanthropist of Armenian origin who lived in Lisbon between 1942 and the year of his death, 1955. Established in perpetuity, the Foundation's main purpose is to improve the quality of life through art, charity, science and education.

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation is developing since 2018 an initiative with the aim of bringing Intergenerational Fairness to the public discussion and to the political agenda.¹

As part of this initiative, the Foundation launched in July 2021 the Framework for Intergenerational Fairness,² a tool for systematic and impartial assessment of public policies for their impact on all generations, present and future. It provides information about policies' impacts over the long-term, includes voices and perspectives not currently heard, and promotes informed discussion about difficult decisions, making political choices clearer.

It is based on the best and most recent practices in policy assessment, risk management and strategic foresight, was tested and applied to real questions in Portugal, and reviewed by experts from both national institutions (Bank of Portugal, Public Finances Council, Court of Auditors, UTAO and UTAI), and international institutions (OECD, European Commission, United Nations, etc.).

The Framework works through a practical tool that provides concrete criteria to policy assessment, based on the vision of the future that society has for Portugal. It also provides greater clarity about questions of intergenerational fairness associated with each policy, as well as a detailed discussion of what is necessary to make the policy fairer.

At the same time, this Framework can benefit from an institutional framework that ensures the legitimacy within representative democracy, the independence of the process and the ownership by civil society, and also requires an inclusive dialogue at a national scale that enables a wider knowledge on how inequality, privilege and exclusion are transmitted through generations, as well as the identification of the different perspectives across generations and groups of people, shaping a vision and the collective objectives desired for the future of Portugal.

With this call for proposals, the Foundation aims to find one or more partners for the execution of this National Dialogue.

¹ More info in <https://gulbenkian.pt/de-hoje-para-amanha/en/>

² More info in <https://gulbenkian.pt/de-hoje-para-amanha/en/publication/fair-public-policies-for-all-generations/>

THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE – PORTUGAL 2050

The National Dialogue on Portugal's vision for the future (2050) is a participatory and inclusive process, at national level, which combines strategic foresight and public participation in an innovative way.

It intends to bring together citizens to reflect and discuss issues of great importance for Portugal's future political decisions, using the scenarios that resulted from the Gulbenkian Future Forum's work *Foresight 2030*,³ identifying the main trade-offs between present and future, as well as the different perspectives between the various generations.

It must be an independent and non-partisan process, and involve the oversight of experienced and reputable personalities, who ensure the credibility and internal and external acceptance of the project results.

This process should allow to build a realistic and ambitious vision for the future of Portugal that is collectively negotiated by all generations, defining concrete objectives, and indicators for its monitoring.

The *Portugal we want* Dialogue should be aware of these design principles, in order to support an effective intergenerational fairness assessment framework:

1. Using participation and citizen dialogue, critical to the framework structure and success
2. Using a foresight process (exploring drivers and systems, building scenarios and creating a vision)
3. Ensure that indicators are in service to the desired outcomes, and selected participatively
4. Promote open and transparent public communication of outputs

The Dialogue may have different groups of participants, with different levels of engagement, providing input, thoughts, insights, and ideas through a participatory foresight process. The engagement of these groups could be made in different ways, including online surveys, sustained conversation in small groups over several months, community-led events, and/or media campaigns. In the broad level, people may engage in a digital and anonymous way; in the deep level, people involved throughout the programme would communicate in dialogue in an active back and forth, and they could be recruited, remunerated and recognised.

The participants should be representative in terms of gender, age, social background, and should be chosen from the different Portuguese regions: North, Centre, Alentejo, Algarve, Lisbon Metropolitan Area, Azores and Madeira⁴.

The key roles and responsibilities of the delivery team are:

- The design, coordination and quality assurance of the project, ensuring the delivery of the outputs through robust processes, capabilities and stakeholder management;

³ Available here: <https://gulbenkian.pt/forum-futuro/foresight-2030/>

⁴ NUTS II - Nomenclatura das Unidades Territoriais para Fins Estatísticos

- The engagement with communities and participants, integrating and analysing the inputs from the different stakeholders and the different ‘tiers’ of involvement;
- The development of scenarios, insights and a vision in a substantive way;
- The sensemaking and narrative of the insights, designing and delivering an effective communication of process, outcomes and choices that are being made during the project.

FCG will appoint a senior advisory board that will oversee the work of the delivery team.

This type of deliberative dialogue has been used extensively around the world as a gold standard for public engagement in complex policy issues. In designing this dialogue, we consider the case of Wales as one of the possible models to follow.⁵

GOALS AND OUTPUTS

The goals of this project are:

- to hold a participative process at a national scale, involving the citizens on the discussion and negotiation of a collective vision of Portugal for the future, based on the scenarios that resulted from the *Foresight 2030* project;
- to identify the main trade-offs between present and future, as well as the different perspectives between the various generations;
- to generate deeper understanding of drivers of change, their interdependencies, how inequality is transmitted through generations and a set of potential alternative futures;
- to draw a vision for the future of Portugal that is collectively negotiated by all generations, and that include concrete objectives and indicators for its monitoring.

At the end of the project, we expect:

- a report with the vision for the future of Portugal (2050), including the objectives and the indicators;
- a report about the project with all the outputs and the dialogue process stages, including indicators, survey results, activities developed, people and institutions involved, as well as recommendations for a future dialogue.

OUR APPROACH TO WORK

While the selected team will work autonomously from its current institutional location, we expect to be regularly updated on the progress which is being made, as well as to have a say in key methodological decisions shaping the outcome of the project.

The leadership of the project can be ensured by a coalition of partners from different expertise and nationality, but one of the leading partners should be based in Portugal.

⁵ The Wales We Want helped to shape the six wellbeing goals that were contained in the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Bill when it was introduced in July 2014. More info: <https://www.futuregenerations.wales/news/working-together-to-build-the-wales-we-want/>

The selected teams should be familiarized with strategic foresight and experienced in the planning/organization of deliberative assemblies or similar forms of citizens engagement.

We proposal must present a clear definition of the roles of each partner, including the roles that will be subcontracted to other entities.

BUDGET

The Foundation will support the project with a total maximum budget of 550 000 € (all taxes included).

TIMELINE&PACE

The proposal should be submitted until the 15th of May 2022, and the project is expected to begin no later than October 2022. The final report and project outputs should be delivered in a period of 6 to 12 months, until November 2023.

SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL

If you are interested in submitting a proposal, please include the following details:

- Briefly explain your motivation to apply and what makes your team ready to outstandingly fulfil our goal
- Explain how you plan to approach this challenge
- Present a preliminary workplan and timeline, indicating some key intermediate steps and milestones.
- Name and current position of each team member
- Include a detailed budget, specifying costs by major tasks, including an estimation of hours required from each team member

Proposals should not be longer than 10 pages (excluding annexes).

Please submit your proposal [here](#). Any questions or further details can be provided on request – jintergeracional@gulbenkian.pt

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

Proposals will be evaluated by a jury including members of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and an external scientific adviser, and subsequently approved by the Board of Trustees of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.

Criteria for selection will be the following: (i) approach/strategy to achieve the final goal, (ii) scientific robustness of the proposal, (iii) profile and experience of the team members, and (iv) estimated costs and proposed timeline.

The Foundation could decide to select the two best proposals for a process of negotiation and objectives alignment, in order to decide the final proposal.

The decision of the jury, as approved by the Board of Trustees, is considered final.