





A. Awareness and use of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights among civil society organisations and rights defenders

Where does your organisation mainly work (or where is it based):

	Belgium	_
At which level does your organisation work? (multiple answers p	ossible)	
✓ International level		
▼ EU level		
▼ National level		
☐ Local level		
Which of the following terms describes best your organisation?		
 Non-governmental organisation 		
○ Trade union		
Employer's organisation		
 Social and professional organisation 		
C Faith-based, religious, philosophical or non-confessional organization	anisation	
O University or other qualified experts of European/internation	nal body/organisation	
Other		
Optional: indicate the name of the organisation you work for (the background information and will not be made public).	e information is collected as	
European Foundation Centre (EF		
European Foundation Centre (EFC)/ Donors and Foundations New Philanthropy Advocacy initiative	tworks in Europe (DAFNE) - joint	
How do you assess the level of knowledge with regard to the EU organisation?	Charter and its application in you	ur
○ Very good		
Good		







0	Average
0	Not so good
0	Not good at all
Do	es your organisation use or refer to the EU Charter in its work?
0	Often
•	Sometimes
0	Rarely
0	Never
0	Do not know
Ηο	w does your organisation use the EU Charter?

	Yes	No	Do not know
in trainings	•	0	0
for raising awareness on human rights	•	0	0
for litigation/strategic litigation	0	0	•
for campaigning	•	0	0
other	0	0	0

If other, please specify how you use the EU Charter in your work:



Could you provide some examples where the EU Charter adds value to the work of your organisation?









Since the entry into force of the Charter, philanthropic organisations as well as wider civil society organisations ("CSOs") have been cooperating with the EU institutions and Member States' policymakers to promote and protect the rights enshrined in the Charter. Parts of the philanthropy sector have also been assisting victims of fundamental rights' violations, helping them identify the legal avenues available and supporting litigation at national and EU level. Philanthropy, alongside the wider civil society, plays a key role in defending and promoting the values enshrined in Article 2 of the EU Treaty, which include respect for human dignity, human rights and the rule of law.

However, the rights enshrined in the Charter are of utmost importance for the philanthropic organisations and funders themselves, particularly the right to association and assembly, freedom of expression and information or the right to protection of personal data. They need to be duly secured and observed in order for philanthropic actors to carry out their crucial objectives. These rights become particularly relevant where an authority's intervention is against, or relates to an organisation's objectives, acts or statements.

Therefore, Philanthropy infrastructure organisations such as DAFNE and EFC are using the Charter in their advocacy work to protect the space for philanthropic actors, in cases when the restrictions are imposed on their fundamental rights to associate, operate, express views, seek and provide information, receive funding and campaign.

Which of the following measures would support your own organisation in better and more often using the EU Charter in your work? Please rank the 5 most important, starting with 1 being the most important in your view:

	1	2	3	4	5
Training for our staff/volunteers about how the EU Charter could be used in our work	0	•	0	0	0
Earmarked funding for the development and/or maintenance of EU Charter know-how	0	0	0	0	•
Publications/handbooks on how to use the EU Charter	0	0	•	0	0







	1	2	3	4	5
Good practice exchange with other organisations working with the EU Charter	0	0	0	•	0
Information on the EU Charter-relevant jurisprudence of the CJEU	•	0	0	0	0
Information about where to turn to with questions about the EU Charter	•	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0

Has your own organisation ever:

	Yes	No	Do not know
organised trainings on the EU Charter for your own staff	0	•	0
participated in trainings on the EU Charter organised by other organisations	•	0	0
organised trainings on the EU Charter for others	•	0	0
used tools available on the e- justice portal <u>Charter</u> <u>tutorial</u> , <u>Fundamental Rights</u> <u>Interactive Tool</u> , <u>Charter</u> <u>checklist</u>	•	0	0







	Yes	No	Do not know
participated in a good practice exchange on the use of the EU Charter	•	0	0
used FRA's <u>Charterpedia</u> or <u>Charter</u> app	•	0	0
used guidance such as <u>FRA</u> <u>Handbooks</u> , <u>national</u> <u>factsheets</u> or <u>video</u>	•	0	0
used e-learning, e.g. the <u>HELP</u> online courses	0	•	0

Could you give us some more information on the good practice exchange on the use of the EU Charter in which you participated?

The Euro	pean Foundations Cent
4	▶

The European Foundations Centre (EFC) and the Donors and Foundations Network in Europe (DAFNE) together in partnership with the European Centre for Non-for-Profit Law (ECNL) created a handbook "How to Use EU Law to Protect Civic Space". This handbook, was published beginning of May 2020 https://ecnl.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/EU-Law-Handbook.pdf is an user-friendly guide for CSOs who want to know what EU law is and how it affects individuals and organisations, when and how stakeholders can challenge national provisions or measures and which legal avenues and resources are available to defend their civic space. Litigation clinics and additional trainings including CSOs and legal professionals on how to use the Charter are needed to fully develop practical knowledge and capacity of the stakeholders.

Do you think that the currently available opportunities for training on the EU Charter are sufficient?
○ Yes • No ○ Do not know
Would you be interested in receiving specific training and or/handbooks on how to use the FU

Yes No Do not know

Charter for (strategic) litigation?







B. Application of the EU Charter in law and policy-making

Are you aware	of initiative	es of you	ır Membe	er State t	o promote the EU Charter at national level?
• Yes •	No O	Do no	t know		
				ic autho	rities (national or local level) to promote the application o
the EU Charter	r, for examp	le when	they:	I	7
	Yes	No	Do not know	not part of our core task	
draft legislatior or policy initiatives		0	0	0	
make use EU funds		0	0	•	
design action pla in an area that impac fundamen rights?	ets	0	0	0	
develop measures promote t awareness of rights?	he 📵	0	0	0	
monitor legislatior and polici already in force?	es 📵	0	0	0	
Could you pro	vide some e	xamples	of this c	ooperati	on (including with whom you have cooperated)?
व			-		
		العند			
ADD NATIO	NAL EXA	MPLES :	IF AVAI	LABLE	
Does your orga	anisation co	operate	with EU	institutio	ons to promote the application of the EU Charter?
-		_			Not part of our core task
Could you pro	vide some e	xamples	of this c	ooperati	on?
Philanthropy Ac	lvocacy is mon	itoring, ra	*		
4		1			

Philanthropy Advocacy is monitoring, raising awareness and providing information to the European Commission, the European Parliament and FRA with an ask to ensure that EU and national legislation impacting the philanthropy sector is compatible with fundamental rights and European values.





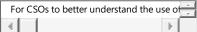


What are the challenges or obstacles that your organisation is facing in cooperating with public authorities to promote the application of the EU Charter? *between 1 and 5 choices*

000,	, con I will be only con
~	lack of access to public documents/information
	no structured/regular relationship with authorities
~	lack of interest on the side of the authorities to cooperate with civil society organisations
~	the Charter and its application are not of sufficient priority for the authorities
	our overall workload and/or lack of human resources for this task
	no funding available for this task
	this is not part of our core tasks/ we do not see sufficient added value
	do not know
	other
cou	our view, what support could national or local authorities provide to civil society organisations, so that the ld better use the EU Charter? ember States should invest in building

Member States should invest in building trust and dialogue between authorities and civil society including philanthropic actors in order to have an effective participatory approach when creating laws and policies that are in line with Charter.

In your view, what support could EU institutions/bodies provide to civil society organisations, so that they could better use the EU Charter and/or become multipliers at national level?



For CSOs including philanthropic actors to better understand the use of Charter, it is also important to make this knowledge accessible. This is especially relevant for those organisations that do not have experience with litigation or deeper knowledge on charter rights. They can benefit from using this instrument in their empowerment and advocacy efforts, allowing the Charter to reach also into the daily lives of the general public. It is therefore advised to encourage and invest in creating tools that make the effective use of the Charter more accessible to CSOs and philanthropic actors, legal advisors to the sector and the general public.

In order to enable CSOs to promote or litigate the rights in the Charter, they need better trained advisors, funding to cover trainings, but also to overcome resistance when working against unfavourable legal systems or have to deal with lack of access to justice.







Robust and flexible funding should be available especially to groups that face attacks and smear campaigns as a result of their engagement in litigation.

C.	Role of CSC)s an	d hur	nan r	ights defenders in raising awareness of					
th	e Charter a	mon	g the	oubli	C					
Do		r organ	_	•	information about their rights and about what they can do if their					
•	Yes O No	\circ D	o not k	now						
Do	you raise awarene	ss abou	t people'	s rights	and about what they can do if their rights have been violated?					
•	Yes O No	\circ D	o not k	now						
					mprove people's awareness of their EU Charter rights and of ltiple answers possible)					
V	Mainstream th	e Cha	rter in c	ur wor	k and activities					
~	Provide information sessions for the interested public (if funding is available/provided)									
	Produce comn	Produce communication material explaining the added value of using the EU Charter at national, regional and local level								
~		nent n	naterial		e EU Charter for targeted audience (people with					
~	Engage in med			debate						
~	Emphasise the	EU C	Charter i	n their	PR work					
П	Other									
					uman rights defenders in their efforts to inform people about their portant, starting with 1 being the most important in your view:					
		1	2	3						
	Training about the EU Charter (and how it can be used) for our staff/volunteers	0	•	0						
	Good practice exchange with other organisations working with	•	0	0						

	1	2	3
Training about the EU Charter (and how it can be used) for our staff/volunteers	0	•	0
Good practice exchange with other organisations working with the EU Charter	•	0	0
Earmarked EU funding provided to inform people about their EU Charter rights	•	0	0







1	2	3
0	0	0
0	0	•
0	0	0
	0	

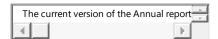
D. Commission's annual report on the application of the Charter

The Commission publishes annually a <u>report</u> on the application of the Charter of Fundamental Rights by the EU institutions and the Member States. It informs about legislative and policy work related to the Charter and about case law of the Court of Justice of the EU and of the national courts.

Are you aware of the annual report of the European Commission on the application of the Charter?

Yes No Do not know
Do you use the report in your work?
Yes No Do not know

Please share any suggestions on how the Commission's annual report on the Charter could be made more relevant and understandable for practitioners and for the public?



The current version of the Annual report on the Charter is written in a rather technical way.

Is there anything else you would like to share with us regarding the Charter of Fundamental Rights and how you work with it or would like to work with it?









Philanthropy Advocacy emphasizes the importance of monitoring of the legal and political development in the EU MS focused on the European values enshrined in the Art. 2 of the Treaty on the European Union, including the rule of law and democracy and all the rights safeguarded by the Charter. All the monitoring activities should be carried out in cooperation with civil society organisations, to follow implementation of the Charter and to establish whether there has been any relevant developments in the Member States.