

**LEHENDAKARITZA**

Europar Batasuneko eta Kanpo
Harremanetako Idazkaritza Nagusia
Kanpoan den Euskal
Komunitatearentzako Zuzendaritza

PRESIDENT'S DEPARTMENT

General Secretariat for the European
Union and Foreign Affairs
Directorate for the Basque Community Abroad

“ERALDAROA” FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL ACTION PLAN 2024-2027**INTRODUCTION**

5th March 2024 sees the ordinary meeting of the Advisory Council on Relations with Basque Communities, set up by virtue of the stipulations of article 12 of the Basque autonomous community's relationships with Basque groups and centres abroad act, Law 8/1994 of 27th May 1994.

During the meeting of the Advisory Council, this Four-Year Institutional action Plan 2024-2027 was approved, to be passed on to the institutions responsible for each of the areas covered by this plan, through their representatives on the Advisory Council.

On 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st December 2023 Donostia-San Sebastián hosted the 8th World Congress of Basque Groups Abroad, as provided for by article 13 of Law 8/1994 of 27th May 1994.

This was attended by representatives of 18 countries with an organised Basque presence included in the Basque government's official register of Euskal Etxeak.

Eraldaroa was the slogan under which the Congress took place, with the aim of marking a turning point in policies towards the Basque diaspora as a whole and meeting its needs now and in the future.

In drawing up the Four-Year Plan the conclusions resulting from the 8th Congress of Basque Groups were taken into account. In it, representatives of the Basque centres and federations argued to continue the programmes and initiatives the government has under way within the framework of its policy on relations with the diaspora, as well as for greater consideration of the presence of the Basque associative movement abroad in implementing public policy.

A structured global Basque community is an essential ally in the international positioning of the Basque Country and the Euskadi-Basque Country brand.

This plan contains four central lines of action, and is in line with the Framework Strategy for Internationalisation / Euskadi-Basque Country Strategy and Action Plan Abroad 2025:

1. Consolidating the Basque presence abroad
2. Diasporising Basque society
3. Connecting the global Basque community
4. Talent and Return

The above lines of work pursue the following goals:

1. To boost the dynamism of the Basque community abroad by supporting the activities of its associations and those that help to project Euskadi / the Basque Country wherever it may be.
2. To recognise the value of the diaspora as human, social, cultural and economic capital (transversality).
3. To boost relations between the Basque Country and its diaspora populations (Eraldaroa).
4. To make Basque society aware of its potential, through knowledge and recognition (Diasporizatu)
5. To welcome members of the diaspora wishing to return to the Basque Country on the best possible terms.
6. To align Basque diaspora policy with global approaches, positioning the Basque Country at the cutting edge.

Equality forms part of Basque culture today, so working on equality with the Basque diaspora and promoting initiatives in this respect fits into the role of action abroad as an active part thereof.

Assessing and following up the positions included in the plan is the job of the Advisory Council and must take place at least once a year, on the occasion of its annual sessions.

Moreover, during the term of the plan regional meetings are envisaged, to assess how well its execution is progressing.

A goal of the Advisory Council is to foster dissemination of the contents of the Four-Year Institutional Action Plan 2024-2027, both among the Basque diaspora and among Basque institutions.

Finally, work together with the authorities in Nafarroa (Navarre) and Iparralde (the French Basque Country) is to be encouraged.

“ERALDAROA” FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL ACTION PLAN 2024- 2027

1. Consolidating the Basque presence abroad

1.1. Financing the network of Euskal Etxeak / Basque centres and federations.

- Making improvements to the funding rounds: adjusting the amounts paid out and setting a funding calendar to adapt to the needs of the Euskal Etxeak.
- Simplifying the application process (criteria) to make it easier to enter the programme.
- Carrying out training concerning the subsidies aimed at the people who run Euskal Etxeak.

1.2. Supporting the most vulnerable people.

- Reformulating the application process for assistance in cases of extreme need, with no need for a competitive process by comparing cases, but by successive awards.

1.3. Youth.

- Gaztemundu:
 - To continue the scheme, adapting dates and content, with the aim of broadening participation.
 - Offering more places, as far as possible.
 - Areas to deal with during the plan: dance, Basque traditional music, food and drink and community management.
- Reactivating the call for applications for vocational training and postgraduate courses in the Basque Country for young people from the Euskal Etxeak.

1.4. Gender perspective.

- Promoting the equality training and awareness-raising programme aimed at the Euskal Etxeak: Berdintasunerako Eskola – Euskal Etxeak.
- Helping women and young people to play an effective part in the coordination and management bodies of the Euskal Etxeak.
- Publicising the role of women in the Basque diaspora to find out about their realities and their contribution to the economy, culture and development of a global Basque society.

1.5. Culture and the Basque language.

- Reactivation of the call for applications for cultural tours, according to the funds available and demand.
- Continuing to encourage the use of Basque in the world.

1.6. Actions in the tourist sphere.

- Tourist campaigns aimed at the Basque diaspora.

2. Diasporising Basque society

2.1. Measures for publicity/education:

- Holding Basque Diaspora Day every year.
- Exhibitions in the Basque Country about Basque emigration.
- Campaigns to gather materials for the Basque Diaspora Archive.

2.2. Actions in the educational sphere.

- School curriculum.
- Basque diaspora master's programme.
- Basque diaspora studies.

2.3. Setting up the migration visitor centre.

2.4. The media.

- Adapting communication concerning Basque diaspora policy.

3. Connecting the global Basque community

3.1. Updating Law 8/1994 of 27th May 1994 by passing a new Basque diaspora act to govern relations with the diaspora.

To be done through a parliamentary bill, seeking to reach maximum consensus between parliamentary groups, as in 1994.

Planned date: 2025

3.2. Regulatory implementation of the new act to implement its provisions.

Planned date: 2027

3.3. Conducting the "zenbat gara" study and/or mapping

- i. Basques resident abroad.
- ii. Historical diaspora.
- iii. Affinity diaspora: friends of Basque.

Planned date: 2024-2026

3.4. Organisation of a Conference of Experts with academics, politicians and representatives of Basque diasporas.

Planned date: 2025

3.5. Taking part in international forums on diasporas.

Annually.

3.6. Develop a platform as an online meeting place for the Basque diaspora. HAN-HEMEN.

Implementation date: 2024-2025

4. Talent and Return

- 4.1. Promoting an integrated Basque return policy.
- 4.2. Recognition of equivalent qualifications.

To put into practice all the provisions of this Plan will require a significant increase in financial and human resources.