

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

EUSPA/GRANT/01/2026

Receiver box for PRS civilian applications

Lump Sum grant procedure

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1. CONTEXT

1.1. Overview

The present Call for Proposal with its annexes provides the Applicants with the terms and conditions to be respected in order to submit a proposal and participate to the grant procedure.

The funding provided by EUSPA to the beneficiaries will take the form of a **lump sum contribution**.

Lump sum contribution will be determined for each grant by EUSPA based on the following principles:

- a) The lump sum contribution must be an approximation of the beneficiaries' underlying actual costs;
- b) The applicants must propose the amount of the lump sum contribution based on their estimated direct and indirect project costs and in accordance with the method described in sections 12.2 and 12.3 below;
- c) The lump sum contribution shall be divided per work-packages as further described in section 2.5 below.

Payments to the beneficiaries do not depend on the costs actually incurred.

The lump sum contribution will be paid by EUSPA in two instalments: (i) as pre-financing (at the beginning of the project in the amount of 70% of the grant value) and (ii) as payment of the balance. At the end of the project, the pre-financing will be cleared and payment of the balance paid if the corresponding work packages of the action have been properly implemented in accordance with *Description of the Action* (and provided that all other obligations under the grant agreement have been complied with). For more information please see section 12.6 below.

In case the work packages of the action have not been properly implemented in accordance with *Description of the Action*, the lump sum contributions for the relevant work package will not be paid /pre-financing will not be cleared and the final grant is reduced by an amount up to the value of the lump sum contributions per work package concerned, following a contradictory procedure with the beneficiary/coordinator.

Further information is provided in the sections below.

NOTA BENE: Interested parties are invited to read carefully everything below to ensure that applications are complete and compliant with the call for proposal's terms and conditions when submitted.

1.2. Introduction

Applications developed under this grant shall address the governmentally authorised user communities and scenarios for which the technical, operational and security related features of PRS Service constitute barriers to entry.

The applications should target well-identified operational environments in which the PRS features (e.g. continuity of service and access control) may play a differentiator role. Representatives of potential user communities should be involved as far as possible in the development of the prototypical applications.

The mission of the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA) is defined by the EU Space Regulation¹ (1). EUSPA's mission is, *inter alia*, to be the user-oriented operational Agency of the EU Space Programme, contributing to sustainable growth, security and safety of the European Union.

Galileo, one of the components of the EU Space Programme, is the European Global Navigation Satellite System (EGNSS). It is a system under civilian control, intended to provide navigation services to users, including reliable services for specific user communities. Galileo signals are compatible and interoperable with those ones of other GNSS constellations: by combining ranging measurements from Galileo satellites together with those acquired from other constellations, users can enhance the robustness and continuity of positioning, navigation and timing (PNT) solutions.

In addition to its Open Service, Galileo provides the **Public Regulated Service (PRS)**, a secure and encrypted service designed for authorised governmental users and applications requiring high resilience and service continuity. PRS ensures reliable PNT information even under adverse conditions, including intentional interference such as jamming or spoofing, thanks to controlled access, encrypted signals, and dedicated security governance. This makes PRS particularly suitable for sensitive operations, crisis management, law enforcement, civil protection, and the protection of critical infrastructures.

Access to PRS is strictly regulated at Member State level and supported by dedicated security procedures and infrastructures to guarantee the appropriate handling of classified and sensitive information. The service is therefore a key element of European strategic autonomy, enabling trusted navigation and timing capabilities for governmental and security-critical applications across the European Union.

For a detailed description of Galileo services, including PRS characteristics, governance, and user access conditions, reference should be made to the European GNSS Service Centre documentation repository and the Programme Reference Documents, which provide the latest technical and operational information.

1.3. Legal basis of the call

This call is based on:

- the EU Space Regulation;
- the Contribution Agreement concluded between the European Union, represented by the European Commission, and the European Union Agency for the Space programme (EUSPA) on the Implementation of the Union Space Programme and Horizon Europe signed on 22 June 2021;
- The Decision of the Executive Director of EUSPA authorising the use of lump sums contributions in grants falling within the tasks of the Agency, as set out under Article 29 of the Space Regulation;
- The Financial Regulation²;
- Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/443 of 13 March 2015 on Security in the Commission and its Implementing Rules such as COMMISSION DECISION (EU, Euratom) 2019/1961 of 17 October 2019 on implementing rules for handling CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL and SECRET UE/EU SECRET

¹ Regulation (EU) 2021/696 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing the Union Space Programme and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme and repealing Regulations (EU) No 912/2010, (EU) No 1285/2013 and (EU) No 377/2014 and Decision No 541/2014/EU

² Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast) repealing REGULATION (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union.

information, COMMISSION DECISION (EU, Euratom) 2019/1962 of 17 October 2019 on implementing rules for handling RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED information, COMMISSION DECISION (EU, Euratom) 2019/1962 of 17 October 2019 on implementing rules for handling RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED information, made applicable through the Security Aspects Letter (SAL);

- Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information and its Implementing Rules such as COMMISSION DECISION (EU, Euratom) 2019/1961 of 17 October 2019 on implementing rules for handling CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL and SECRET UE/EU SECRET information, COMMISSION DECISION (EU, Euratom) 2019/1962 of 17 October 2019 on implementing rules for handling RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED information, made applicable through the Security Aspects Letter (SAL);
- Decision of EUSPA Administrative Board on the Security Rules for protecting EU Classified Information (Ref; EUSPA-SEC-AB-DEC-A22114, version 1.0)³, made applicable through the Security Aspects Letter (SAL);
- Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2019/1963 of 17 October 2019 laying down implementing rules on industrial security with regard to classified procurement contracts, made applicable through the Security Aspects Letter (SAL).

In this framework, and in accordance with the Annual Work Plan as approved by the European Commission and the EUSPA Single Programming Document published on the EUSPA website (https://www.euspa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/gsa-oed-spr-rpt-a10628_1.0_spd_2021-2023_0.pdf), EUSPA is launching a call for proposals for the development of a PRS receiver box intended for civilian governmental applications, providing secure and resilient positioning and timing through Galileo's Public Regulated Service. The solution focuses on a compact, deployable architecture with simple and standardised interfaces, enabling straightforward integration into existing systems while facilitating the adoption of secure GNSS capabilities by authorised users.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL AND SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

2.1. Objective of the call for proposals

This call for proposal aims to boost the EU industry competitiveness in the highly strategic domain of authorized, civilian PNT and to foster the equipment of authorized users with the Galileo PRS capacity.

Applicants are requested to submit proposals fulfilling the following high-level tasks:

- Definition of use cases, host application platforms, mission requirements together with the identified, national non-military key stakeholders.
- Standardization and development of operational receiver hosting systems (i.e., receiver boxes) with their antennas and key management utilities.
- Development and adaption of PRS Application Modules (PRS-AM) solutions based on conventional PRS receivers (i.e., with integrated security modules) but also server-based approaches (i.e., security module outsourced to a secure environment).

³ https://www.euspa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/euspa-sec-ab-dec-a22114_security_rules_for_protecting_euci.pdf

- Demonstration of the solutions in national and EU test and validation campaigns, confirming the readiness of the developed solutions for the authorized civil governmental stakeholders.

NB: As an opportunity, the tests for requirements' verification and performance acceptance might be partially performed in collaboration and with the support of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) at the European Commission in Ispra, Italy. There are no additional costs for the awarded beneficiaries related to these testing activities for what concerns the use the JRC facilities and the involvement of the JRC experts. However, the beneficiaries shall include the travel and transportation costs in their proposal.

Should the beneficiaries consider this option, a preliminary plan should be defined already in the proposal which defines an indicative schedule for testing, specifying the phases in which JRC resources would be needed. The plan will be subject to EUSPA approval and an agreement should be established with JRC for accessing and using their facilities and equipment.

2.2. Scope of the project

Sovereign EU positioning, navigation, timing (PNT), and synchronisation is a key dual-use application. EU projects such as EDIDP-GEODE (Galileo PRS for EU Defence) promote the military market regarding the requirements of the EU Member States' Ministries of Defence (MoD). There is also a need for a robust and resilient PNT solution based on Galileo Public Regulated Service (PRS) for Member States' authorised civil users, such as police, fire brigades, search and rescue, etc., especially in crisis situations. The de facto standard is the use of consumer GNSS devices, which are neither qualified nor robust to prevent brute force electronic attacks (BFEA) to critical applications – assumed to be used in situation of crisis from the Member State itself or from their allies. Proper cybersecurity also requires a robust and qualified alternative to consumer receivers.

Several EU Member States' industries have already developed PRS Application Modules (PRS-AM), mostly driven by their national defence ministries' requirements. These modules are intended to be integrated into hosting receiver systems - often with the possibility of dual-mode mixed GNSS/Galileo PRS cards.

In order to reach the objective(s) of this call, applicants are expected to develop a hosting receiver systems (i.e., receiver box) providing the interface between the GNSS antenna, the auxiliary sensors and the host application, including the provision of their information to the host system user interface. A pan-European standardization effort is needed to have common use of these host receiver systems, ready to be equipped with PRS-AMs from different nations, which will allow EU-wide cooperation and competition at the same time. It will strengthen EU sovereignty and increase the resilience of authorised forces. The standardisation process shall also include the module of PRS Application to properly exploit the outlined advantages.

This identified use case concerns the operations of a land emergency vehicle equipped with a GNSS receiver in an urban environment (it is important to specify the urban environment because it represents the most challenging scenario for the operation of the receiver due to multipath and interference phenomena caused by buildings). The vehicle requires high precision, high reliability and robust service, therefore the GNSS receiver will need to rely on PRS to ensure robustness, integrity, authenticity and continuity of service. Furthermore, the stored PRS data can be used to reconstruct the vehicle's route in the event of an accident (as an accident recorder).

The application for maritime and airborne emergency vehicle, as well as portable devices, can be evaluated/demonstrated (by read-across) using tests with the land vehicle prototype, on the understanding that as an outcome of the project at least two prototypes shall be manufactured.

Furthermore, the prototype must be representative of low-end applications.

2.3. Core Activities

For the purpose of this call the following activities (belonging to one or more of the areas described above in section 2.2) are considered **core** to the project:

- Management and coordination.
- User requirements definition and validation.
- Design and development plan
- Testing and validation plan.

2.4. Deliverables

During the implementation of the action the beneficiaries are expected to submit a number of deliverables (some of them being documents and/or hardware).

The list of deliverables shall include at least the following:

	Deliverable	Classification/PR S need-to-know	Kick-Off Meeting (KOM)	System Requirements Review (SRR)	Design Review (DR)	Acceptance Review (AR)
1	PRS Information Management Plan (PIMP)	R-UE/EU-R	X			
2	Survey report on the user communities and use cases identification	up to R-UE/EU-R		X		
3	User requirements	up to R-UE/EU-R PRS-USE		X		
4	System requirements	up to C-UE/EU-C PRS-USE, PRS-RCV		X		
5	Interface Control Documents	up to C-UE/EU-C PRS-RCV			X	
6	User Manual	Up to R-UE/EU-R PRS-USE				X
7	Integration Guide	Up to R-UE/EU-R PRS-RCV			X	X

	Deliverable	Classification/PRS need-to-know	Kick-Off Meeting (KOM)	System Requirements Review (SRR)	Design Review (DR)	Acceptance Review (AR)
8	Test Plan	up to C-UE/EU-C PRS-RCV			X	
9	In-vehicle integration, test and validation report at national level	Up to R-UE/EU-R PRS-RCV				X
10	Demo sessions report at national level	Up to R-UE/EU-R PRS-USE				X
11	Dissemination and communication report	UNCLASSIFIED				X
12	Lessons Learned and Exploitations report	Up to R-UE/EU-R PRS-USE				X
13	Progress Report	UNCLASSIFIED		X	X	
14	Final Report	UNCLASSIFIED				X

Any deviation from the above list of deliverables shall be properly justified by the Applicant as part of the proposal.

In case the Applicant decides to add additional deliverables, the proposal shall clearly identify the additional deliverables along with their intended classification level and PRS need-to-know.

2.5. Project Workflow

The project workflow shall be organised into several work packages with clear indication which deliverables and milestones every work package includes. The work package description shall:

- specify activities which will be part of the work package and identify which applicant will lead them, and which applicant(s) will contribute to their achievement
- identify the deliverables applicable to each work package. Aggregation of the deliverables into work packages should be rational, logical, credible and traceable vis-a-vis the scope of the relevant work package.
- Specify the duration of each work package (starting month and month in which the work package will be concluded).

The proposed workflow shall in principle contain the following milestones:

- Kick-Off Meeting (KOM)
- System Requirements Review (SRR)
- Design Review (DR)
- Acceptance Review (AR)

The applicant can propose a different project workflow, if considered beneficial to better achievement of the project objectives. However, any deviations shall be duly justified and will be evaluated against the award criteria (Section 10).

3. TIMELINE

3.1. Timeline

This call for proposals shall be conducted according to the following timetable:

	Stages	Date/time or indicative period
a)	Publication of the call	10 June 2026
b)	Deadline for submission of the NDU	19 June 2026. In accordance with Section 3.2. The time period for submission of a request for entering into an NDU is advisable and aims at ensuring enough time for the applicants to prepare their proposals.
c)	Deadline for request for clarifications	23 July 2026
d)	Publication of the clarifications	25 July 2026
e)	Deadline for submitting applications	31 July 2026
f)	Evaluation period	July-August 2026 (indicative)
g)	Information to applicants on the outcome of the evaluation	September 2026 (indicative)
h)	Signature of the grant agreement	October 2026 (indicative)

Indicative duration of the action under (each) grant agreement: **3 years**

Starting date for the action is the first day of the month following the signature of the Grant Agreement.

Exceptionally, the starting date for the action can be before the Grant Agreement signature provided that the applicant(s) can demonstrate the need for starting the action prior to signature of the Grant Agreement⁴.

In order for the granting authority to check that the above conditions are met the applicant(s) shall:

- notify EUSPA of the date when action needs to start
- justify reasons for 'early start of the action'

either directly in the proposal or in subsequent formal letter sent to the EUSPA (before the grant agreement signature).

Approval of the 'early start of the action', if granted, will be communicated to the applicant(s) through a formal EUSPA letter only if the applicant will be awarded a grant and the grant agreement will be signed by both parties. In the Grant Agreement the 'starting date' of the action will be set accordingly.

NOTA BENE: In the estimated budget only costs planned to be incurred after the date of the proposal submission can be included.

⁴ Article 196(2) of the REGULATION (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509

3.2. Submission of a Non-Disclosure Undertaking (NDU): Access to EU Proprietary Information

In anticipation of protection of the essential security interest of the Union and its Member States, in accordance with Article 24 of the Space Regulation, only entities (potential Applicants or sub-contractors) which, according to the submitted Identification Form and supporting documents, are established in a Member State of the European Union are eligible to receive Proprietary Information. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not constitute the assessment of compliance with the Participation Conditions established in Section 7.2 and is without prejudice to the outcome of such assessment. The assessment of compliance with the Participation Condition will be performed against the Applicants after the submission of the proposals. In addition, the Proprietary Information is only available to potential Applicants or sub-contractors.

The Applicant (including any group member and/or sub-contractor(s)) participating in this call for proposals shall treat with confidentiality any information and documents, disclosed in any form, in writing or orally, in relation to the call for proposals.

The Applicant or the Coordinator may request access to the Proprietary Information (PRS Receiver Requirements [AD-2]), which is relevant for drafting the proposal. Access will be granted only upon signature of a Non-Disclosure Undertaking ('NDU') and delivery of the documents identified below. EUSPA will dispatch the Proprietary Information in electronic form only.

Economic operators are advised to abide by the deadline specified in Section 3.1 in order to have enough time for preparation of their proposal.

The NDU must be signed only by the Applicant or the Coordinator. The Applicant or Coordinator, with the signing of the NDU, further irrevocably and explicitly declares to ensure that the provisions under the NDU shall apply wholly and unconditionally to any members of the group and/or any of the sub-contractor(s) and any personnel it may draw on for the preparation of the proposal.

For this purpose, the Applicant or Coordinator shall submit:

1. NDU using the form attached in Annex IX.1;
2. Proof that the person signing the NDU is authorised to represent the Applicant;
3. Identification Form (the "IF") and the supporting documents indicated in the IF. The IF and the supporting evidence shall not be older than 1 year from the time of submission of the NDU provided that no change occurred in the legal status in the meantime. If any change in the legal status occurred, up-to-date documents shall be submitted;
4. Evidence of a valid authorisation issued by the Security Accreditation Board (as per template Annex X). For the avoidance of doubt, this does not constitute the assessment of compliance with the selection criterion "PRS SAB Authorisation" established in Section 9.3.1 and is without prejudice to the outcome of such assessment. The assessment of compliance with the selection criterion "PRS SAB Authorisation" will be performed against the Applicants after the submission of the proposals. For the purpose of obtaining access to the Proprietary Information, the Applicant shall submit:
 - a. a formal statement by the relevant CPA using the corresponding template in Annex X and specifying the PRS category/-ies for which Authorisation(s) has/have been issued;
 - or**
 - b. a Decision of the SAB (including any of its technical annexes) proving the required Authorisation(s);

or

- c. a formal statement by the relevant CPA using the corresponding template in Annex X and specifying the PRS category/-ies for which the process of obtaining the Authorisation(s) has been initiated.

5. A PRS Information Management Plan (PIMP, as per template Annex XI). For the purpose of obtaining access to the Proprietary Information, the guidance contained in Annex XI for the first version of the PIMP applies.

If possible, the Applicants should submit the documentation only electronically to grants@euspa.europa.eu. In such case, the NDU must be signed electronically with a Qualified Electronic Signature (QES) of the Applicants. This electronic signature must be provided by a provider which has a qualified status granted by a national competent authority of an EU Member State and which is listed in the national eIDAS Trusted Lists and the EU List of eIDAS Trusted Lists (LOTL) (available at [eIDAS Dashboard \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/eidas/lotl/)).

In case an Applicant prefers to submit it on paper, all documentation shall be sent to the following address:

European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA)
Procurement and Legal Department
Non-Disclosure Undertaking under procurement procedure EUSPA/GRANT/01/26
Janovského 438/2
170 00 Prague 7
Holešovice, Czech Republic

In such case, the Applicant shall send the scans of the documents above to grants@euspa.europa.eu in parallel, to allow for a faster treatment of the request, together with a proof of dispatch of the originals. Before disclosure the Proprietary Information within their consortium, the Applicant shall ensure that such member(s):

- Have proven need to know for the purpose of participation / supporting Applicant's proposal in the present call for proposals;
- Are bound by the same provisions as those of the NDU signed by them.

EUSPA may further request submission of the NDU signed by consortium member(s) for verification. Without prejudice to further legal measures, exchange of any Proprietary Information subject to NDU with any entity who has not previously signed the relevant NDU may lead to rejection from the call for proposals under the discretion of the Contracting Authority.

Agreements previously signed by economic operators for access to Proprietary Information not related to this call for proposals are not regarded as fulfilling the present requirements for the NDU.

Entities having received information under NDU as described in this Section, which decide not to submit a proposal, must, within 15 (fifteen) working days from the deadline for submission of proposal (see table in Section 3.1), follow the obligations detailed in Article 4 of the NDU.

Likewise, an unsuccessful Applicant is required to follow the obligations detailed in Article 4 of the NDU, within 15 (fifteen) working days after the receipt of notification stating that it has not been selected. Likewise, if the call for proposal is cancelled, the Applicant is required to follow the obligations detailed in Article 4 of the NDU, within 15 (fifteen) working days after the receipt of notification of the cancellation of the procedure.

Further, the Applicant or Coordinator must use all reasonable endeavours to ensure compliance with Article 4 of the NDU by any entity that received Proprietary Information as a result of the NDU signature.

4. EU FINANCING

Maximum budget allocated for EU financing under this action: **EUR 2M**

Indicative number of projects: up to 1 project

Maximum EU co-financing rate of eligible costs: **70%**

Publication of the call does not guarantee the availability of funds for the above action, and it places no obligation on EUSPA to award grants to any applicant.

EUSPA reserves the right to award a grant of less than the amount requested by the applicant. Grants will not be awarded for more than the amount requested.

5. ROLES OF APPLICANT(S)

5.1. Entities involved in the activities subject to the proposal

The proposal shall clearly identify the entities (legal and/or natural persons) to be involved in the activities subject to the proposal, being the applicant(s) (including **coordinator and co-applicants**) as well as any third parties, such as **affiliated entities and subcontractors** and their contributions to the implementation of the proposal under the grant agreement. Parties' participation in the project will be subject to the requirements as laid down in this Call for Proposals.

5.2. Single Applicant

In case the proposal is submitted by a single applicant, it will be considered as mono-beneficiary grant if the proposal is selected for award.

5.3. Coordinator

If the proposal is submitted by a group of several co-applicants they will form a consortium and will become consortium members. The consortium members (multi-beneficiaries) should choose amongst them a lead organisation, referred to as the "Coordinator".

The Coordinator submits the application on behalf of the consortium and will be the intermediary for all communication between the Consortium (i.e. co-beneficiaries) and EUSPA as well as responsible for supplying all documents and information to EUSPA in due time upon request.

The Coordinator will also be responsible for distribution of pre-financing payment/payment of the balance received from EUSPA to the co-beneficiaries.

5.4. Co-applicant(s)

Each co-applicant will be considered as co-beneficiary if the proposal is selected for award. Before signature of the grant agreement, all applicants within the consortium shall agree upon appropriate arrangements between themselves for the proper performance of the specific actions.

Co-applicants shall immediately inform the coordinator of any event which can substantially affect or delay the implementation of the action. The coordinator will inform EUSPA in accordance with the grant agreement and will ensure compliance with all the terms and conditions provided in the draft grant agreement.

The coordinator and all co-applicants forming the consortium must satisfy all the criteria as further specified below.

5.5. Affiliated entities

Legal persons having a legal or capital link with the applicant(s), which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation, may take part in the action as affiliated entities, and will be entitled to receive payment according to the lump sum scheme. For that purpose, the applicant(s) shall identify such affiliated entities in the application forms and in the proposal.

Each affiliated entity shall have to comply with the same criteria (eligibility including participation conditions, (non)exclusion from participation, (non)rejection from award, selection criteria as those applying to the applicant(s) and submit the same forms, including the forms proving the financial and operational capacity (see section 9.1 and 9.2 below).

5.6. Subcontractors

Subcontracting⁵ refers to contracts concluded for the externalisation of specific tasks or activities which form part of the action.

The beneficiaries remain solely responsible for the implementation of the action. Subcontracting is not allowed among the beneficiaries in the project.

Please note that the applicants must have the necessary operational capacity to perform the project themselves, without relying on subcontractors. The operational capacity will be assessed at the time of the evaluation of the proposal (please see section 9.2 below).

Subcontracting of specific tasks or activities (i.e. the externalisation) which form part of the action as described in the proposal must satisfy the conditions applicable to any implementation contract (as specified above) and in addition to them, the following conditions:

- a. it may only cover the implementation of a limited part of the action and **shall in no case cover core activities as described in Section 2.3;**
- b. it must be justified having regard to the nature of the action and what is **necessary for its implementation;**
- c. it must be clearly **stated in the proposal.**

The beneficiaries must award the subcontract to the bid offering best value for money or the lowest price (as appropriate), avoiding conflicts of interests and retain the relevant documentation for the event of an

⁵ Article 208 of the REGULATION (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509

audit. The sub-contract shall be awarded in accordance with the conditions set in the grant agreement. Entities acting in their capacity of contracting authorities in the meaning of Directive 2014/24/EC⁶ or contracting entities in the meaning of Directive 2014/25/EC⁷ shall abide by the applicable national public procurement rules.

The subcontracted tasks must be set out in the description of the action (i.e. form B1 and Annex I to the grant agreement) and the estimated costs of subcontracting must be stated in the estimated budget (Form C1).

Each subcontractor entity shall have to comply with the same criteria as those applying to the applicant(s) and submit the same forms, at the exception of the forms proving the financial and operational capacity (see section 9.1 and 9.2 below).

6. ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

APPLICATIONS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

Applications must comply with all of the following conditions in order to be admissible:

- Applications must be sent no later than the deadline for submitting applications referred to in section 3.1 and 17,
- Applications must be submitted in writing, using the submission set described in section 16,
- Applications must be drafted in one of the EU official languages with a preference to English. For further information please refer to section 17 below,
- Applications must respect the maximum rate for EU co-financing⁸.

7. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

APPLICANTS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

Applicant(s) may participate in multiple applicant consortia if the actions covered in the respective Technical Proposals (B1 form) are different from each other in order to comply with the principle of non-cumulative financing and award.

An applicant cannot be a Restricted Person and fall under the scope of subject to EU Restrictive Measures in the list published at www.sanctionsmap.eu. In case of discrepancies between 'sanctionsmap.eu' and the restrictive measures published in Official Journal of the EU, the latter prevails.

Certain supporting documents proving compliance with the eligibility criteria need to be provided. For the list please see section 16.1.2 below.

⁶ Directive 2014/24/EC on public procurement and repealing Directive 2014/18/EC.

⁷ Directive 2014/25/EC on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors and repealing Directive 2004/17/EC.

⁸ Proposals exceeding the applicable maximum EU co-financing rate for this call (see section 4) shall not be considered further and will be rejected.

7.1. Multi-beneficiary proposal - Structure of the consortium

In the case of multiple co-applicants, the coordinator will submit the proposal on behalf of the consortium.

The proposal must be submitted by a consortium composed of at least two (2) entities out of which:

- **the coordinator shall be a legal person;**
- **the co-applicant(s) can be either a legal and/or a natural person(s).**

The grant agreement shall be signed by the coordinator of the successful consortium, provided that a mandate (Annex XIV of the grant agreement) has been provided to it by each co-applicant. Such mandates shall be annexed to the grant agreement.

7.2. Participation Conditions

7.2.1. Eligibility and participation conditions for beneficiaries (Applicants, Affiliated Entities, and subcontractors involved in security sensitive activities)

In order to protect the essential security interests of the Union and its Member States, in accordance with Article 24 of Regulation (EU) 2021/696⁹, the participation to this Call for Proposal is open to economic operators fulfilling the following three cumulative conditions (the eligibility and participation conditions as per Art. 24, hereafter, the “**Participation Conditions**”):

- a) the legal entity is established in a Member State and its executive management structures are established in that Member State.
 - An economic operator is considered to be established in a Member State when it is formed in accordance with the law of a Member State, and it has its central administration, registered office and principal place of business in a Member State (if legal persons) or it is a national of one of the Member States (if natural persons);
 - ‘Executive management structure’ means the body of the legal entity appointed in accordance with national law, and which, where applicable, reports to the chief executive officer or any other person having comparable decisional power, and which is empowered to establish the legal entity's strategy, objectives and overall direction, and oversees and monitors management decision-making;
- b) the legal entity commits to carry out all relevant activities in one or more Member States; and
- c) the legal entity is not subject to control by a third country or third country entity. For the purpose of this paragraph, ‘control’ means the ability to exercise a decisive influence over a legal entity directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediate legal entities.

Participation Conditions shall be met at the moment of submission of the proposal and throughout the whole duration of the resulting Grant Agreement, if awarded, and will be checked by the Granting Authority at the moment of the submission of the proposal. In case of any changes related to the compliance with

⁹ Regulation (EU) 2021/696 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing the Union Space Programme and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme and repealing Regulations (EU) No 912/2010, (EU) No 1285/2013 and (EU) No 377/2014 and Decision No 541/2014/EU, OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 69–148.

Participation Conditions, the economic operator, which was awarded the Grant Agreement, is obliged to inform the Granting Authority about the changes without delay.

The criteria for the assessment of Participation Conditions has been laid out in Annex XIII (Parts 1, 2 and 3), including in a dedicated Annex XIII - Part 2 to be filled by the Applicants, Affiliated Entities, and subcontractors involved in security sensitive activities. Please note that for the assessment of control the filling-in, signature and submission of the Declaration of Ownership and Control in Annex XIII - Part 2 is required.

The document entitled “Criteria for Assessment of Participation Conditions” available in Annex XIII Part 1 describes the information to be provided by the Applicant(s) (including Affiliated Entities and subcontractors involved in security sensitive activities) which will be used to assess compliance with Participation Conditions.

Additional guidelines on the criteria which will be applied and the circumstances which will be taken into account by the Granting Authority and the competent evaluation boards to assess the situation of decisive influence in connection with the assessment of criterion c) above are contained in Annex XIII – Part 3.

Applicant(s) (including Affiliated Entities and subcontractors involved in security sensitive activities) which have formally submitted the information/documents/supporting evidence requested in Annex XIII in another procedure of the European Commission or EUSPA to which the Space Regulation and its Art. 24 apply, may be exempted from repeating the exercise, if the information/documents/supporting evidence provided in the other procedure are still valid and up-to-date at the date of submission of the proposal.

In this case, the Applicant(s) (including Affiliated Entities and subcontractors involved in security sensitive activities) shall declare on its/their honour that the documentary evidence has already been provided in a previous procedure as per the above, provide reference to that procedure (in Annex to the Cover letter) and confirm that there has been no change in the situation as to the Participation Conditions indicated above under points a), b) and c) above.

Notwithstanding the above, upon request of the Granting Authority, the information /documents/supporting evidence already submitted as per the above, shall be resubmitted.

Participation Conditions shall apply individually to legal entities belonging to the group of economic operators which submitted the proposal, as follows:

- to each Applicant (including co-Applicants, if any);
- to each Affiliated Entities;
- to each subcontractor involved in security-sensitive activities.

For the purpose of Participation Conditions, “security-sensitive activities” are activities related to the following: (A) any activity concerning the creation, management and dissemination of PRS information and (B) access, handling, sharing or creation of EU classified information (EUCI).

7.2.2. Participation conditions for Applicants and Affiliated Entities – No waiver

Due to the security dimension and essential interests related to the activities under the Grant Agreement, the Granting Authority will not accept requests for waiver of the conditions laid down in points a), b) and c) of paragraph 7.2.1 above for Applicants and Affiliated Entities.

7.2.3. Participation conditions for subcontractors involved in security sensitive activities - Waiver

In this procurement the Granting Authority may decide, upon a motivated and justified request, to waive the condition laid down under point c) of section 7.2.1 above with regard to any entity, which applies as a subcontractor involved in security-sensitive activities.

The request for waiver on point c) of section 7.2.1 shall include the assessment from a competent authority of a Member State in which the entity is established guaranteeing that:

- a) control over the entity is not exercised in a manner that restrains or restricts its ability to:
 - (i) carry out the grant; and
 - (ii) deliver results, in particular through reporting obligations;
- b) the controlling third country or third country entity commits to refrain from exercising any controlling rights over or imposing reporting obligations on the entity in relation to the grant; and
- c) the entity in question has taken all the necessary measures to comply with Article 34(7) of Regulation 2021/696 in particular with regards to the protection of EU classified information.

The request for waiver shall be made at the moment of the submission of the proposal.

The decision on the waiver shall be taken having regard to the objectives laid down in Article 24 (1) of the Regulation 2021/696.

8. EXCLUSION AND REJECTION FROM AWARD CRITERIA

APPLICANTS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE EXCLUSION CRITERIA SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

Articles 137-144 of the Financial Regulation¹⁰ shall apply to applicants.

8.1. Exclusion from participation

Exclusion criteria are specified in the standard **Declaration of Honour (A3 Form)** of this Call and apply to all applicants **and all affiliated entities and subcontractors**.

Financial penalties may be imposed on applicants that are guilty of misrepresentation.

8.2. Rejection from award

Applicants, affiliated entities and subcontractors will be rejected from award if they:

- are in exclusion situation established in the A3 form;
- have misrepresented the information required by EUSPA as a condition of participation in the grant award procedure or fail to supply this information upon request by EUSPA;
- were previously involved in the preparation of the call for proposal documents where this entails a breach of the principle of equality of treatment, including distortion of competition that cannot be remedied otherwise;
- has a professional conflicting interest which may negatively affect the performance of the grant agreement.

¹⁰ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509

9. SELECTION CRITERIA

APPLICATIONS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE SELECTION CRITERIA SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

9.1. Financial capacity

Applicants (including affiliated entities) must have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activity throughout the period during which the action is carried out. The applicants' financial capacity will be assessed on the basis of the following supporting documents to be submitted with the application by each applicant and affiliated entity (thresholds shall apply to each applicant):

- a) grant amount < EUR 750 000:
 - a Declaration of Honour (A3 Form) and,
 - a table provided for in the application form (A5 Form), filled in with the relevant statutory accounting figures, in order to calculate the ratios as detailed in the form. For newly created legal persons, a business plan might replace the above documents.
- b) grant amount ≥ EUR 750 000:
 - in addition to the above, an audit report produced by an approved external auditor, where it is available, and always in cases where a statutory audit is required by Union or national law, certifying the accounts for the last three available financial years. In all other cases, the applicant shall provide a self-declaration signed by its authorised representative certifying the validity of its accounts for the last three available financial year.

In case the applicant already provided above documents (i.e. audit reports or self-declaration) to EUSPA within a scope of a different grant/procurement procedure in the same financial year, the applicant then only needs to make a reference to that procedure without having to provide the documents again.

On the basis of the documents submitted, if EUSPA considers that financial capacity is not satisfactory and in any other case EUSPA may deem it appropriate, it may:

- request further information;
- propose a grant agreement without pre-financing;
- propose a grant agreement with a lower percentage of a pre-financing;
- propose a grant agreement with a pre-financing covered by a bank guarantee (see section 12.7 below);
- reject the application.

The verification of the financial capacity **shall not apply to:**

- public bodies, including Member State organisations;
- international organisations;
- natural persons in receipt of education support;
- natural persons most in need, such as unemployed persons and refugees, and in receipt of direct support;
- persons or entities applying for interest rate rebates and guarantee fee subsidies where the objective of those rebates and subsidies is to reinforce the financial capacity of a beneficiary or to generate an income.
- persons or entities applying for very low value grants¹¹.

¹¹ 'very low value grant' means a grant lower than or equal to EUR 15 000.

Where an application is submitted by multiple applicants, the authorising officer responsible may, following a risk assessment, decide to check the financial capacity of only the lead applicant¹².

9.2. Operational capacity (A4 Form)

The applicant(s), together with Affiliated Entities (cumulatively), shall demonstrate a balanced expertise in the areas needed to carry out the activities defined in section 2 above.

Applicants, together with Affiliated Entities, must show they have the **operational (technical and management) capacity** to complete the activities to be supported by this Call for Proposal and must **demonstrate their capacity to manage the activities** corresponding to the size of the project for which the grant is requested.

9.3. Legal and regulatory capacity

9.3.1. PRS SAB Authorisation

Any entity within the applicant consortium (coordinator, applicant, affiliated entity, subcontractors) excluding Competent PRS Authority (CPA), which will be in charge of PRS-related activities and/or will need to handle PRS Information (classified and/or unclassified) shall have, at the latest before the award (as further specified below), the appropriate PRS SAB Authorisation(s), depending on the type of PRS activities it will undertake: PRS Support (PRS SUP), PRS receiver manufacturing (PRS RCV), PRS Security module manufacturing (PRS SM).

Please note that within the applicant Consortium (coordinator, co-applicant, affiliated entity and any subcontractors) excluding CPA, only the categories of SAB Authorisations needed to perform the proposed activities must be covered.

NB: Please note that when a specific activity requires more than one type of PRS SAB Authorisation, the beneficiary may arrange, within its consortium, to split the activities among the entities possessing the PRS SAB Authorisation(s) required for the specific activity, without the need for a single entity to possess all the required Authorisations.

NB: Please note that any inquiries / issues pertaining to (the process of obtaining) the PRS SAB Authorisation(s) shall be addressed directly to the relevant Competent PRS Authority ("CPA").

To demonstrate the above, the applicant shall submit as part of its proposal:

- For each entity being in charge of PRS-related activities and/or planned to handle PRS Information, the evidence that such entity has the Authorisation by the Security Accreditation Board ("SAB") in the applicable PRS category/-ies as indicated above or that its request has been initiated. Such evidence shall come in the form of:
 - (i) a formal statement by the relevant CPA using the corresponding template in Annex X and specifying the PRS category/-ies for which Authorisation(s) has/have been issued;
 - or*
 - (ii) a Decision of the SAB (including any of its technical annexes) proving the required Authorisation(s);
 - or*

¹² Article 201(5) of the Financial Regulation

- (iii) a formal statement by the relevant CPA using the corresponding template in Annex X and specifying the PRS category/-ies for which the process of obtaining the Authorisation(s) has been initiated.

In such latter case, the process shall be accomplished and Authorisation(s) granted at the latest before the award. Also, the official documentation (as per items (i) or (ii) above) shall be delivered to EUSPA at the latest before the award. Failing the submission of such official documentation within the deadline indicated by EUSPA may lead to the rejection of the proposal.

Note: The evidence listed under items (i), (ii), and (iii) above shall come in the form of annex to the Project PRS Information Management Plan (PIMP) submitted as part of the technical proposal according to the template in Annex XI. For the purpose of the selection criteria, only table 5 of the PIMP submitted as part of the technical proposal will be assessed. This is without prejudice to the completeness of the PIMP, which is to be ensured pursuant to the requirements in section 9.3.1 of this Call for Proposals.

Note: Please note that any Authorisation(s) valid at the moment of submission but expiring before the award will have to be renewed with evidence of such renewal being submitted before the award.

Further, please note that the respective SAB Authorisation(s) shall be maintained as valid and in force throughout the duration of the grant procedure and the framework partnership agreement/specific grant. Any changes pertaining to the validity of the respective SAB Authorisation(s) or any other facts affecting the capacity to handle PRS Information shall be immediately notified by the Applicant/beneficiary to the Granting Authority.

9.3.2. Local Security Officer

Any entity (including applicants, affiliated entities and subcontractors) expected to handle EU classified information (EUCI) **at the level of RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED or above** during the proposal phase and/or during the execution of the grant, must have appointed, a Local Security Officer (**LSO**), who will act as the principal point of contact for security matters related to the handling of EUCI. The entity must have an appointed LSO throughout the duration of the Framework partnership agreement/specific grants.

To this effect, applicants shall provide the name of their appointed LSO as part of their proposal, along with a list of all entities (including co-applicants and subcontractors) that will handle classified information.

There is no specific format or template for the evidence of the LSO appointment. A supporting statement from the competent National Security Authority (NSA)/Designated Security Authority (DSA), or a declaration from a company representative appointed in accordance with national legislation will be accepted as a proof.

9.3.3. Facility Security Clearance

Any entity (including applicants, affiliated entities and subcontractors) expected to handle EUCI during the execution of the grant **at the level of CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL or above** outside of the Granting Authority's premises, must possess a Facility Security Clearance (**FSC**) at the required classification level issued by the relevant National Security Authority, **including provisions for the safeguarding of classified material / information at the same level, and including Communication and Information Systems (CIS) for processing classified information at the same level.**

Please note that at least one entity within the Consortium must possess an FSC at the SECRET UE/EU SECRET level.

The FSC must be maintained throughout the entire duration of the Framework partnership agreement/specific grants, including any potential extensions. The FSC is necessary to ensure the safeguarding of classified materials and information, including the use of Communication and Information Systems (CIS) for processing such classified information.

The possession of the FSC at the required classification level shall be evidenced to EUSPA as follows:

1. **Official documentation** proving the entity's FSC at the required classification level, along with confirmation of provisions for safeguarding/storing classified materials and the CIS at the same level and their validity and expiration date;

or

2. **A duly signed and dated statement** from the entity's Local Security Officer (LSO), confirming that the entity holds the abovementioned FSC at the required level and that it complies with the required provisions for safeguarding/storing classified information and CIS at the same level and their validity and expiration date;

or

3. **Written proof** that the entity has submitted a request for FSC at the required level including for the two required provisions (see bold part above) before the competent national authorities of the Member States in which it is established;

or

4. In case the abovementioned documentation cannot be obtained (i.e. due to security applicable regulations) or exceptional circumstances (e.g. subcontractor will handle EUCI within the Prime's premises only), submission of a detailed explanation accompanied by relevant proof, justifying the reasons why these documents cannot be provided. EUSPA reserves the right to assess such explanation and to reject the relevant entity, should this be found unsatisfactory.

In the cases listed under items 2. and 3. above, the official documentation proving the entity's FSC must be delivered to EUSPA at the latest before awarding the Grant. Failing the submission of the official documentation within the deadline indicated by EUSPA may lead to the rejection of the proposal, unless duly justified as per item 4. above.

9.3.4. Personal Security Clearance

Any individual (within any entity including applicants, affiliated entities and subcontractors) who is expected to carry out tasks requiring handling EU classified information **at the level of CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL or above, or accessing tools that have access / process such EU classified information (e.g. the so-called "GRUE laptop")**, during the execution of the grant, must possess, **at the moment of submission of the proposal**, a Personal Security Clearance (PSC) at the required security classification level for handling EUCI. The PSC must be issued by the relevant national security authority of an EU Member State and maintained throughout the entire duration of the Framework partnership agreement/Specific grants, including any potential extensions.

It is important to note that, in some EU Member States, national security authorities may require companies to possess a Facility Security Clearance (FSC) before issuing PSCs for their staff.

Please note that at least three employees involved in the project within the consortium must possess a PSC at the CONFIDENTIAL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL level. The possession of the PSC at the required classification level shall be evidenced to EUSPA as follows:

1. Submission of an **official documentation** issued by the relevant national security authority, proving that the concerned personnel possess a valid PSC at the corresponding classification level;
or
2. Submission of **duly signed and dated statement from the entity's Local Security Officer (LSO)**, confirming that the personnel possess the required PSC, specifying the classification level and the validity and expiration date;
or
3. In case the abovementioned documentation cannot be obtained (e.g., due to specific national security applicable rules) or exceptional circumstances, a **detailed explanation** must be provided, accompanied by relevant proof, justifying the reasons why the required documents cannot be submitted. EUSPA reserves the right to assess such explanation and to reject the relevant entity, should this be found unsatisfactory.

In the case listed under item 2. above, the official documentation proving the personnel's PSC must be delivered to EUSPA at the latest before awarding the grant. Failing the submission of the official documentation within the deadline indicated by EUSPA may lead to the rejection of the proposal, unless duly justified as per item 3. above.

9.3.5. Capacity to account & handle of EU COMSEC items

Definition:

EU COMSEC Item: Item (equipment, data, or information) that contributes through its integrity, confidentiality, authenticity, availability, and non-repudiation properties, to communications security in an information system. This includes all material (e.g. keys, documents, devices, or equipment) which describes, contains, or relates to cryptographic products and is essential to the encryption, decryption or authentication of telecommunications as well as any other item that performs critical COMSEC functions.

Note: The electronic transmission of EU CI over untrusted networks implies the use of EU COMSEC Items (cryptographic products – devices or software - and/or keying material) classified accordingly with the level of classification of the EU CI to be protected.)

Any entity (including affiliates and subcontractors) planned to account EU COMSEC Items during the execution of the FPA must, throughout the duration of the FPA, comply with the following requirements:

- Any entity in which EU COMSEC Items are (planned) to be accounted, must have the necessary authorisation granted by the competent national authority.
- Any personnel (planned) to handle EU COMSEC Items shall hold a valid Crypto Authorization.

Please note that at least one (1) entity within the applicant team must have the capacity (necessary authorisation) to account EU COMSEC Items and at least two (2) persons must hold a valid Crypto Authorization.

These requirements supplement, but do not replace, the requirements relating to the classification level of these EU COMSEC Items.

The Applicant shall explicitly state in the proposal:

- Which of the entities in its team are (planned) to account EU COMSEC Items and whether the Applicant and/or such entities foresee to:

- Operate such EU COMSEC Items – including remotely;
- Host such EU COMSEC Items and ensure their security custody.
- The maximum level of EU COMSEC Items classification.

Any economic operator (planned) to account EU COMSEC Items shall evidence, at the moment of submission of the proposal, its compliance with the above-specified requirements as follows:

1. Submit **the official evidence** proving:

EITHER

- a. The entity's capacity to account EU COMSEC Items, choosing any of the following options depending on the national legislation:
 - i. Proof of establishment of an EU COMSEC Account; *or*
 - ii. Proof of possession of a Facility Crypto Clearance authorizing to account/register EU COMSEC Items; *or*
 - iii. Proof of possession of other national Crypto or COMSEC authorization to account/register EU COMSEC Items.

AND

- b. The possession by the relevant personnel (planned) to handle EU COMSEC Items of a valid Crypto Authorisation.

OR

2. Submit **a duly signed and dated statement** from the entity's Local Security Officer (LSO):
 - a. Confirming the entity's (existing) capacity to account EU COMSEC Items covering any of the elements specified under point 1.a. above and the (actual) possession by the relevant personnel of a valid Crypto Authorisation covering the element under point 1.b. above.

OR

- b. Confirming that the entity has initiated the necessary procedures before the competent authorities to obtain any of the elements under point 1.a. above (entity's capacity to account EU COMSEC Items) and/or the element under point 1.b. above (personnel's Crypto Authorisation). In case of the latter, the LSO statement shall include a description of the process in place to provide to EU COMSEC Items' users/operators a Crypto/COMSEC-authorisation and a Crypto/COMSEC briefing.

In case, at the time of submission of the proposal, the LSO statement provides only the confirmation under point 2.b. above (on any of the two elements), the process of obtaining the relevant capacity and/or authorisation(s) shall be accomplished at the latest before the award. Therefore, at the latest before the award, the entity shall for any pending element submit *either* (i.) the official evidence as described under point 1. above, *or* (ii.) an updated LSO statement confirming that the capacity and/or authorisation(s) has/have actually been obtained/granted. In either case, the failure to submit such documentation within the deadline indicated by EUSPA may lead to the rejection of the relevant entity, unless duly justified as per the following paragraph.

In case the official evidence or LSO statement covering both elements (capacity to account EU COMSEC Items and Crypto Authorisation(s)) cannot be provided (and provided that the entity and/or its relevant personnel are however formally allowed to account / handle COMSEC material), such entity shall submit a detailed explanation provided by the LSO, accompanied by the relevant proof, justifying the reasons why these documents / statements cannot be provided (e.g., due to security applicable rules or regulations – reference to which shall always be provided). EUSPA reserves the right to assess such explanation and to reject the relevant entity, should the justification be found unsatisfactory.

9.3.6. (Re-inforced) Non-Disclosure Undertaking

Any entity (including applicants, affiliated entities and subcontractors) expected to handle EU classified information (EUCI) **at the level of RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED or above** during the execution of the Grant, must submit, together with the Proposal, the duly filled-in and signed (by an authorised representative) (Re-inforced) Non-Disclosure Undertaking (“RNDU”) provided in Annex IX.2.

Please note that such RNDU is distinct from the NDU provided in Annex IX.1 to be submitted in the proposal preparation phase pursuant to section 3.2 above.

For this purpose, the entity shall submit:

1. RNDU using the form attached in Annex IX.2;
2. Proof that the person signing the RNDU is authorised to represent the entity;
3. Specifically, to access EU Classified Information (EUCI) at the RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED level:
 - a. A **Declaration of CIS Accreditation** duly filled and signed by a person authorized under national laws to make such declarations, using the form provided in the Annex to the RNDU, or
 - b. A certificate or decision issued by the relevant competent authority proving the accreditation of the CIS at the required classification level.

In case the RNDU is signed electronically, it must be signed with a Qualified Electronic Signature (QES) of the authorised representative. This electronic signature must be provided by a provider which has a qualified status granted by a national competent authority of an EU Member State and which is listed in the national eIDAS Trusted Lists and the EU List of eIDAS Trusted Lists (LOTL) (available at [eIDAS Dashboard \(europa.eu\)](https://eidas.europa.eu)). Please note that the signature has to be at the QES level. Alternatively, the RNDU may be signed blue-ink with the original being submitted together with the Proposal.

Please note that:

- Previously signed NDUs with EUSPA shall not be regarded as fulfilling the RNDU requirements under the present procurement procedure.

Compliance with this requirement operates as a selection criterion.

10. AWARD CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed based on the following criteria:

#	Award criteria	Maximum Score
Q1	Relevance and credibility of the proposal in relation to the objectives of the call.	60

#	Award criteria	Maximum Score
	<i>Comprehensiveness of the critical assessment of the user requirements pertaining to the solution needed to enable the target application and approach definition of use cases.</i>	20
	<i>Approach to the standardization and development of operational receiver hosting system.</i>	20
	<i>Approach to testing and validation campaign of the solution.</i>	20
Q2	Level of stated compliance to the SAL, appropriateness of the PIMP, and relevance of justifications where applicable in case of non- or partial compliances are reported.	20
Q3	Appropriateness of the level of the effort involved (in terms of staff effort and costs) and its proportionality as compared to the activities proposed and its distribution within the proposed tasks and consortium participants (if applicable), including complementarity of the proposed resources' skills	20
Maximum Total Score		100

If a total score lower than **60** points or a score lower than **60%** for any of the above three criteria is obtained, the proposal will not be evaluated further and will be rejected.

11. LEGAL COMMITMENTS

Applicants are reminded:

The successful applicants shall be bound by the Special and General Conditions of the draft grant agreement. Submission of a grant application (proposal) implies the acceptance of these Special and the General Conditions (see Annex II of the Grant Agreement). This also includes the obligation of the provision of accurate, sincere and complete information within the context of this grant procedure including but not limited to filling out the provided forms with true, correct and complete data representing the real status of the applicant.

In the event of a grant awarded by EUSPA following this call, a grant agreement drawn up in Euro and detailing the conditions and level of funding will be sent to the mono-beneficiary or coordinator of the consortium (as the case may be), alongside a description of the procedure in view to formalise the obligations of the parties.

In case of a consortium, the coordinator, representing the awarded consortium, on the basis of duly provided powers of attorney (Mandate – Annex XIV of the grant agreement) shall sign 2 (two) copies of the original agreement.

In case EUSPA requests the below documents¹³ the applicant shall make them available to EUSPA within the relevant deadlines. EUSPA reserves the right to cancel the award and/or the grant agreement signature process and re-allocate the budget in case of untimely submission. In particular:

¹³ Please refer to section 16.3

- (1) All supporting documents pertaining to the Declaration of Honour (A3 form) for each co-applicant (and affiliated entity if the case may be) in due time upon request by EUSPA after the receipt of such request;
- (2) Signed grant agreement by the coordinator accompanied by the mandate – Annex XIV of the grant agreement – for each co-applicant at the latest 1 (one) month after the coordinator's receipt of the grant agreement for signature.

NOTA BENE: Notice on the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary.

In accordance to the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 adopted on 15 December 2022 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary it's been established that, where Union budget is implemented in direct or indirect management pursuant to of Article 62(1) points (a) and (c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, no legal commitments shall be entered into with any public interest established on the basis of the Hungarian Act IX of 2021 (or any other entity maintained by such a public interest trust).

12. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

12.1. General principles

Non-cumulative award

Each action may give rise to the award of only one grant from the budget to any applicant.

In no circumstances shall the same costs be financed twice by the European Union budget.

Applicants have to inform EUSPA immediately of any multiple applications and multiple grants relating to the same action. The applicants shall inform about sources and amounts of EU funding received or applied for the same action or for part of the action. Applicants shall indicate if they receive EU funding for their functioning during the financial year in which the action takes place.

Non-retroactivity¹⁴

No grant may be awarded retroactively for actions already completed.

A grant may be awarded for an action which has already begun according to the terms and conditions specified under Section 3 above.

Co-financing¹⁵

Grants shall involve co-financing, which implies that the resources necessary to carry out the action shall not be provided entirely by EU contribution. EU financing may not cover 100% of the total costs of the action.

Co-financing of the action may take the form of:

- the awarded beneficiary's own resources,
- income generated by the action,
- financial contributions from third parties.

¹⁴ Article 196 of the Financial Regulation

¹⁵ Article 193 of the Financial Regulation

Co-financing may also take the form of in-kind contributions from third parties, i.e. non-financial resources made available free of charge by third parties to the awarded consortium as the corresponding costs are not eligible.

No-profit rule¹⁶

EU grant may not have the purpose or effect of producing a profit within the framework of the action or the work programme of the beneficiary¹⁷.

For this purpose, profit is defined as a surplus of the receipts over the eligible costs incurred by the beneficiaries. Where such a surplus occurs, EUSPA is entitled to recover the percentage of the profit.

Balanced budget¹⁸

The estimated budget of the action is to be attached in excel format to the application form following the model provided in the Form C1.

Applicants must have revenue and expenditure in balance.

Applicants (and affiliated entities) with general accounts in a currency other than the Euro must convert costs incurred in another currency into Euro at the average of the daily exchange rates published in the C series of *Official Journal of the European Union*, determined over the corresponding reporting period (available at <http://www.ecb.europa.eu/stats/exchange/eurofxref/html/index.en.html>).

If no daily Euro exchange rate is published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* for the currency in question, conversion must be made at the average of the monthly accounting rates established by the Commission and published on its website determined over the corresponding reporting period.
http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/infoeuro/infoeuro_en.cfm

Applicants and affiliated entities with general accounts in Euro must convert costs incurred in another currency into Euro according to their usual accounting practices.

For awarded projects, the final payment will be based on a request for payment of the balance at the end of the project and accompanying documents, taking into account previous pre-financing.

Financial support to third parties

The applications for this action may not envisage provision of financial support to third parties.

12.2. Method to estimate the budget

Applicants shall propose the amount of the lump sum contribution based on their estimated direct and indirect costs using the C1 form.

The estimations shall be realistic for each budget category, in line with normal practices of the applicant, reasonable and not excessive and necessary for the activities proposed. Applicants shall provide a breakdown of the lump sum contribution showing the share per work package based on the activities to be undertaken in each work package and, within each work package, the share assigned to each applicant and affiliated entity (if any).

¹⁶ Article 195 of the Financial Regulation

¹⁷ The no-profit principle shall not apply to actions indicated in Article 195 (3) of the Financial Regulation.

¹⁸ Article 199 (1) e) of the Financial Regulation

The detailed cost estimation per work package and per applicant and affiliated entity (if any) shall include only costs that fulfil the eligibility criteria as specified in section 12.3 below. Ineligible costs (as indicated in section 12.3.4) shall not be included.

The estimated eligible costs for the action shall be broken down by budget category (and sub-category as needed depending on the type of the action):

- A. Personnel costs:
 - Personnel under direct employment contract
 - Personnel under other than employment contract (in-house consultants)
 - SME owners who do not receive a salary
 - Natural persons beneficiaries who do not receive a salary
- B. Subcontracting costs
- C. Other direct costs:
 - Travel and subsistence costs
 - Equipment (depreciation or full purchase capitalised costs if applicable in the call);
 - Other goods, works and services
 - Financial support to third parties (if applicable in the call)
 - Rental or lease of equipment or other assets only to the portion of use and limited to the duration of the action
 - Use of technical facilities or laboratories
 - Consumables and supplies
 - Duties, taxes and charges paid by the beneficiary
- D. Indirect costs

Indirect costs shall be calculated by applying a flat rate of up to 25% to the direct cost categories that qualify for the calculation of indirect costs.

Applicants must prepare their detailed budget using the C1 form.

Amounts shall be indicated in Euro.

12.3. Eligibility Conditions

Compared to actual costs grants where the budget is assessed once the project is concluded and costs are actually incurred, in lump sums grants the main costs assessment is done by EUSPA during the evaluation of the submitted proposals.

Eligibility of incurred costs will not be checked at the time of the payment but the level of completion of the work packages and related deliverables and their acceptance by EUSPA will be the driver based on which the clearing of the pre-financing / payment of the balance will be calculated.

When preparing their proposal, applicants shall observe the elements described in the following sub-sections for setting up the required budget for the implementation of their action.

It is important to set up the budget correctly and with sufficient detail using the C1 form provided as the submitted detailed budget will be assessed for its eligibility and appropriateness by the Granting Authority and it will be basis on which the lump sum shares per beneficiary and per work package will be granted.

12.3.1. Eligible costs

- A) Costs estimated by the beneficiary of a grant which meets all of the following criteria:
- they will be incurred during the duration of the action, as indicated in the grant agreement, with the exception of costs relating to the preparation of the final reports;
 - they will be indicated in the estimated budget of the action;
 - they will be necessary for the implementation of the action, in accordance with the description of the action as indicated in the proposal;
 - they will be identifiable and verifiable, in particular being recorded in the accounting records of the beneficiary and determined according to the applicable accounting standards of the country where the beneficiary is established and according to the usual cost accounting practices of the beneficiary;
 - they will comply with the requirements of applicable tax and social legislation;
 - they will be reasonable, justified, and comply with the principle of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy and efficiency.

The same criteria apply to the affiliated entities.

- B) Costs estimated based on an amount of EUR per unit for the beneficiaries which satisfy any of the following two criteria:
- personnel costs of owners of small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) who do not receive a salary;
 - personnel costs for natural persons beneficiaries who do not receive a salary

12.3.2. Eligible direct costs

The eligible direct costs, **with due regard for the conditions of eligibility set out above**, shall be specific costs directly linked to the performance of the action.

The following categories of costs can be considered as **eligible direct costs**:

- 1. Personnel costs are:**
 - 1.1 cost of personnel working under an employment contract
 - 1.2 costs of natural persons working under a contract with the beneficiaries other than an employment contract
 - 1.3 unit costs of owners of SMEs who do not receive a salary or natural persons beneficiaries who do not receive a salary
- 2. Subcontracting costs**
- 3. Other direct costs are:**
 - 3.1 cost of travel and related subsistence allowances
 - 3.2 costs for equipment and other assets directly used for the action – depreciation costs
 - 3.3 the costs for rental or lease of equipment or other assets
 - 3.4 the cost of using technical facilities or laboratories
 - 3.5 costs of consumables and supplies
 - 3.6 costs for other goods, works and services
 - 3.7 costs of financial support to third parties [not-applicable]
 - 3.8 duties, taxes and charges

1. Personnel costs

1.1 the **costs of personnel** working under an employment contract with the beneficiaries or an equivalent appointing act and assigned to the action (including civil servants and other personnel of national administrations to the extent that they relate to the cost of activities which the relevant public authority would not carry out if the project concerned were not undertaken), comprising actual salaries plus social security contributions and other statutory costs included in the remuneration, provided that these costs are in line with the beneficiaries' usual policy on remuneration. Those costs may also include additional remunerations, including payments on the basis of supplementary contracts regardless of the nature of those contracts, provided that they are paid in a consistent manner whenever the same kind of work or expertise is required, independently from the source of funding used;

Personnel costs must be calculated by the applicants/beneficiaries as follows:

(Hourly rate multiplied by the number of estimated hours to be worked on the action), plus for non-profit legal entities: additional remunerations to personnel assigned to the action}.

The total number of hours declared in EU or Euratom grants, for a person for a year, cannot be higher than the annual productive hours used for the calculations of the hourly rate. Therefore, the maximum number of hours that can be estimated for the grant are:

{Number of annual productive hours for the year minus the total number of hours estimated by the beneficiaries, for that person for that year, for other EU or Euratom grants}

The 'hourly rate' is calculated as follows:

{annual personnel costs for the person divided by the number of annual productive hours}

For the 'number of annual productive hours', the beneficiaries may choose one of the following:

- (i) 'fixed number of hours': 1720 hours for persons working full time (or corresponding pro-rata for persons not working full time);
- (ii) 'individual annual productive hours': the total number of hours worked by the person in the year for the beneficiaries *{annual workable hours of the person plus overtime worked minus absences}*. If the contract (or applicable collective labour agreement or national working time legislation) does not allow to determine the annual workable hours, this option cannot be used;
- (iii) 'standard annual productive hours': the standard number of annual hours generally applied by the beneficiaries for its personnel in accordance with its usual cost accounting practices. This number must be at least 90% of the 'standard annual workable hours'. If there is no applicable reference for the standard annual workable hours, this option cannot be used.

'Annual workable hours' - means the period during which the person must be working, at the employer's disposal and carrying out his/her activity or duties under the employment contract, applicable collective labour agreement or national working time legislation.

For all options, the time spent on parental leave by a person assigned to the action may be deducted from the number of annual productive hours.

Important:

Activities that **cannot** be deducted for the calculation of the annual productive hours and that cannot be charged to the project are Sales and marketing; Preparation of proposals; Administrative time (often means “unsold” time).

1.2 The **costs of natural persons working under a contract with the beneficiaries other than an employment contract** (e.g. in-house consultants) may be assimilated to such costs of personnel, provided that the following conditions are fulfilled:

- there must be a **direct contract** between the natural person (individual) and the beneficiaries;
- the natural person works under the instructions of the beneficiaries and unless otherwise agreed with the beneficiaries through a teleworking agreement, in the premises of the beneficiary;
- the result of the work belongs to the beneficiaries;
- the costs are not significantly different from the costs of personnel performing similar tasks under an employment contract with the beneficiaries; and
- The remuneration must be based on working hours, rather than on delivering specific outputs/products. Costs of natural persons working under a direct contract for a beneficiary must be calculated according to the formula: hourly rate multiplied by the number of estimated hours to be worked on the action where hourly rate:
 - a. if the contract specifies an hourly rate: this hourly rate must be used;
 - b. if the contract states a fixed amount for the services of the natural person and the number of hours to be worked: this global amount must be divided by the number of hours to be worked for the beneficiary under that contract.

1.3 unit costs of **owners of SMEs who do not receive a salary** or **natural persons applicant who do not receive a salary**

The eligible direct personnel costs declared by beneficiaries that are SMEs for their owners not receiving a salary and by beneficiaries that are natural persons not receiving a salary shall be based on a unit cost per day-equivalent worked on the *action* to be calculated as follows:

{Unit rate multiplied by a number of day-equivalents to be worked on the action}.

Each country has its own unique unit rate. These rates are embedded in the Budget table to be used by applicants.

The total number of day-equivalents declared in EUSPA grants, for a person for a year, cannot be higher than 215.

2. **Subcontracting costs**, for the performance of specific activities which form part of the action as described in the proposal, provided that the conditions under Section 5.6 above are met.

3. **Other direct costs**

Other costs in general: **only costs of those items which are directly linked to the performance of the action, identifiable and assigned to the action shall be considered under this heading.**

Those costs should include the costs of implementation contracts for ancillary services, goods etc. needed to carry out the project (e.g. dissemination of information, specific evaluation, translations,

reproduction...), including the purchase of consumables and supplies. They do not cover contract that implies any externalisation of activities included in the action described in the proposal, which should be included instead as subcontracting in the relevant form.

Please note that the fact that the costs are specific to the action is the key factor that makes these costs eligible for European Union funding. More general office supplies, stamps or other stationary is comprised of the indirect costs and cannot be considered under this heading.

3.1 costs of travel and related subsistence allowances for employees provided that these costs are in line with the beneficiaries' usual practices on travel;

Only the costs for the employee's travel and subsistence allowances can be introduced in the budget form. Travel costs of external service providers, if applicable, are to be included in their contracts.

Subscription fees to conferences or events, where relevant, should be included in C1 form (section 2)

Reimbursement of travel costs can be requested for meetings, European conferences, etc. provided that they are in line with the usual practices of the beneficiaries. The travel policy of the beneficiaries must be made in writing and apply to all business trips of the organisation.

In all cases, the costs reported should comply with the principle of economy and efficiency, meaning that travelling should be performed by the most direct and most economical route;

The costs reported should comply with the following:

- travel by the most direct and most economical route;
- travel by rail: first class;
- travel by air: economy class, unless a cheaper fare can be used;
- travel by car: reimbursed on the basis of the equivalent first-class rail fare.

Flat-rate subsistence allowances cover all subsistence expenses during travel, including hotels, restaurants and local transport (taxi and/or public transport). They apply for each day of a mission at a minimum distance of 100 km from the normal place of work in the context of the project forming the subject of the grant agreement.

Please note that tips are not considered as eligible costs.

3.2 for equipment and other assets (new or second-hand) to be directly used for the action in accordance with Article II.10 of the grant agreement:

a) the full purchase costs provided that they are treated as capital expenditure in accordance with the tax and accounting rules applicable to the beneficiaries and will be recorded in the fixed assets account of its balance sheet OR the purchase in itself is the purpose of the action [**not-applicable to this call**]

or

b) the respective depreciation costs in proportion to the usage for the action and only during its duration provided that the asset has been purchased in accordance with the conditions applicable to implementation contracts and that it is written off in

accordance with the international accounting standards and international financial reporting standards, IAS/IFRS, regardless whether the beneficiary has to apply them or otherwise has diverging accounting practices.

Only depreciation for equipment which is strictly necessary for the purposes of carrying out the action can be charged as direct costs. This thus excludes any computer equipment, office material, furniture, etc. that the applicant needs for his daily activities and that will be normally covered by indirect costs.

Only the portion of the equipment's depreciation corresponding to the duration of the project and the rate of planned use for the purposes of the project can be taken into account.

- 3.3 the costs for rental or lease of equipment or other assets** only to the portion of use and limited to the duration of the action, provided that these costs do not exceed the depreciation costs of similar equipment or assets and are exclusive of any finance fee;
- 3.4** when using **technical facilities or laboratories** the above rules (3.2) to (3.33.3) for eligibility of costs apply accordingly;
- 3.5** costs of **consumables and supplies**, provided that they will be purchased in accordance with the conditions applicable to the award of contracts necessary for the implementation of the action and are directly assigned to the action;
- 3.6** costs of **other goods, works and services** (such goods, works and services include, for instance, promotion, dissemination, protection of results, translations, publications, certificates and financial guarantees, if required under the Agreement), provided that the corresponding services will be purchased in accordance with the conditions applicable to the award of contracts necessary for the implementation of the action;
- 3.7** costs of **financial support to third parties** within the meaning of Article II.11 of the grant agreement provided that the conditions laid down in that article are met **[not-applicable to this call]**;
- 3.8** **duties, taxes and charges** to be paid by the beneficiaries, notably non-deductible value added tax (VAT), provided that they are included in eligible direct costs. In particular, only non-deductible VAT is eligible, except for the activities which the beneficiaries that are public bodies engage in as public authorities (prerogatives of public powers under national law).

12.3.3. Eligible indirect costs

A flat-rate amount of 25% of the total eligible direct costs of the action, excluding subcontracting costs¹⁹, is eligible under indirect costs, representing the beneficiary's general administrative costs which can be regarded as chargeable to the action/project.

Indirect costs may not include costs entered under another budget heading.

Indirect costs are not eligible for beneficiaries that receive an operating grant.

¹⁹ Indirect costs = 10% * (total eligible direct costs - subcontracting)

12.3.4. Non-eligible costs

In addition to any other costs which do not fulfil the conditions set out above, the following costs shall not be considered eligible:

- a. return on capital or return generated by an investment;
- b. debt and debt service charges;
- c. provisions for future losses or debts;
- d. interest owed;
- e. doubtful debts;
- f. currency exchange losses;
- g. bank costs charged by the beneficiary's bank for transfers from the EUSPA;
- h. costs declared by the beneficiaries in the framework of another action receiving a grant financed from the EU budget (including grants awarded by a Member State and financed from the EU budget and grants awarded by the European Commission or other EU bodies than EUSPA for the purpose of implementing the EU budget); in particular, indirect costs shall not be eligible under a grant for an action awarded to a beneficiary which already receives an operating grant financed from the EU budget during the period in question;
- i. contributions in kind from third parties;
- j. excessive or reckless expenditure;
- k. deductible VAT;
- l. participation by any staff of the European Union institutions in the action
- m. costs incurred during the suspension of the implementation of the action;
- n. cost categories explicitly excluded in the work programme/call.

In line with section 18.1 below, the Granting Authority will assess the submitted financial proposal against the eligibility conditions above and activities proposed in the technical proposal and in case the financial proposal is set up incorrectly, or non-eligible costs are included, the Granting Authority will take this into consideration for the purposes of award criterion 3 and may:

- decrease the lump sum amount for a work package/beneficiary;
- reallocate lump sum shares among work package/beneficiaries.

In case of adaptation of the budget, the applicant may accept or reject the adapted lump sum. In case of rejection by the applicant the grant agreement will not be signed.

12.4. Funding form

The funding provided by EUSPA to the beneficiaries will take the form of a lump sum contribution which will be included in the grant agreement as the maximum grant amount.

12.5. Final lump sum contribution

The final lump sum contribution is limited to a maximum co-funding rate of 70% of eligible costs taking into account the maximum grant amount referred to in section 4.

Consequently, part of the total eligible expenses entered in the estimated budget must be financed from sources other than the EU grant.

EUSPA will calculate the final lump sum contribution for the grant based on the estimated budget in the proposal and the result of the evaluation (see below in section 18.1).

12.6. Payment arrangements

The following payments will be done during the duration of the grant:

- a) 1 pre-financing payment
- b) 1 payment of the balance.

At the end of the project EUSPA will pay the lump sum shares for work packages and related deliverables completed during the project and accepted by EUSPA. Compared to the actual costs grants there is no reimbursement of actually incurred eligible costs, but payment is based on activities/deliverables/work packages completed, delivered and accepted by EUSPA.

Acceptance of individual deliverables/work packages by EUSPA does not mean entitlement of a beneficiary/Consortium for the payment, nor clearing of the pre-financing amount already received. Any clearing of the pre-financing or payment of the balance will be done at the end of the project.

- a) **The pre-financing** will be paid in line with the provisions specified in the grant agreement (see Article I.5.2 of the Grant Agreement) and will correspond to 70% of the grant amount.

The aim of the pre-financing is to provide the beneficiaries with a float. It remains a credit of EUSPA until it is cleared. The analysis of the amount to be cleared and final clearance is done with the payment of the balance.

- b) EUSPA will establish the amount of **the payment of the balance** to be made to the mono-beneficiary or the coordinator (who receives it on behalf of the consortium) on the basis of the calculation of the final amount of the grant (see section 12.8 below).

The payment of the balance pays the lump sum shares for the implementation of the action.

Payments for partially completed work packages are possible at the end of the project, as part of the payment of the balance.

Consortium is expected to complete all work packages by the end of the project. If needed, it is possible to make use of the possibilities to justify deviations and/or to amend the grant.

If it is not possible to complete a work package by the end of the project due to technical reasons or force majeure, the Consortium may declare a partially completed work package. In this case, the lump sum share is paid partially, in line with the accepted degree of completion. This means that the amount reimbursed will correspond to the part of the work package accepted by EUSPA, which may be less than the part declared by Consortium as completed. If the Consortium declares a work package as incomplete at the end of the project due to other reasons, the work package may be rejected in full.

The payment of the balance must clear 100% of the amount of the pre-financing payment previously made.

If the total of earlier payments is higher than the final grant amount, the beneficiary or the coordinator (in case of consortium) will be required to reimburse the amount paid in excess by EUSPA through a recovery order²⁰.

Payments do not depend on the costs actually incurred.

Please refer to the grant agreement for the terms and conditions of the payment arrangements (see Article I.5 of the Grant Agreement).

12.7. Pre-financing guarantee

A pre-financing guarantee for up to the same amount as the pre-financing may be requested, on a case-by-case basis, in order to limit the financial risks linked to the pre-financing payment. The financial guarantee, in euro, shall be provided by an approved bank or financial institution established in one of the Member State of the European Union. When the beneficiary is established in a third country, the authorising officer responsible may agree that a bank or financial institution established in that third country may provide the guarantee if he considers that the bank or financial institution offers equivalent security and characteristics as those offered by a bank or financial institution established in a Member State. Amounts blocked in bank accounts shall not be accepted as financial guarantees.

The guarantee may be replaced by a joint and several guarantee by a third party or by an irrevocable and unconditional joint guarantee of the beneficiaries of an action who are parties to the same grant agreement.

The guarantee shall be released as the pre-financing is cleared during the payment of balance to the coordinator/beneficiary, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the grant agreement.

12.8. Calculation of the final amount of the grant

The draft grant agreement annexed to this Call for proposals specifies the calculation of the final grant amount and the payment arrangements.

The final amount of the grant to be paid to the consortium is established after completion of the action and upon approval of the request for payment containing the following documents²¹:

- a final technical report providing details of the implementation and results of the action;
- the final financial statement.

13. PUBLICITY

13.1. By the Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries must clearly acknowledge the European Union's contribution in all publications or in conjunction with activities for which the allocated grants are used.

In this respect, beneficiaries are required to give prominence to the name and emblem of EUSPA and of the European Union on all their publications, posters, programmes and other products realised under the grant agreement.

²⁰ Article 101, 115 and 206 of the Financial Regulation

²¹ Art. 205 and 206 of the Financial Regulation

If this requirement is not fully complied with, the grant may be reduced in accordance with the provisions of the grant agreement.

13.2. By EUSPA

EUSPA will publish the following information:

- a. name of the awarded applicant (in case of multi-beneficiaries- name of the consortium) and its beneficiary/beneficiaries;
- b. address of the beneficiary (legal persons) or reference to the region (natural persons);
- c. the subject of the grant agreement;
- d. amount awarded.

Upon a reasoned and duly substantiated request by the applicants (or coordinator representing the consortium in case of multi-beneficiary project), the publication shall be waived if such disclosure risks threatening the rights and freedoms of individuals concerned as protected by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union or harm the commercial interests of the beneficiary.

14. OWNERSHIP

The attention of the applicants is drawn to the draft grant agreement, which stipulates the ownership regime of the results generated by the action.

15. DATA PROTECTION

Personal data gathered for the purpose of the present procedure will be processed pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data. This data will be processed by EUSPA as indicated in the privacy statement published on the Agency's website:

(https://www.euspa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/privacy_statement_relating_to_euspa_procurement_procedures_grants_prizes_and_selection_of_experts.pdf).

Any request regarding your personal data should be addressed to the data controller responsible for the call for proposals: Head of Market Downstream and Innovation Department, market@euspa.europa.eu.

You may also contact the Agency's Data Protection officer (DPO) at DPO@euspa.europa.eu. If your request has not been responded to adequately by the data controller and/or DPO, you can lodge a complaint with the European Data Protection Supervisor at edps@edps.europa.eu.

16. PREPARATION AND STRUCTURE OF THE PROPOSAL, FORMS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

16.1. Preparation of the Proposals

Proposals shall be prepared in accordance with the scope of the project (section 2.2), with a clear definition of the roles, demonstrating that the consortium is composed of all the necessary competencies needed to achieve the objectives of the Call (section 2.1).

Proposals must be submitted in accordance with the formal requirements and by the deadline set out under section 17.

Applicants will be informed in writing about the results of the selection process.

16.1.1. Structure of the Proposals

Proposals shall include the following:

Administrative Proposal	Technical Proposal	Financial Proposal
A1: Coordinator profile A2: Co-Applicant profile A3: Declaration of honour A4: Operational capacity form A5: Financial capacity ratios Evidence of PRS SAB Authorisation (as per section 9.3.1) Evidence of appointment of Local Security Officer (as per section 9.3.2) Evidence of Facility Security Clearance (as per section 9.3.3) Evidence of Personal Security Clearance (as per section 9.3.4) Evidence of capacity to account and handle COMSEC items (as per section 9.3.5) Reinforced Non-Disclosure Undertaking (as per section 9.3.6)	B1: Technical proposal Preliminary testing plan PRS Information Management Plan (PIMP) Statement of Compliance to the Statement of Compliance to Security Aspect Letter (SAL – Annex XIV)	C1: Estimated Budget

16.1.2. Administrative Proposal

Administrative Proposal:

- A1 – Coordinator profile
- A2 – Co-Applicant profile
- A3 – Declaration of honour
- A4 – Operational capacity form
- A5 – Financial capacity ratios
- Evidence of PRS SAB Authorisation (as per section 9.3.1)
- Evidence of appointment of Local Security Officer (as per section 9.3.2)
- Evidence of Facility Security Clearance (as per section 9.3.3)
- Evidence of Personal Security Clearance (as per section 9.3.4)
- Evidence of capacity to account and handle COMSEC items (as per section 9.3.5)
- Reinforced Non-Disclosure Undertaking (as per section 9.3.6)

The A5 form shall be submitted as PDF (.pdf). For the PDF, please fill in the A5 form in excel provided, print it, sign each sheet of the excel and create a PDF.

The following supporting documents shall be provided by **all applicants and all affiliated entities**:

- **Business Partner Identification Form:**
 - Templates shall be downloaded from the following website:
[Business partners – legal entities and bank accounts](#)
 - Banking details must be filled in only by single applicants or by the coordinator.
The form must be either accompanied by a copy of the recent bank statement or has to include a bank stamp and the signature of the bank representative.
- **Supporting documents to the Form:**
 - **Private legal person(s)** shall provide: extract from the official journal, copy of articles of association, extract of trade or association register and a copy of the certificate of liability to VAT (if, as in certain countries, the trade register number and VAT number are identical, only one of these documents is required);
 - **Public legal person(s)** shall provide: a copy of the resolution, law, decree or decision establishing the public body, or as an alternative, any other official document establishing the public legal person by the national authorities may be submitted;
 - **Natural person(s):** legible photocopy of identity card and/or passport OR an official VAT document (if applicable).

16.1.3. *Technical Proposal*

Technical Proposal shall be submitted filling in form B1.

The technical proposal (B1 Form) constitutes the core of your proposal. The form shall be submitted using the template provided with this call, consisting of a list of headings. It is recommended to follow this structure when presenting the technical content. The templates are designed to highlight those aspects that will be assessed against the evaluation criteria. Additional information or descriptive document may be provided by applicants as an annex.

In addition, the Technical Proposal shall also include:

- Preliminary testing plan
- PRS Information Management Plan (PIMP – as per Annex XI)
- Statement of Compliance to the Security Aspect Letter (SAL – Annex XIV)

16.1.4. *Financial Proposal (C1)*

C1 – Preliminary Budget

The C1 form shall be submitted in excel (.xls) format.

Please note that figures shall be indicated in C1 form. In case figures are indicated in other forms, please include a cross reference only. If inconsistencies are present between C1 and other forms the figures in C1 form will prevail.

16.2. Forms and Supporting Documents

The following documents need to be signed by the authorised representative: form A3 (declaration of honour) and Reinforced NDU (annex IX.2).

The signature can be either:

- blue ink on paper
- Qualified electronic signature: please see conditions specified in section 17.2.

The table below provides an overview of Forms which shall be **submitted by the applicants**. Every **actor specified below is responsible to fill them duly in** (coordinator and/or co-applicants and/or an affiliated entity and/or subcontractor). The table below reflects on who has to fill out what kind of forms. This information shall be reflected in the cover page of the A forms prepared by the single applicant/coordinator.

Forms/Documents	Coordinator	Co-applicant	Affiliated entity	Subcontractor
A1 Preliminary testing plan PIMP	X			
A2		X		
A3 - A4 - A5 - C1	X	X	X	X
Evidence of PRS SAB Authorisation Evidence of appointment of Local Security Officer Evidence of Facility Security Clearance Evidence of Personal Security Clearance Evidence of capacity to account and handle COMSEC items	X	X (if applicable)	X (if applicable)	X (if applicable)
Business Partner Identification Form and supporting documents	X	X	X	X

Forms/Documents	Coordinator	Co-applicant	Affiliated entity	Subcontractor
RNDU	X			
SoC to SAL	X			

16.3. Additional documents

Supporting documents related to Declaration of Honour (Form A3) which may be requested during the evaluation or after award by EUSPA:

- For situations described in point (5) (a), (c), (d), (f), (g) and (h) of the Form A3, a recent extract from the judicial record or, failing that, an equivalent document recently issued by a judicial or administrative authority in the country of establishment of the entity showing that those requirements are satisfied.
- For the situations described in point (5) (a) and (b) of the Form A3, recent certificates issued by the competent authorities of the country of establishment. These documents must provide evidence covering all taxes and social security contributions for which the entity is liable, including for example, VAT, income tax (natural persons only), company tax (legal persons only) and social security contributions. Where any document described above is not issued in the country concerned, it may be replaced by a sworn statement made before a judicial authority or notary or, failing that, a solemn statement made before an administrative authority or a qualified professional body in its country of establishment.

17. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Proposals must be submitted in accordance with the formal requirements and by the deadline set in this section.

The applicants are not allowed - in any respect - to change the scope and the content of the proposal(s), till the signature of the grant agreement. However, if there is a need to clarify certain aspects or for the correction of clerical mistakes, EUSPA may contact the applicant for this purpose during the evaluation process.

The proposal may be submitted in any of the official languages of the European Union with a preference to **English version**.

17.1. Means of submission of the proposal

The proposal can be submitted in electronic version by the deadline specified in sections 3 and 17.3 and according to the conditions below:

1. Electronic submission

The applicant shall submit its proposal only electronically on 3 (three) CD-ROM, DVD or USB sticks with the full set of documents. The documents on these media must be identical and they shall be in machine readable format (MS Office 2003 or later, or Adobe Reader Version 8.0 or later). These medias must be inserted in a sealed envelope as described below.

The electronic version of the proposal is considered as original.

Applicants must ensure that the electronic medias and files are readable. In particular, they must take all the necessary measures to protect them during the transport to avoid any damage to them.

Applicants are advised to:

- use, and include into the sealed envelope, different types of media (e.g. DVD and different types of USB sticks) in order to eliminate the risk of non-readable media and files.
- create hashes of submitted files (in the form of algorithm MD5, SHA-256 or higher) and insert them, preferably as a paper printout, into the sealed envelope, together with the media.
- ensure that the data on these media cannot be altered.

If the submitted media and files are not readable, the applicant will have the possibility to resubmit the media upon condition that:

- hashes of the original files have been created;
- hashes of the re-submitted files are created and such hashes are strictly identical to the hashes of the original files inserted into the sealed envelope.

If the submitted media and files are not readable and the applicant does not resubmit media and files which are strictly identical to the original ones and related hashes, within a reasonable delay upon notification by EUSPA that the files submitted cannot be read, the proposal will be rejected.

In case the proposal includes EU classified information (EUCI): the R-UE/EU-R part, relevant documentation shall be submitted on an electronic media. The media will be treated as RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED (R-UE/EU-R) and will form part of the R-UE/EU-R part of the envelope concerned (as per above).

NOTA BENE: No USB stick can be used for RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED documents.

17.2. Possibility to sign the documents electronically

The documents which must be signed according to the call for proposals (section 16.1.1) may be signed electronically with a qualified electronic signature (QES) of the applicant. Please note that only QES within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 (eIDAS Regulation) will be accepted.

This electronic signature must be provided by a provider which has a qualified status granted by a national competent authority of an EU Member State and which is listed in the national eIDAS Trusted Lists and the EU List of eIDAS Trusted Lists (LOTL) (available at <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/tl-browser/#/>).

Therefore, before sending to EUSPA your electronically signed document(s), we recommend you to check the signature and validity of the certificate with one of the following tools:

- DSS Demonstration validation tool available at <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-building-blocks/DSS/webapp-demo/validation> can help you check the validity of a certificate by indicating the number and type of valid signatures in a document.
- EU Trusted List Browser can be consulted in order to check whether the electronic signature provider and the trust service it provides are part of European Union Trusted List: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/tl-browser/#>

To make sure you use a QES compliant to eIDAS Regulation, you need to check that both the service provider and the qualified certificate generation service used are included in the EU Trusted List Browser.

17.3. Deadlines for submission

The deadline for the submission of the proposals will be considered met when the proposal is sent by post mail, express mail or commercial courier not later than 23:59 of the date indicated in section 3 above as well as below. This deadline is therefore respected even if the proposal is received by the EUSPA after this deadline under the condition that it was sent before the deadline.

The proposals shall be submitted as indicated above:

- a. by post or by courier not later than **15/07/2026**, in which case the evidence of the date of dispatch shall be constituted by the postmark or the date of the deposit slip, to the address indicated below
- b. delivered by hand not later than **15/07/2026 at 17:00** Prague local time to the address indicated below. In this case, a receipt must be obtained as proof of submission, signed and dated by the EUSPA personnel who took delivery.

For cases where the proposal is submitted in a paper version:

EUSPA is open from 09.00 to 17.00 Monday to Thursday, and from 9.00 to 16.00 on Fridays. It is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays.

Proposals must be placed inside a sealed envelope. The envelope, addressed as indicated below, should be marked as follows: "**CALL FOR PROPOSALS EUSPA/GRANT/01/2026 – NOT TO BE OPENED**". If the self-adhesive envelope is used, it must be sealed with adhesive tape and the sender must sign across this tape.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
EUSPA/GRANT/01/2026
RECEIVER BOX FOR PRS CIVILIAN APPLICATIONS
EUSPA – Legal and Procurement Department
Janovského 438/2, 170 00 Prague 7- Czech Republic

18. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS, AWARD AND RESERVE LIST

18.1. Evaluation of Proposals

All applications will be examined and assessed by an Evaluation Committee. The assessment of each proposal will be based on the information provided by the applicants in the proposal submitted in reply to the Call for Proposals. The information will be assessed considering the admissibility, eligibility, exclusion and rejection from award, selection and award criteria set out above.

The Evaluation Committee may ask an applicant to provide additional information or to clarify the supporting documents submitted in connection with the application, in particular in case of evident material errors.

The Evaluation Committee will assess the submitted cost estimations under award criterion 3.

A Horizon Europe Dashboard for personnel costs (<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/horizon/lump-sum/dashboard>) may be used by the Evaluation Committee for assessing the personnel costs declared by the applicants, helping them to judge if

personnel cost estimations in a proposal are reasonable. If applicants have high personnel costs, especially personnel costs above the values shown in this dashboard, it is recommended to justify them in the comment tab of the detailed budget table (C1 form).

During the evaluation, the Evaluation committee may make specific recommendations on the lump sum shares and the underlying costs estimations, following clarifications request with the applicants if needed. Eventually, the Evaluation Committee can recommend to the Authorising Officer:

- to decrease the lump sum amount for a work package/beneficiary;
- to reallocate lump sum shares among work package/beneficiaries.

The requested grant amount cannot be increased.

Furthermore, the Evaluation committee will recommend:

- the best proposal(s) proposed for the award,
- the proposal(s) proposed to be placed on the reserve list in case of no available funding,
- the proposal(s) proposed to be rejected, stating the reasons for rejection.

The Authorising officer will take a decision (i.e. award decision) based on the recommendations of the Evaluation Committee which shall be duly communicated to the applicant.

In case of adaptation of the budget, the applicant may accept or reject the adapted lump sum. In case of rejection by the applicant the grant agreement will not be signed.

The overall lump sum will be fixed in the grant agreement. The breakdown of lump sum shares per beneficiary and per work package will also be included in the grant agreement as Annex III.

18.2. Award of the grant agreement

EUSPA may invite the applicant(s), whose proposal has been recommended for the award by the Evaluation Committee, to introduce minor adjustment to the proposal. In that case, the applicant would receive a letter setting out the proposed modifications. The modified proposal shall address the modification proposed by EUSPA **only**. This phase will not lead to a re-evaluation of the proposal.

A decision to reject an application can be based on the following grounds:

- the application does not comply with the admissibility criteria as set out in section 6 above;
- the application does not comply with the eligibility criteria as set out in section 7 above;
- the applicant(s) does(do) not comply with the exclusion and rejection from award criteria as set out in section 8 above;
- the applicant(s) does(do) not comply with the financial capacity as specified in section 9.1 above;
- the applicant(s) does(do) not comply with the operational capacity as specified in section 9.2 above;
- the proposal has not reached the minimum scores as indicated in the award criteria detailed in section 10 above;
- the score obtained by the proposal is not ranked amongst the best proposals considered for the award.

If the applicant believes that there was maladministration he can lodge a complaint to the European Ombudsman for alleged maladministration within two years of the date when he became aware of the facts on which the complaint is based (see <http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu>).

The court responsible for hearing annulment procedures is the General Court of the European Union:

General Court
Rue du Fort Niedergrünewald
L-2925 Luxembourg
tel.: (+352) 4303 1 fax: (+352) 4303 2100
e-mail: generalcourt.registry@curia.europa.eu
URL: <http://curia.europa.eu>

18.3. Reserve list

EUSPA may place proposals – which were not considered for award of the grant due to inferior score or lack of budget – on a reserve list. Should additional budgetary appropriations become available, the applicants will be informed according to their ranking on the reserve list about the potential award of the grant.

19. CONTACTS

Contacts between EUSPA and potential applicants can only take place in certain circumstances and under the following conditions:

Before the final date for submission of proposals:

- At the request of the applicant, EUSPA may provide additional information solely for the purpose of clarifying the nature of the call. The deadline for such requests is indicated in section 3 above.
- Any requests for additional information must be made in writing only to the contact details stated below.
- EUSPA may, on its own initiative, publish corrigenda in case of inaccuracy, omission or other clerical error in the text of the call for proposals.
- Any additional information including that referred to above will be published on EUSPA internet page (<https://www.euspa.europa.eu/opportunities/grants>) on which the call for proposals is published.

After the deadline for submission of proposals:

- If clarification is requested or if obvious clerical errors in the proposal need to be corrected, EUSPA will contact the applicant provided the terms of the proposal are not modified as a result.
- If EUSPA finds that the proposal, chosen for the award, could be improved by minor adaptations (see Section 18.2 above).

Contact details for the call:

EUSPA: Legal and Procurement Department
E-mail address: EUSPA-Grants@euspa.europa.eu
Office address: EUSPA, Janovského 438/2, 170 00, Prague 7, Czech Republic

REMINDER: when sending any correspondence to EUSPA, please refer in the subject (of the email or of the letter) to the relevant reference number of the Call: **EUSPA/GRANT/01/2026** – the failure of doing so might delay the timely response of EUSPA.

20. ANNEXES

ID	Document Title
Annex I	A1-A4 forms
Annex II	A5 Form
Annex III	B1 form
Annex IV	C1 form
Annex V	Mono-beneficiary draft Grant Agreement
Annex VI	Multi-beneficiaries draft Grant Agreement
Annex VII	Unit costs rates
Annex VIII	[intentionally not used]
Annex IX.1	Non-Disclosure Undertaking
Annex IX.2	Reinforced Non-Disclosure Undertaking
Annex X	Template of evidence of a valid authorisation issued by the Security Accreditation Board
Annex XI	Template of PRS Information Management Plan (PIMP)
Annex XII	Template declaration of pre-existing intellectual property rights
Annex XIII	Criteria for assessment of Participating Conditions, includes three parts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Part I – Criteria for Assessment of Participation Conditions - Part II – Excel Spreadsheet – Declaration of Ownership and Control (Template) - Part III – Additional Information Regarding the Assessment of Participating Conditions
Annex XIV	Security Aspects Letter (SAL)

21. APPLICABLE AND REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

ID	Document Title
[AD-1]	PSI and its annexes
[AD-2]	Receiver Requirements

22. DEFINITIONS, ABBREVIATIONS

Term/Abbreviation	Description/Definition
AR	Acceptance Review
BFEA	Brute Force Electronic Attacks
CD-ROM	Compact Disc Read-Only Memory
CIS	Communication and Information Systems
COMSEC	COMmunications SECurity
CPA	Competent PRS Authority
DPO	Data Protection Officer
DR	Design Review
DSA	Designated Security Authority
DVD	Digital Versatile Disc
EC	European Commission
EGNSS	European GNSS
eIDAS	electronic Identification, Authentication and Trust Services
EU	European Union
EUCI	European Union Classified Information
EUR	Euros
EUSPA	EU Agency for the Space Programme
FPA	Framework Partnership Agreements
FSC	Facility Security Clearance
GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite System
GUI	Graphical User Interface
IAS/IFRS	International Accounting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards
IF	Identification Form
KOM	Kick-Off Meeting
LOTL	List of eIDAS Trusted Lists
LSO	Local Security Officer
MoD	Ministries of Defence
MS	MicroSoft
NB	Nota Bene
NDU	Non-Disclosure Undertaking
NSA	National Security Authority
PDF	Portable Document Format

Term/Abbreviation	Description/Definition
PIMP	PRS Information Management Plan
PNT	Positioning, Navigation and Timing
PRS	Public Regulated Service
PRS SM	PRS Security Module
PRS SUP	PRS Support
PRS-AM	PRS Application Modules
PRS-RCV	PRS Receiver
PRS-USE	PRS – User Segment
PSC	Personal Security Clearance
QES	Qualified Electronic Signature
SAB	Security Accreditation Board
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SRR	System Requirements Review
URL	Uniform Resource Locator
USB	Universal Serial Bus
VAT	Value Added Tax

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