

**Courtesy translation: in case of discrepancy between the Italian language original text and the English language translation, the Italian version shall prevail.**

## **Public notice to support the research activities of young researchers**

### **NRRP - Mission 4 “Education and Research” - Component 2 “From Research to Business” - Investment 1.2 “Funding projects presented by young researchers”**

#### **THE GENERAL DIRECTOR**

- GIVEN** the Regulation (EU) 2021/241, which establishes the Recovery and Resilience Facility;
- GIVEN** the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) positively assessed with the ECOFIN Council Decision of 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021 and notified to Italy by the General Secretariat of the Council with note LT161 / 21, of 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021;
- GIVEN** Mission 4 "Education and Research" - Component 2 "From Research to Business" - Investment 1.2 "Funding of projects presented by young researchers" of the NRRP, which plans to offer new opportunities to young researchers who have won European Research calls Council - ERC Starting Grant under the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe Framework Programs, to and to winners of Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships, as well as to individuals holding a “Seal of Excellence” following participation in Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships within the framework programs Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe;
- GIVEN** the Regulation (EU) 2018/1046 of 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018, which establishes the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, which amends the Regulations (EU) no. 1296/2013, n. 1301/2013, n. 1303/2013, n. 1304/2013, n. 1309/2013, n. 1316/2013, n. 223/2014, n. 283/2014 and decision no. 541/2014 / EU and repeals regulation (EU, Euratom) no. 966/2012;
- ACCORDING** to Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021 laying down the common provisions applicable to the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund, the European Maritime Affairs Fund , fisheries and aquaculture, and the financial rules applicable to these funds and the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Financial Support Instrument for Border Management and Visa Policy, and in particular provisions of art. 53 par. 1, letter c) and par. 3 letter a), points i) and ii) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060;
- ACCORDING** to the decree-law of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, n. 77, changed by amendments of the law of 29<sup>th</sup> of July 2021, n. 108, containing: “Governance of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan and first measures to strengthen administrative structures and to speed up and streamline procedures”;

- GIVEN** the decree-law of 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021, n. 80, modified by the Law 6<sup>th</sup> August 2021, n. 113, containing: "Urgent measures to strengthen the administrative capacity of public administrations functional to the implementation of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) and for the efficiency of the judicial system";
- CONSIDERING** in particular, the second sentence art. 7, paragraph 1, of the aforementioned decree-law no. 80, pursuant to which: "By decree of the President of the Council of Ministers, on the proposal of the Minister of Economy and Finance, the administrations referred to in article 8, paragraph 1, of the decree-law of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, no. 77, are identified";
- GIVEN** the decree-law of 9<sup>th</sup> of January 2020, n. 1 (Official Journal, General Series, no. 6 of 9 January 2020), containing "Urgent provisions for the establishment of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of University and Research", changed by amendments of the law of 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020, n. 12 (Official Gazette, General Series, G.U.R.I.n.61 of 9 March 2020), with which the Ministry of University and Research is assigned the functions and duties pertaining to the State in the field of university education, scientific and technological research and of high artistic, musical and dance training, and the related operational programs financed by the European Union;
- GIVEN** the Decree of the Prime Minister of 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2020, n. 164 (Official Journal, General Series n. 309 of 14 December 2020), containing the "Organization Regulations of the Ministry of University and Research" (hereinafter, also only MUR) and the DPCM 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2020, n. 165 (Official Journal, General Series n. 309 of 14 December 2020), containing the "Regulations for the organization of Offices in direct collaboration with the Minister of University and Research";
- GIVEN** the Ministerial Decree of February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021, n. 224 (Official Gazette, General Series, no. 74 of 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021), containing "Identification and definition of the tasks of the non-general managerial level offices of the Ministry of University and Research";
- GIVEN** the Decree of the Prime Minister of 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021, admitted for approval by the Court of Auditors on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021, under no. 2474, with which Dr. Gianluigi Consoli was conferred the managerial position of general level of Director of the Directorate-General for Internationalisation and Communication;
- GIVEN** the Directorial Decree no. 247 of 11 January 2022, with which Dr. Michele Mazzola was appointed as Manager of Office III - Internationalisation of research - of the Directorate-General for Internationalisation and Communication;
- GIVEN** the Ministerial Decree no. 271 of 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022 on the "*Guideline Act concerning the identification of the political priorities of the Ministry of University and Research for the year 2022*" adopted by the Minister of University and Research;
- GIVEN** the Decree of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of 6<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and subsequent amendments, published in the Official Journal no. 229 of 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021, containing "*Allocation of the financial resources envisaged for the implementation of the interventions of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) and distribution of goals and objectives by half-yearly reporting deadlines*" and the subsequent correction of 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021;
- CONSIDERING** that, pursuant to the aforementioned Decree of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of 6<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and subsequent amendment of 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021, the Ministry of University and Research is the assignee of resources provided for the



implementation of the NRRP interventions for a total of € 11.732 billion, in order to implement the initiatives envisaged under the two components M4C1 “*Enhancement of the offer of educational services: from nursery schools to universities*” and M4C2 “*From research to business*”;

**CONSIDERING** that the M4C2 component “*From research to business*” is aimed at supporting investments in R&D, promoting innovation and the diffusion of technologies, strengthening skills, favouring the transition towards a knowledge-based economy, and that, in particular, the Investment line 1.2 “*Funding of projects presented by young researchers*” aims to support the research activities of young researchers, in order to allow them to gain experience of research responsibility;

**GIVEN** the Interministerial Decree MUR-MEF n. 1137 of 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2021, pursuant to art. 8, paragraph 1, of the decree-law 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, n. 77, converted, with modifications, by the law of 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021, n. 108, with which the Mission Unit for the implementation of the interventions of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP) was established at the General Secretariat of the Ministry of University and Research;

**GIVEN** the Decree-Law of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, n. 77, converted with amendments by the law of 29 July 2021, n. 108, with particular regards to art. 8, according to which each central administration responsible for the interventions envisaged in the RRP coordinates the related management activities, as well as their monitoring, reporting and control;

**GIVEN** art. 1, paragraph 1042, of the Law of 30<sup>th</sup> of December 2020, n. 178, pursuant to which, with one or more decrees of the Minister of Economy and Finance, the administrative-accounting procedures for the management of the resources referred to in paragraphs 1037 to 1050 are established, as well as the reporting methods for the management of the Rotation Fund of the Next Generation EU-Italy;

**GIVEN** art. 1, paragraph 1043, second sentence, of the Law of 30 December 2020, n. 178, pursuant to which, in order to support the management, monitoring, reporting and control activities of the components of the Next Generation EU, the Ministry of Economy and Finance - Department of the State General Accounting develops a specific computer system;

**GIVEN** the Law of 16<sup>th</sup> of January 2003, n. 3, containing "Regulations on public administration" and, in particular, art. 11, paragraph 2-bis, pursuant to which "Administrative acts, including those of a regulatory nature, adopted by the Administrations referred to in Article 1, paragraph 2, of Legislative Decree no. 165, which provide for public funding or authorize the execution of public investment projects, are void in the absence of the corresponding codes referred to in paragraph 1 which constitute an essential element of the act itself ";

**GIVEN** the resolution of the CIPE n. 63 of 26<sup>th</sup> of November 2020, which introduces the implementing legislation for the CUP reform;

**ACCORDING** to article 25, paragraph 2, of the decree-law of 24<sup>th</sup> April 2014, no. 66, which, in order to ensure the effective traceability of payments by public administrations, provides for the affixing of the tender identification code (CIG) and the unique Project Code (CUP) in the electronic invoices received;



- GIVEN** art. 17 EU Regulation 2020/852, which defines the environmental objectives, including the principle of not causing significant harm (DNSH, “Do no significant harm”), and the Communication of the EU Commission 2021 / C 58/01 containing "Technical guidelines on the application of the principle "do not cause significant harm" under the regulation on the mechanism for recovery and resilience ";
- CONSIDERING** the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2105 of 28 September 2021, which supplements Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council, which establishes the mechanism for recovery and resilience, defining a methodology for reporting of social spending;
- CONSIDERING** the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2106 of 28 September 2021 which supplements Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council, which establishes the mechanism for recovery and resilience, establishing common indicators and detailed elements of the Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard;
- GIVEN** the transversal principles provided for by the NRRP, such as, among other things, the principle of contribution to the climate and digital goals (so-called tagging), the principle of gender equality and the obligation to protect and enhance young people;
- GIVEN** the Decree of the Government Action Coordination Office for people with disabilities and their families of 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022, “Directive to the Administrations coordinating projects, reforms and measures in the field of disability” (Official Journal, General Series no. 74 of 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022);
- GIVEN** the Decree of the Department for Equal Opportunities of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, including “Adoption of the guidelines aimed at promoting equal opportunities in terms of gender equality and intergenerational equity, and the inclusion of people with disabilities in public contracts funded under the NRRP and the National Complementary Plan (NPC)” (Official Journal, General Series no. 309 of 30<sup>th</sup> December 2021);
- GIVEN** the Communication of the Ministry of Economy and Finance – General Accounting Office – no. 181858 of 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022, including “Guidelines for the creation of a dedicated section within the Administrations’ institutional websites, related to the implementation of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP)”;
- GIVEN** the EU Regulation no. 511/2014 on compliance measures for users resulting from the Nagoya protocol relating to access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits deriving from their use in the Union;
- GIVEN** the Law of 7<sup>th</sup> August 1990, no. 241, “*New rules on administrative procedure and right of access to administrative documents*” and subsequent amendments;
- GIVEN** the Law of 14<sup>th</sup> January 1994, no. 20, and subsequent amendments “*Provisions on jurisdiction and control of the Court of Auditors*”
- GIVEN** the Presidential Decree of 28<sup>th</sup> December 2000, no. 445, containing the “*Consolidated Law on administrative documentation*”;
- GIVEN** the Legislative Decree of 7<sup>th</sup> March 2005 no. 82, bearing the “*Digital Administration Code*”;



- GIVEN** the Communication no. 21 of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021 on the “*National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) - Transmission of Technical Instructions for the selection of NRRP projects*”;
- GIVEN** the Communication no. 25 of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021 on the “*National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) - Periodic detection of notices, calls and other investment activation procedures*”;
- GIVEN** the Communication no. 32 of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of 30<sup>th</sup> December 2021, on the “*National Recovery and Resilience Plan - Operational Guide for compliance with the principle of not causing significant damage to the environment (DNSH)*”;
- GIVEN** the Communication no. 33 of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021, on the “*National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) - Clarification note on the Communication of 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021, no. 21 - Transmission of the Technical Instructions for the selection of NRRP projects - additionality, complementary financing and obligation of absence of the so-called double financing*”;
- GIVEN** the Communication no. 4 of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022, on the “*National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) - Article 1, paragraph 1, of Law Decree no. 80 of 2021 - Implementation guidelines*”;
- GIVEN** the Communication no. 6 of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022, on the “*National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) - Technical assistance services for administrations in charge of interventions and implementing entity of the NRRP*”;
- GIVEN** the Communication no. 9 of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022, on the “*National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) - Transmission of technical instructions for the preparation of management and control systems of the central administrations responsible for NRRP interventions*”;
- GIVEN** the Communication no. 21 of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022, containing the “*National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) and National Plan for complementary investments - Clarifications in relation to the reference to the national regulations on public contracts referred to in the implementing provisions relating to NRRP and PNC interventions*”;
- GIVEN** the Communication no. 28 of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022, bearing “*Control of administrative and accounting regularity of the ordinary and special accounting reports. Control of administrative and accounting regularity on the acts of management of the PNRR resources - first operational indications*”;
- GIVEN** the Communication no. 29 of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022, “*Circular Letter of the financial procedures within the NRRP*”;
- GIVEN** the Operational Arrangements signed between the European Commission and the Ministry of Economy and Finance on 22 December 2021;
- GIVEN** the Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers, on the proposal of the Minister of Economy and Finance, of 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021, which defines the methods for collecting the financial, physical and procedural implementation data relating to each project, to be made available in a processable format, with particular reference to the



planned costs, the objectives pursued, the expenditure incurred, the effects on the territories that benefit from them, the implementing subjects, the expected and actual implementation times, the output and result indicators, as well as any another useful element for the analysis and evaluation of interventions;

**GIVEN** the Decree of the Minister of Economy and Finance of 11 October 2021, published in the Official Journal of the Italian Republic, General Series, no. 279 of 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021, no. 279, containing “*Procedures relating to the financial management of the resources provided for in the NRRP referred to in Article 1, paragraph 1042, of Law no. 178*”;

**CONSIDERING** that the Operational Arrangements signed between the European Commission and the Ministry of Economy and Finance on 22 December 2021 indicate, as part of the definition of targets and milestones for point M4C2-1, as a quantitative indicator for the achievement of the target, the number of students awarded a research grant and, as a verification mechanism, a list of funded projects, including a brief description and official references of each awarded grant;

**GIVEN** the obligation to ensure the achievement of targets and milestones and the financial objectives established in the NRRP and in particular the M4C2-1 Target, due within Q4 2022, which provides for the award of a research grant to 300 young researchers, and whose satisfactory fulfilment also takes into consideration that at least 300 of young researchers are contracted;

**CONSIDERING** that, according to the provisions of Article 2, point 6-bis, of the decree-law no. 77 of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, approved, with changes, by Law no. 108 of 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021, at least 40% of the financial resources must be dedicated to Southern Regions;

**CONSIDERING** the agreements concluded between the European Commission and the beneficiaries of the calls of the European Research Council - ERC Starting Grants, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships - MSCA-IF and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships - MSCA-PF, as part of the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe Programs (Grant Agreements);

**GIVEN** the Decree-Law of 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2022, n. 36, containing “Additional urgent measures for the implementation of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan” (Official Journal, General Series, no. 100 of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022), with particular regards to Article 14 (Provisions regarding universities and research);

**CONSIDERING** that the aforementioned Article 14 allows – during the period of execution of the NRRP and with the resources allocated to the NRRP – the publication of specific notices pursuant to which universities and public research bodies can proceed with the filling of fixed-term research positions pursuant to art. 24, paragraph 3, letter a) of the Law of 30<sup>th</sup> December 2010, no. 240, with scholars who have obtained a Seal of Excellence following participation in calls for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), issued under the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe framework programs in the years 2022 or earlier;

**GIVEN** the Ministerial Decree of 24 June 2022, no. 581 laying down the allocation criteria for the Ordinary Financing Fund (FFO) of State Universities and Interuniversity Consortia for 2022;

- GIVEN** the Fund for the Evaluation and Promotion of research projects (Article 1, point 550, of Law no. 178 of 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020, augmented by Article 64, point 6, of the decree-law no. 77 of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, approved, with changes, by Law no. 108 of 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021;
- GIVEN** the Ministerial Decree n. 229 of 11 February 2022, which determined the remuneration of the technical-scientific experts who are entrusted with the evaluation of the research programs and projects presented in response to Calls and Notices issued in implementation of the interventions owned by MUR within the PNRR, in analogy to what is practiced by the European Commission, considering the specific nature of the assignment and the complexity of the assessment, in compliance with the provisions of Ministerial Decree no. 1314/2021, as integrated with Ministerial Decree no. 1368 of 24<sup>th</sup> December 2021;
- GIVEN** Article 22, points 1 and 2, of the law of 30<sup>th</sup> December 2010, n. 240, as amended by the Decree-Law of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022, n. 36;
- CONSIDERING** Article 10, paragraph 4, of the decree-law no. 121 of 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021, converted with amendments by Law no. 156 of 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 (Official Journal, General Series no. 267 of 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021);
- GIVEN** the Decree of the Minister of University and Research no. 894 of 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022, which defines the specific operational measures for the calls and hires referred to in the aforementioned article 14 of the legislative decree 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2022, n. 36, converted, with amendments, by Law no. 79 of 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022;

## **DECREES**

### **CHAPTER I**

#### **COMMON PROVISIONS**

##### **Art 1. (Purpose and Scope)**

1. This Notice for the presentation of the project proposals presented by young researchers (hereinafter also “Notice”), in accordance with the aforementioned Decree of the Minister of University and Research no. 894 of 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022, is part of the implementation of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), Mission 4 “Education and Research” – Component 2 “From research to ‘business,’” Investment 1.2 “Funding projects presented by young researchers”.
2. According to the Operational Arrangements signed between the European Commission and the Ministry of Economy and Finance on 22<sup>nd</sup> of December 2021, this Notice intends to contribute to the achievement of the Target M4C2-1, according to which at least 300 research grants must be awarded, by the fourth quarter of the year of 2022, to young researchers belonging to one of the following categories:
  - a) Principal Investigators of the European Research Council - ERC Starting Grant, under the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe Framework Programs, who have chosen foreign Host Institutions as their headquarters;

- b) grantees of Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships under the Horizon 2020 Framework Programs and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships under the Horizon Europe Framework Programs;
  - c) researchers who have obtained a “Seal of Excellence” by participating in Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Global Postdoctoral Fellowships, as part of the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe framework programs.
3. Actions included in the Notice are consistent with the intervention field 009 – “*Research and innovation activities in public research centres, higher education and centres of competence including networking (industrial research, experimental development, feasibility studies)*”, as of Annex VI of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021.
  4. Pursuant to EU Communication 2014 / C 198/01 of the European Commission, the measures provided for in the Notice do not constitute State aid.

## **Art 2. (Definitions)**

1. “ANVUR”: National Agency for the Evaluation of the University and Research System, referred to in Article 2, paragraph 138, of the decree-law no. 262 of 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2006, modified by the law no. 286 of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2006, as well as the decree of the President of the Republic no. 76 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2010.
2. “National Committee for Research Evaluation” (hereinafter, also just CNVR): The Committee is defined by art. 64, Decree-Law no. 77 of 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2021.
3. “Component”: Element of the NRRP that indicates the priorities of reforms and investment related to an area of intervention, a sector, an area, or an activity, to address specific challenges. The component is divided into one or more measures.
4. “CUP”: The Unique Project Code (CUP) is the code that identifies a public investment project and is the key tool for functioning the Public Investment Monitoring System.
5. “Public Research Bodies”: Public Research Bodies referred to in art. 1, paragraph 1, of the Legislative Decree 218/2016.
6. “Technical/ scientific expert” (hereinafter also TSE only): Expert appointed by the Ministry, of Italian or foreign nationality, identified by the CNVR within the specific lists managed by the European Commission, by the Ministry itself and by other national institutions or euro-union.
7. “EU Missions of the Horizon Europe Framework Program”: the 5 Missions of the Horizon Europe Framework Program (Adaptation to Climate Change, Cancer, Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030, 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030, A Soil Deal for Europe).
8. “European Research Council - ERC”: The European Research Council;
9. “Evaluation Summary Report”: Evaluation of the First submission;
10. “First submission”: The first project proposal submitted by the applicant participate in the European Research Council Starting Grant, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Global Postdoctoral Fellowships under the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe framework programs;
11. “Rotation Fund of the Next Generation EU-Italy”: Fund referred in art. 1, paragraph 1037 and following the law no. 178 of 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
12. “Young researcher”: Researchers of any nationality with 2-7 years of experience from the finalisation of the research doctorate.
13. “Grant Agreement”: The financed agreement concluded between the European Commission and the Host Institution which specifies the rights and obligations of the contracting parties.



14. "*Host Institution*": The University or public research body chosen by the applicants as the main research site.
15. "*Infrastructure*": installations, laboratories, resources and related services used by the scientific community to carry out research in their respective sectors; it includes installations or complexes of scientific instruments, knowledge-based resources such as collections, archives or structured scientific information and infrastructures based on enabling information and communication technologies, such as GRID-type networks, IT material, software, communication tools and any other means necessary to conduct research.
16. "*Lump Sum*": amount determined on a lump-sum basis, for amounts less than 200,000 euros, in accordance with the provisions of Art. 10 paragraph 4, of the decree-law 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021, n. 121, changed by the amendments of law 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021, n. 156 (Official Gazette, general series, of November 9, 2021, no. 267) and in compliance with the provisions of art. 53 par. 1, letter c) and par. 3 letter a), points i) and ii) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060;
17. "*Milestone*": Qualitative goal to be achieved through a specific measure of the RPP (reform and/or investment), which represents a commitment agreed upon with the European Union or at the national level (e.g., legislation adopted, full operation of IT systems, etc..).
18. "*Minister and Ministry*": The Minister and the Ministry of University and Research (MUR).
19. "*Mission*": Response, organized according to general macro-objectives and areas of intervention, concerning the economic-social challenges that are intended to be addressed with the NRRP and divided into Components. The six Missions of the Plan represent structural "thematic" areas of intervention (Digitization, innovation, competitiveness and culture; Green revolution and ecological transition; Infrastructures for sustainable mobility; Education and research; Inclusion and cohesion; Health).
20. "*Measure of the NRRP*": Specific investments and/or reforms envisaged by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan carried out through implementing interventions/projects financed therein.
21. "*Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships*" (also "MSCA Individual Fellowships"): the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions of the European Fellowships and Global Fellowships types under the Horizon 2020 Framework Program.
22. "*Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships*" (also "MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships"): the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions of the European Postdoctoral Fellowships and Global Postdoctoral Fellowships under the Horizon Europe framework program.
23. "*Open science*": an approach to the scientific process based on cooperation and on new ways to disseminate knowledge and improve the accessibility and reusability of research results through the use of digital technologies and new collaboration tools. Open science is a priority policy of the European Commission and the reference working method in the context of public funding for research and innovation.
24. "*Evaluation Panel*" (hereinafter also just Panel): Group of Technical-Scientific Experts who deal with the technical-scientific evaluation of project proposals.
25. "*Gender Equality Plan*": action program that aims to support gender equality;
26. "*NRRP (or Plan)*": National Recovery and Resilience Plan presented to the European Commission according to art. 18 and following Regulation (EU) 2021/241.
27. "*Principal Investigator*": Researcher, regardless of his legal status, Italian or foreign, who has obtained a grant under the ERC Starting Grant.
28. "*Principle do not cause significant damage (DNSH)*": the principle "do not cause significant damage", defined in Article 17 of EU Regulation 2020/852; all investments and NRRP reforms must comply with this principle pursuant to Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241.
29. "*FAIR Data Principles*": set of principles, guidelines and best practices to ensure that research data is Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Re-usable, in compliance with ethical, commercial and confidentiality restrictions and the principle "as open as possible and closed only when necessary".

30. "*Project or intervention*": Specific project/intervention (also understood as a set of activities and/or procedures) selected and financed as part of a Plan Measure and identified through a Unique Project Code (CUP). The project contributes to the achievement of the objectives of the Mission and represents the main entity of monitoring as the minimum unit for collecting information of a personal, financial, procedural and physical nature.
31. "*Report of expenses*": Activity necessary to prove the correct financial execution of the project.
32. "RTD-A": Researchers who take advantage of three-year contracts that can be extended for only two years, for one time only, after a positive evaluation of the didactic and research activities carried out, pursuant to art. 24, paragraph 3, letter a), of the law of 30 December 2010, n. 240.
33. "RTD-B": Three-year contracts pursuant to art. 24, paragraph 3, letter b), of the law of 30 December 2010, n. 240, reserved for candidates who have benefited from the "RTD-A" contracts, or who have obtained the national scientific qualification for the functions of first or second-level professor referred to in Article 16 of Law no. 240, or who have the medical specialization qualification, or who, for at least three years, even if not consecutive, have benefited from research grants pursuant to article 51, paragraph 6, of law no. 449, or research grants referred to in article 22 of this law, or post-doctoral scholarships pursuant to article 4 of law no. 398, or similar contracts, grants or scholarships in foreign universities.
34. "ReGiS System": IT system referred to in art. 1, paragraph 1043 of the budget law n. 178/2020 (budget law 2021), developed to support the management, monitoring, reporting and control activities of the NRRP and designed to guarantee the electronic exchange of data between the various parties involved in the Governance of the Plan.
35. "*Implementing entity*": Party responsible for the initiation, implementation and functionality of the intervention/project funded by the NRRP. In particular, Article 1, paragraph 4, letter o) of the decree-law 31 May 2021, n. 77, converted with amendments by law 29 July 2021 n. 108, indicates that the implementing subjects are: "the public or private subjects who carry out the interventions envisaged by the NRRP". Art. 9 paragraph 1 of the same decree specifies that "the central administrations, the regions, the autonomous provinces of Trento and Bolzano and the local authorities (based on the specific institutional competences or the different ownership of the interventions defined in the NRRP) through its structures or by making use of external implementing subjects identified in the NRRP or the manner provided for by the national and European legislation in force".
36. "*Applicant*": Researcher who submits the project proposal covered by this Notice and who carries out the related research project.
37. "*Seal of Excellence*": quality recognition mark awarded by the European Commission to proposals submitted for the MSCA Individual Fellowships and MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships actions that have obtained a high score and deemed compliant with the requirements but have not been funded due to constraints budget.
38. "*Sustainable Development Goals*": sustainable development goals identified by the United Nations.
39. "*Target*": Quantitative target to be achieved through a specific measure of the NRRP (reform and/or investment), which represents a commitment agreed upon with the European Union or at the national level, measured through a well-specified indicator (e.g., number of kilometres of rails built, number of square meters of the refurbished building, etc.).
40. "*Technologists*": university technologists and technologists of public research bodies, on a fixed-term basis and ad hoc contracted for the project referred to in this Procedure;
41. "*Universities*": state and non-state universities, including telematic universities, and special university institutes (Gran Sasso Science Institute (GSSI), IMT Alti Studi Lucca School, IUSS University School of Pavia, Scuola Normale Superiore of Pisa, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna of Pisa, International School of Advanced Studies of Trieste).

### **Art 3. (Financial Allocation of the Notice)**

1. According to Annex 1 of the decree of the Minister of Economy and Finance 23<sup>rd</sup> of November 2021, the financial endowment of Mission 4 "Education and Research" - Component 2 "From research to business", Investment 1.2 "Funding projects presented by young researchers" is equal to € 600 million, gross of 2.5% for the monitoring and evaluation of projects.
2. As part of the overall endowment referred above in paragraph 1, the specific action implemented by this Notice, is endowed, for the year 2022, with € 220 million, such that:
  - a) € 100 million - of which at least € 40 million are allocated to the regions of Southern Italy - to finance the projects of 100 young researchers who have won the European Research Council - ERC Starting Grant under the Horizon 2020 framework programs and Horizon Europe;
  - b) € 60 million euros - of which at least € 24 million are allocated to the regions of Southern Italy - to finance the research activities of 200 young researchers who have won Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships calls under the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe Framework Programs;
  - c) € 60 million euros - of which at least € 24 million are allocated to the regions of Southern Italy - to finance the projects of 400 young researchers who have obtained a "Seal of Excellence" as part of their participation in Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships calls.
3. For the purposes of the allocation of resources referred to in paragraph 2, with regards to the share dedicated to the Southern Regions referred to in paragraph 2, the location in the Southern regions refers to the place where the activities are carried out and not to the legal office of the *Host Institution*.
4. The Ministry has the right to allocate the savings made available to other lines of action relating to Mission 4 "Education and Research", Component 2 "From Research to Business", Investment 1.2 "Funding projects presented by young researchers" based on one of the 3 lines of action envisaged in the Notice, as well as the savings resulting from the actual impossibility of allocating the resources with territorial destination constraints to the regions of the South, equal to at least 40 per cent of the resources that can be allocated.

#### **Art. 4 (Applicants and admissible implementing entities)**

1. The Principal Investigators who have won a European Research Council Starting Grant under the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe framework programs, whose grant is still active at the final application date as to the present Notice, art. 9 paragraph 2, and whose Host Institution is foreign, are eligible as applicants for the funding of the projects presented by 100 young researchers who are ERC grantees.
2. The researchers who have won Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships under the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe Framework Programs, and whose project was completed no more than 12 months before the final application date as to the present Notice, art. 16 paragraph 2, are eligible as applicants for the funding of the projects presented by 200 young researchers who have won Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships.
3. Researchers who have obtained a "Seal of Excellence" following a communication received in the 24 months preceding the deadline for presentation of applications referred to in art. 23, paragraph 2, are eligible as applicants for the funding of the projects of 400 young researchers who have obtained a "Seal of Excellence" following the participation to Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships calls.

4. The Principal Investigator referred to in paragraph 1 above, making use of the grant portability institution, provided for by the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe Framework Programs for the ERC topic, must sign a contract with a selected Italian Host Institution no later than 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023.
5. With regard to the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3, for the purpose of achieving the Target M4C2-1, the applicants must sign contract with a selected Italian Host Institution by 20 December 2022, according to the provisions of art. 17, paragraph 1 and art. 24, paragraph 1. The relevant documentation should be promptly forwarded to the Ministry.
6. The implementing entities, eligible as beneficiaries of the grant referred to in this Notice, are the Universities referred to in art. 2, paragraph 41, and Public Research Bodies, referred to in art. 2, paragraph 5, having operational headquarters throughout the national territory.
7. Participation in the Notice in the form of consortia, groupings or similar is not envisaged.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **Funding of young researchers who have been awarded ERC grants**

#### **Art. 5 (Fundable interventions and eligibility criteria)**

1. The project proposals of the applicants must be part of one of the research areas belonging to the scientific-disciplinary macro-sectors covered by the ERC grant, as listed in Annex 1A, which is an integral part of this Notice.
2. Proposals must be complementary or consequential with respect to the activities included in the First Submission. Within the proposal, the applicants must include, under penalty of exclusion, short periods of mobility for a maximum of 6 months, including periods for research or teaching in other locations in Italy or abroad.
3. In order to achieve the objectives of the NRRP and to implement the provisions therein, the proposals that can be financed according to this Notice must:
  - a) be consistent with the objectives and purposes of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, with the general strategy and the detail sheet of the component of the NRRP;
  - b) aim at achieving the results measured in reference to milestones and targets that may be assigned to the line of action within the terms established by the Plan;
  - c) comply with the “do no significant harm” principle, pursuant to Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, in accordance with the technical guidelines prepared by the European Commission (Communication of the European Commission 2021 / C58 / 01);
  - d) be suitable in addressing and bridging gender inequalities;
  - e) support the participation of women and young people, also in accordance with the provisions of the decree-law no. 77 of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 (so-called Simplification Decree), converted, with amendments, by law no. 108 of 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021, relating to the management of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP);

- f) promote the exploitation of research results and ensure the protection of intellectual property, ensuring open access to the public to research results and related data (for example, publications of original scientific research results, raw data and metadata, sources, digital graphic and image representations and scientific multimedia materials) in the shortest time and with the least possible limitations, according to the principles of “Open science” and “FAIR Data”.
4. Compliance with the above conditions must be declared. Compliance with the principle “do no significant harm” must be declared through the transmission of the Declaration of fulfilment of the DNSH principle signed by the applicant (Annex 2A).
5. The applicant must complete the self-assessment form for compliance with the ethical requirements relating to the European Research Council - ERC Starting Grants calls (Annex 3A).

#### **Art. 6 (Duration and terms of implementation of the project)**

1. The activities envisaged by the project proposals referred to in art. 5, paragraph 2, must be carried out over a maximum period of 36 months from the date of signing the contract referred to in art. 4, paragraph 4, and – in any case – within 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026.

#### **Art. 7 (Eligible Expenses)**

1. The grant provided and mentioned in this Notice will correspond to the eligible costs within a maximum limit of € 1 million for each project proposal.
2. Upon submitting the application, the applicant must indicate the amount requested:
  - a) as a "lump sum", for amounts lower than € 200,000;

*or*

  - b) on the basis of the economic-financial plan referred to in art. 9, paragraph 8, letter c), for amounts greater than or equal to € 200,000.
3. In the cases referred to in paragraph 2, letter b), the total eligible expenses of the projects must relate to the costs actually incurred by the implementing entity for the execution of the proposed initiative, in compliance with the criteria set out in this Notice.
4. The non-repayable grant can be granted up to a maximum of 100% of the total eligible expenses, considering the limits referred to in paragraph 5, letter g), in the cases referred to in paragraph 2, letter b).
5. The following cost items are eligible for the contribution referred to in paragraph 1:
  - a) Costs of personnel dedicated to the project referred to in this Notice, in terms of months/person, including costs relating to the recruitment of at least one fixed-term researcher, which should not be higher than the 20%, as indicated in paragraph 7;
  - b) Costs of tools and equipment, to the extent and for the period in which they are actually used for the project, applying the depreciation criterion, including costs relating to infrastructure investments, in order to enhance the value of the *Host Institution*, which should not be lower than





- 20%, as indicated in paragraph 7. These expenses need to be reported in compliance with the principles of good accounting practice;
- c) costs of scientific consultancy or technical-scientific assistance services used exclusively for the purposes of the project;
  - d) costs of communication activities and dissemination of research results;
  - e) costs for short periods of mobility for research or teaching activities in other locations in Italy or abroad for a maximum period of 6 months;
  - f) other operating costs (for instance, but not limited to: short periods of mobility; consumables; publications of books; missions abroad and participation in training and / or information events abroad, provided that they are specifically supported for the project and strictly attributable to it; costs for the acquisition and use of patents);
  - g) general expenditures: eligible at a flat rate of 7% of direct costs, excluding subcontracts, as indicated in Article 54, paragraph 1, a) of the European Regulation 2021/1060, as recalled in Article 10, paragraph 4 of Decree no. 121, of 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021, modified by Law no. 156, of 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021.
6. In cases referred to in paragraph 2, letter b), in compliance with the relevant national legislation, the value added tax (VAT) is considered an eligible cost only in cases where this is not recoverable. However, for this amount must be promptly traced, for each project, in the management information systems, as it is not included in the estimate of project costs for the purposes of the NRRP.
7. In the cases referred to in paragraph 2, letter b), the financial contribution referred to in paragraph 1 must be allocated to the recruitment of at least one additional fixed-term researcher, for a share that does not exceed 20% of eligible direct costs, and, for a share that does not exceed 20% of eligible direct costs, to investments in infrastructures, in order to increase the value of the Italian Host Institution chosen by the applicant and of the territory.

#### **Art. 8 (Vacant and available positions - Terms and methods of communication by Host Institutions)**

1. In consideration of the financial endowment referred to in art. 3, paragraph 2, letter a), of this Notice, the implementing entities, as potential Host Institutions, are invited to communicate vacant and available positions, relating to the technical-scientific sectors associated with the research fields belonging to the scientific-disciplinary macro-sectors adopted by the ERC, as listed in Annex 1A, an integral part of this Notice.
2. In the case of Host Institutions with offices distributed throughout the Italian territory, the indication of the vacant position must refer to the location where activities are effectively executed, and not to the legal and registered office of the Host Institution.
3. The above-mentioned positions must be communicated exclusively by uploading them to the <https://www.gea.mur.gov.it> platform, according to the methods indicated in the specific guidelines (Annex 4A), starting from 30<sup>th</sup> August 2022 at 12.00 PM (Rome time) and no later than 15<sup>th</sup> September at 12.00 PM (Rome time). Positions communicated in different ways, or later than the above-mentioned deadlines, will not be considered eligible.
4. Within, as a rule, 10 days from the end of the communication phase referred to in paragraph 1, the Ministry draws up a list of vacant and available positions, distributed throughout the territory in the regions of the South and the Centre-North.

5. With the communication referred to in paragraph 1, the implementing entities undertake to activate, upon admission of the proposals to the financing, the direct call of the applicants, pursuant to art. 3 of the Ministerial Decree no. 894 of 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022, in implementation of art. 14 of the decree-law 30 April no. 36/2022 converted, with amendments, with Law no. 79 of 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**Art. 9 (Presentation of the application by the Principal Investigator)**

1. The Principal Investigator must choose up to 3 vacant available positions, where available, indicated by the Host Institutions, of which at least 1 position must be located in the Southern regions, in order of preference. Once the selection phase is concluded, the options are considered irrevocable – and therefore can neither be integrated nor modified. The Principal Investigator, in choosing the places, as well as the order of preference, accepts in advance, based on his position in the ranking and the situation of the other applicants who precede him, to be assigned to each of them.
2. Applications must be submitted in English, under penalty of exclusion and inadmissibility, exclusively electronically, via the <https://www.gea.mur.gov.it> platform, starting from 22 September 2022 at 12.00 PM (Rome time) and strictly no later than 11 October 2022 at 12.00 PM (Rome time).
3. Applications submitted with methods and / or times other than those described above and / or which are missing the documents listed in paragraph 8 of this Notice will be considered inadmissible.
4. The Ministry assumes no responsibility for the loss or delayed receipt of communications due to errors committed by the applicants, nor for any IT problems attributable to third parties, by chance or force majeure.
5. To this end, the Ministry, upon opening of the terms for submitting the application, will guarantee access to the <https://www.gea.mur.gov.it> platform for those authorized to submit the project proposal. Through this access, it will be possible to perform all the activities relating to the compilation and transmission of the application.
6. The application must be signed electronically or in manuscript by the applicant, with all the documents required by this Notice. These documents must comply, in terms of contents and methods of sending, with the indications set out in this Notice.
7. The application is made in the form of self-certification, pursuant to Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and with the assumption of responsibilities pursuant to art. 75 and 76 of the same decree, and must contain the consent to the processing of data, pursuant to and for the purposes of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), adopted on 27 April 2016, and published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016, and of Legislative Decree no. 196/2003 (“Code regarding the protection of personal data”) and subsequent amendments and additions.
8. Any application relating to project proposals submitted by Principal Investigators who have won ERC Starting Grants under the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe Framework Programs includes:
  - a) The project registry form, which provides the title of the research project funded by ERC, the indication of the macro-sector of the project funded by ERC the identification code of the call in which the Principal Investigator participated, the date of communication of the admission to

funding, the score obtained, the date of signing of the Grant agreement, the abstract of the original project, the value of the project, the start and end date of the project funded by ERC;

- b) The form relating to the complementary or consequential research proposal pursuant to this Notice, which includes the title of the project, the duration of the project, the keywords (maximum 5), the abstract of the project;
- c) The economic-financial plan, only if the total contribution requested is greater than or equal to € 200,000 in the cases referred to in art. 7, paragraph 2, letter b), which presents the total contribution requested and the breakdown of the project costs by expense items (Annex 5A)
- d) Uploading the following documents in the “Attachments” section
  - (i) Identity document
  - (ii) Evaluation Summary Report;
  - (iii) The identification code of the Grant agreement of the Principal Investigator;
  - (iv) “First submission” of the project financed by ERC;
  - (v) Project proposal (Annex 6A);
  - (vi) Curriculum Vitae of the Principal Investigator;
  - (vii) Declaration of compliance with the DNSH principle (Annex 2A);

9. Under this Notice, each Principal Investigator may submit only one proposal under this Notice.

#### **Art. 10 (Direct call of the Principal Investigators at Universities and public research bodies)**

1. Considering the financial resources acquired by the implementing entities under this Notice, the researcher holding a Starting Grant from the European Research Council as Principal Investigator and who carries out his / her activity in a foreign Host Institution, can apply for vacant positions available for the same research area at universities and public research bodies.
2. To the Principal Investigators of the projects admitted for funding under this Notice, the Host Institutions will allocate available positions as:
  - a) Associate professor at universities and university institutions, private or public, including high schools with a special status.
  - b) Researcher (second professional level), in public research bodies with operational headquarters throughout the national territory.
3. The acceptance, referred to in paragraph 1 of this article, involves the transfer of the project funded by the European Research Council, through the attribute of portability, and determines the acceptance of the available position.
4. The third sentence of Article 1, paragraph 9, of Law No. 230 of 4<sup>th</sup> November 2005 shall not apply to the procedures referred to in the first paragraph of this article.
5. The calls referred to in article 1, paragraph 9, of law no. 230 of 4<sup>th</sup> November 2005, that relate to the winners of the research programs of the European Research Council, also take place by way of derogation from the recruitment faculties, and in any case within the limits of the resources referred to in Article 1, paragraph 297, letter c), of Law no. 234 of 30<sup>th</sup> December 2021, assigned to public universities according to the allocation of the fund for ordinary funding referred to in Article 5, paragraph 1, letter a), of Law no. 537.

6. The achievement of funding under the research programs referred to in paragraph 2 is considered exceptional merit pursuant to Article 16 of Legislative Decree no. 218 of 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016 and does not require the assessment referred to in paragraph 3 of the same article 16.

**Art. 11 (Methods for evaluating and approving the application)**

1. The contribution referred to in art. 7 paragraph 1 is granted based on a selection and evaluation procedure carried out by each individual Host Institution, within the scope of their autonomy, whose vacant and available positions have received at least one project proposal.
2. For all proposals that are received within the aforementioned deadlines, the Ministry usually carries out, within 30 days from the submission deadline, a formal-administrative investigation of the applications. This phase aims at verifying compliance with the method of presentation and completeness of the required mandatory documentation, the timing and the existence of the subjective and objective requirements required by the Notice. This investigation is carried out by the offices of the Directorate-General for Internationalisation and Communication.
3. The Ministry reserves the right to request regularisations with regards to the documentation produced. The shortcomings of any formal element of the application can be regularized through the preliminary administrative procedure. In this case, the Ministry assigns a reasonable deadline to the applicant in order to regularize the proposal. If not complied, the project proposal is declared excluded from the subsequent phase of merit evaluation by the Host Institutions. The deficiencies in the documentation that do not allow the clear identification of the applicant and / or the identification of the content subject to regularization cannot be regularized through the preliminary administrative procedure.
4. For the purposes of completing the merit evaluation phase referred to in paragraph 3, the Host Institutions indicated by the applicant, within the scope of their autonomy, appoint one or more Evaluation Commissions according to criteria of competence, transparency and rotation, in compliance with the principles of impartiality, promptness and absence of conflicts of interest, within, as a rule, 30 days from the expiry of the deadline for receiving applications. At the same time as the assessment of merit, the Commissions carry out an assessment of the compliance of the project proposals with the principle “do no significant harm”, through the use of an exclusion list and reference to the relevant European and national environmental legislation.
5. The evaluation of merit is carried out by the Evaluation Commissions appointed by the Host Institutions and is carried out on the basis of the following criteria:

<b>ELEMENTS FOR EVALUATION</b>	<b>SCORES</b>
1. <b>Scientific adequacy:</b> Coherence, clarity and ambition of project objectives, by respecting either the complementarity or the consequentiality with the “First Submission” objectives	<b>0-5</b>
2. Expected <b>Impact</b> the project is supposed to have in terms of: scientific, social and economic matters; adherence with European and International policies; knowledge and/or technologies transfer	<b>0-5</b>
3. <b>Implementation</b> and feasibility; robustness, clarity and feasibility of the plan on schedule.	<b>0-5</b>
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>0-15</b>

Scores must be in the range 0-5.

Scores	Description
<b>0-1</b>	The proposal does not meet the evaluation criteria and / or cannot be evaluated due to missing information
<b>2-3</b>	The proposal addresses the evaluation criteria correctly but there are some limitations
<b>4-5</b>	The proposal successfully addresses the evaluation criteria, and any shortcomings are to be considered marginal

6. Projects that achieve an overall score of less than 9 out of 15 or that have at least a score on the individual criteria of less than or equal to 1 are not eligible for the grant.
7. Within 15 days of the closure of the merit evaluation procedure, the Host Institutions referred to in paragraph 1 fill out the Evaluation Report (Annex 7A) for each project proposal associated with the vacant and available position referred to in art. 9, paragraph 1, containing the evaluation carried out in accordance with the criteria referred to in paragraph 5, and send it to the Ministry of University and Research together with the documentation certifying compliance with the principle “do no significant harm” (DNSH) pursuant to article 17 of Reg. (EU) 2020/85. At the same time, the Host Institutions draw up, for each open position, a ranking, ordering the project proposals received according to the scores contained in the evaluation reports and forwarding the rankings to the Ministry of University and Research.
8. Within 15 days of receiving the rankings, the Ministry associates the open positions to the applicants who are first classified in each ranking and who have indicated the relevant Host Institution as the first among the preferences referred to in art. 9, paragraph 1.
9. If the rankings contain projects classified as “equal merit” based on the score obtained, the project proposals that has obtained a higher score as defined in criterion n. 1 and, if this score is the same, that has obtained a higher score as defined in criterion n. 2. In case of further “equal merit”, the winning project proposal will be the one submitted by the youngest Principal Investigator.
10. If the applicant is ranked first in more than one ranking, the Ministry associates the applicants with the Host Institution indicated in the highest position, in the order of preferences. In such cases, the applicant is excluded from the rankings of the other vacant and available positions for which he has expressed a preference of a lower grade. Upon completion of the procedure referred to in paragraph 8, the Ministry orders the first classified for each ranking in a single list, in descending order of score. Subsequently, the Ministry draws up and publishes on the platform <https://www.gea.mur.gov.it> the ranking of eligible subjects, in which evidence will be given of the subjects selected for vacant and available positions located in the regions of Southern Italy, to which priority will be given in order, up to the coverage of 40% of the financial endowment referred to in art. 3, paragraph 2 letter. a), territorially allocated in the southern regions.
11. Within 20 days from the publication of the final ranking referred to in paragraph 10, the applicants proceed to accept or reject the position assigned. In case of renunciation or non-acceptance, it will not be possible to be placed on other vacant and available positions and also to participate in subsequent editions of this Notice.



12. Following the renunciation and / or non-acceptance, by the applicants of an open position, the ranking proceeds with the scrolling, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 9. Subsequent availabilities that are determined as a result of renunciation are subject to further attribution phases with regard only to the proponents who have not previously been assigned to the assignment.
13. Upon completion of the procedure described in paragraphs 1-12, the Ministry adopts the concession decree.
14. The Ministry reserves the right to carry out checks aimed at ascertaining compliance with the obligations set out in the concession provision and the truthfulness of the declarations and information produced pursuant to this Notice.
15. In compliance with current regulations on the evaluation of the university and research system, the ex-post evaluation of research products is managed by the National Agency for University and Research Evaluation (ANVUR), which will carry it out according to times, forms and methods determined by itself and in compliance with current legislation.

**Art. 12 (Method of disbursement of the grant / contribution and reporting of expenses)**

1. At the outcome of the evaluation of the project proposals referred to in art. 11, the Ministry of University and Research adopts the concession decree for projects eligible for funding.
2. Following the signing of the deed of obligation, the applicant may request an advance payment to the extent of 10% of the contribution recognized by this Notice.
3. For the purposes of monitoring and administrative-accounting controls pursuant to art. 22 of Reg. (EU) 2021/241 the applicant must submit a technical-scientific report demonstrating the progress of the research (Annex 8A) within the sixth month from the start of the research activities related to the project proposal or, in the cases referred to in art. 7, paragraph 2, letter b), the overall reporting of expenses, according to the procedures defined by the MUR. Upon the positive outcome of the verifications carried out according to the procedures referred to in the following paragraphs 7 and 8, and in accordance with the payment plan provided for by the decree granting the loan, the Ministry arranges the disbursements of the grant in favour of the subject actuator, up to a maximum of 50% of the total amount recognized, including the advance referred to in paragraph 2.
4. For the purposes of monitoring and administrative-accounting controls pursuant to art. 22 of Reg. (EU) 2021/241 the applicant must produce, within the eighteenth month from the start of the research activities related to the project proposal, a technical-scientific report demonstrating the progress of the research (Annex 9A) or, in the cases referred to in art. 7, paragraph 2, letter b), the overall reporting of expenses, according to the procedures defined by the MUR. Upon the positive outcome of the verifications of this report, carried out according to the procedures referred to in the following paragraphs 7 and 8, and in accordance with the payment plan provided for by the decree granting the loan, the Ministry arranges the disbursements of the grant in favour of the subject actuator, up to a maximum of 90% of the total amount recognized, including the advance referred to in paragraph 2 and the first payment referred to in paragraph 3.
5. In the cases referred to in art. 7, paragraph 2, letter b), upon the outcome of the verifications referred to in the previous paragraphs, if the amount of the previously arranged disbursements is higher than the

amount of the public grant accrued in relation to the eligible expenses, the recovery of the difference is ordered.

6. The final disbursement is quantified to the extent of 10% of the contribution provided by this Notice and is prepared at the conclusion of the project proposal, based on the costs actually incurred and the achievement of the objectives set, positively assessed according to the procedure described in this article, and also following the submission of a technical-scientific report demonstrating the progress of the research (Annex 10A) or, in the cases referred to in art. 7, paragraph 2, letter b), of the final expense report, by the applicant. In cases referred to in art. 2, paragraph 2, letter b), if the amount of the previously arranged disbursements is higher than the amount of the public grant accrued in relation to the eligible expenses, the recovery of the difference is ordered.
7. The Ministry carries out the “in itinere” checks relating to the reports referred to in paragraphs 3, 4 and 6, acquiring the evaluation of a Panel of Technical-Scientific Experts for each macro-sector of the European Research Council, identified, through the CNVR, pursuant to current legislation.
8. The Ministry carries out the "in itinere" controls on the administrative-accounting documentation (expense reporting), through the National Agency for the attraction of investments and business development Spa - Invitalia - in implementation of art. 1, paragraph 550, of Law no. 178 of 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020, of banks and financial companies, or other qualified subjects.
9. In the event that the beneficiaries do not entertain financial relations with the Ministry of University and Research, the Ministry will request a specific bank or insurance surety guarantee.

### **CHAPTER III**

#### **Funding of young researchers who have won MSCA grants**

##### **Art. 13 (Fundable interventions and eligibility criteria)**

1. The proposals of the applicants may be part of one of the research areas belonging to the scientific-disciplinary macro-sectors of the MSCA Individual Fellowships and the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships, as listed in Annex 1B, an integral part of this Notice.
2. Project proposals must also include the presentation of a research proposal for European Research Council calls, with the applicant as the scientific director responsible and the implementing entity as the Host Institution.
3. To achieve the goals of the NRRP and to implement the provisions therein, the proposals that can be financed according to this Notice must:
  - a) be consistent with the objectives and purposes of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, with the general strategy and the detail sheet of the Component of the NRRP;
  - b) aim at achieving the results measured in terms of milestones and targets that may be assigned to the investment line, as established by the Plan;

- c) comply with the “do no significant harm” principle pursuant to Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 in accordance with the technical guidelines prepared by the European Commission (Communication of the European Commission 2021 / C58 / 01);
  - d) be suitable for addressing and bridging gender inequalities;
  - e) support the participation of women and young people, in accordance with the provisions of the decree-law no. 77 of 31st May 2021 (so-called “Simplification Decree”), amended by the conversion law no. 108, relating to the management of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP);
  - f) promote the exploitation of research results and ensure the protection of intellectual property, ensuring open access to the public to research results and related data (e.g., publications of original scientific research results, raw data and metadata, sources, digital graphic and image representations and scientific multimedia materials) in the shortest time and with the least possible limitations, according to the principles of “Open science” and “FAIR Data”.
4. Compliance with the above conditions must be declared. Compliance with the principle “do no significant harm” must be declared through the transmission of the Declaration of fulfilment of the DNSH principle signed by the proponent (Annex 2B).
  5. The applicant completes the self-assessment form for compliance with ethical requirements (Annex 3B).

#### **Art. 14 (Duration and terms of the project)**

1. The activities foreseen for the project proposals presented by grantees of Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships under Horizon 2020 Framework Programs or Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships under Horizon Europe Framework Programs must be carried out over a maximum period of time 36 months starting from the signing of the deed of obligation attached to the decree granting the loan, pursuant to art. 19, paragraph 1, and – in any case – within 20 December 2025.

#### **Art. 15 (Eligible Expenses)**

1. The contribution paid out of the endowment referred to in art. 3, paragraph 2, letter b) is established within a maximum limit of € 300,000.
2. The applicant, upon submitting the application, must indicate the amount requested:
  - a) as a “lump sum”, for amounts lower than € 200,000;

*or*

  - b) on the basis of an economic-financial plan referred to in art. 16, paragraph 8, letter c), for amounts greater than or equal to € 200,000.
3. In the cases referred to in paragraph 2, letter b), the total eligible expenses of the projects must relate to the costs actually incurred by the implementing entity for the implementation of the proposed initiative, in compliance with the criteria set out in this Notice.

4. The non-repayable grant can be granted up to a maximum of 100% of the total eligible expenses. In the cases referred to in paragraph 2, letter b), the limits referred to in paragraph 5, letter c) must be taken into account.
5. The following cost items are eligible for the contribution referred to in paragraph 1:
  - a) *Personnel expenses:*
    - i. the Salary foreseen for the permanence of the applicant at the Host Institution, for a maximum duration of 36 months starting from the signing of the deed of obligation attached to the decree which grants the loan, pursuant to art. 19, paragraph 1.
    - ii. the Salary foreseen for the activities carried out by fixed-term researchers, PhD students, technologists and other personnel expenses specifically working for the project proposal;
  - b) *Expenses for subcontracts*
  - c) *Other costs:*
    - i. costs of tools and equipment, to the extent and for the period in which they are actually used for the project, applying the depreciation criterion in compliance with the principles of good accounting practice;
    - ii. costs of scientific consultancy or technical-scientific assistance services, used exclusively for the purposes of the project;
    - iii. costs of communication activities and dissemination of research results;
    - iv. other operating costs (for instance, but not limited to: consumables; publications of books; missions abroad and participation in training and / or dissemination events abroad as long as they are specifically incurred for the project and strictly related to it; costs for the acquisition and use of patents);
    - v. general expenses: eligible at a flat rate of 7% of direct costs, excluding subcontracts.
6. In the cases referred to in paragraph 2, letter b) the Value Added Tax (VAT) is an eligible cost if it is not recoverable, in compliance with the relevant national legislation. However, this amount must be promptly tracked for each project in the management information systems, as it is not included in the estimate of project costs for the purposes of the NRRP.

**Art. 16 (Terms and procedures for submitting the application and documentation to be sent)**

1. The applicant presents the Project Proposal (Annex 5B) and, in the cases referred to in art. 15, paragraph 2, letter b), the economic-financial plan, which presents the breakdown of project costs by expense items (Annex 4B), to a Host Institution. For each received proposal, Host Institutions write an Evaluation Report (Annex 7B), according to the criteria referred to in art. 18, paragraph 2, as well as the documentation proving the compliance with the “do no significant harm” (DNSH) principle, pursuant to Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852.
2. After completion of the evaluation procedure, the applicant, having subscribed the Preliminary agreement with the Host Institution (Annex 6B), presents the application for the purpose of admission to funding. Applications must be submitted in English exclusively electronically, via the <https://www.gea.mur.gov.it> platform starting from 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 12:00 PM (Rome time) and strictly no later than 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 12:00 PM (Rome time), under penalty of exclusion and inadmissibility.

3. Applications submitted with different methods and / or later than described above, and / or which are missing the documents listed in paragraph 8 of this Article, will be considered inadmissible.
4. The Ministry is not responsible for the loss or delayed receipt of communications due to errors committed by the applicant, nor for any IT problems attributable to third parties, by chance or force majeure.
5. To this end, the Ministry, at the opening of the terms for submitting the application, will guarantee access to the <https://www.gea.mur.gov.it> platform for those authorized to submit the project proposal. Through this access it will be possible to perform all the activities that relate to the compilation and transmission of the application.
6. The application must be signed electronically or in manuscript by the applicant, and it must be complete with all the documents required by this Notice. These documents must comply, in terms of contents and methods of sending, with the indications set out in this Notice.
7. The application is made in the form of self-certification, pursuant to Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and with the assumption of responsibilities pursuant to art. 75 and 76 of the same decree, and must contain the consent to the processing of data, pursuant to and for the purposes of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), adopted on 27 April 2016, and published in the Official Journal of the European Union on May 4, 2016, and of Legislative Decree no. 196/2003 (“Code regarding the protection of personal data”) and subsequent amendments and additions.
8. Each application relating to project proposals submitted by applicants who have won MSCA Individual Fellowships or MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships under the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe framework programs must include:
  - a) The project registry form, which provides the indication of the MSCA scientific-disciplinary macro-sector of the proposal, the identification code of the call in which the applicant has participated, the value of the project financed by MSCA, the date of communication of the admission to the funding and the signing of the Grant agreement, the start and end dates of the project funded by MSCA, the score obtained and the abstract of the project.
  - b) The form related to the complementary and consequential research proposal pursuant to this Notice, which includes the title of the project, the scientific-disciplinary macro-sector, the duration of the project, the keywords (maximum 5), the abstract of the project and the total contribution requested;
  - c) The economic-financial plan, only if the total contribution requested is greater than or equal to € 200,000 in the cases referred to in art. 15, paragraph 2, letter b), which presents the breakdown of project costs by expense items (Annex 4B)
  - d) Uploading the following documents in the "Attachments" section:
    - i. Identity document;
    - ii. Evaluation Summary Report;
    - iii. The identification code of the Grant agreement of the applicant;
    - iv. “First submission” of the project funded by MSCA;
    - v. Project proposal (Annex 5B);
    - vi. *Curriculum Vitae* of the applicant;
    - vii. Preliminary agreement between the Host Institution and the applicant (Annex 6B);
    - viii. Declaration of compliance with the DNSH principle (Annex 2B);
9. Each applicant may submit only one proposal under this Notice.



### **Art. 17 (Direct call of the applicants to universities and public research bodies)**

1. Considering the financial resources acquired by the implementing entities under this Notice, available positions may be allocated to the researchers referred to in art. 1:
  - a) as a fixed-term researcher pursuant to art. 24, paragraph 3, letter a), of Law no. 240 of 30<sup>th</sup> December 2010, at universities and university institutions, both public and private, including telematic universities, including high schools with a special system, within the time limits referred to in art. 14, paragraph 6-quinquiesdecies, of the decree-law of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022, as converted, with amendments, by Law no. 79 of 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022, or, defined the conditions referred to in paragraph 6-septies of article 14 of the aforementioned decree-law of 30 April 2022, no. 36, as converted by law no. 79, as holder of a research contract;
  - b) as a third-level professional researcher (“*ricercatore di terzo livello professionale*”) with a three-year fixed-term contract, at public research bodies with operational headquarters throughout the national territory.
2. For the direct call procedure described in this Article, the opinion of the commission appointed for the national scientific qualification referred to in the third sentence of art. 3, paragraph 9, of the Law no. 230 of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2005.
3. Public research bodies may hire the researchers referred to in this article also through the procedures referred to in article 20, paragraph 3, of Legislative Decree no. 127 of 4<sup>th</sup> June 2003.

### **Art. 18 (Methods for evaluating and approving the application)**

1. For the purposes of completing the evaluation phase, the Host Institutions chosen by the applicants, in the exercise of their autonomy, appoint an Evaluation Committee, composed of at least three members, according to the criteria of competence, transparency, and rotation, in compliance with the principles of impartiality, promptness and absence of conflicts of interest, Simultaneously with the assessment of merit, the Evaluation Commissions carry out an assessment of the compliance of the project proposals with the principle “do no significant harm”, through the use of an exclusion list, and with relevant European and national environmental legislation, according with the provisions of the DNSH Operational Guidelines attached to the Communication of the Ministry of Economy and Finance no. 23 of 31<sup>th</sup> December 2021.
2. The evaluation will be carried out on the basis of the following criteria:

<b>ELEMENTS FOR EVALUATION</b>	<b>SCORE</b>
1. <b>Scientific adequacy:</b> Consistency, clarity and ambition of the project goals with respect to those of the “First submission”	<b>0-5</b>
2. <b>Expected impact</b> of the project; evaluation of the “First submission”; adherence to European and international policy frameworks (for example, the Sustainable Development Goals and the 5 EU Missions of	<b>0-5</b>

the Horizon Europe Framework Program) and validity in terms of technology and knowledge transfer	
3. <b>Implementation</b> and feasibility; robustness, clarity and feasibility of the research plan in the proposed timing	<b>0-5</b>
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>0-15</b>

Scores must be in the 0-5 range.

<b>SCORES</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>0-1</b>	The proposal does not adequately meet the evaluation criteria or there are inherent weaknesses
<b>2-3</b>	The proposal addresses the evaluation criteria correctly but there are some limitations
<b>4-5</b>	The proposal successfully addresses the evaluation criteria, and any shortcomings are to be considered marginal

3. Projects that achieve an overall score of less than 9 out of 15 or that have at least a score on the individual criteria equal to or less than 1 are not eligible for the grant.
4. The Evaluation Committees appointed by the Host Institutions reserve the right to recalculate the overall investment and the amount of the loan that can be granted if the economic-financial plan is not adequate for the objectives and duration of the project or if the resources are not sufficient to fully finance the project.
5. For all applications received within the deadline referred to in art. 16, paragraph 2, the Ministry of University and Research carries out a preparatory formal-administrative evaluation within, as a rule, 30 days from the closing date for applications. This phase is aimed at verifying the compliance with the submission methods, the completeness of the mandatory documentation, the timing and the compliance with the subjective and objective requirements in this Notice. The formal-administrative evaluation is managed by the Directorate-General of Internationalisation and Communication.
6. The Ministry reserves the right to ask for regularisation of the documentation presented by the applicants. Formal deficiencies of the application can be regularised through the application “assistance” procedure. If the application “assistance” is used, the Ministry of University and Research assigns the applicant an appropriate deadline for regularization: after this deadline, in the absence of changes to the documentation, the project proposal is excluded from the evaluation phase carried out by the Host Institutions. Deficiencies of the documentation which do not allow the clear identification of the applicant and / or the identification of the content subject to regularisation cannot be regularised through the application “assistance” procedure.
7. After the preparatory phase referred to in paragraphs 5 and 6, the Ministry ranks the received project proposals in a unique list, in descending order of score, on the basis of Evaluation Reports. Subsequently, the Ministry draws up and publishes on the platform <https://www.gea.mur.gov.it> the list of eligible applicants. The list provides evidence of the selected applicants whose Host Institution is located in the Southern Regions, to which priority will be given in order, up to the coverage of 40% of the financial endowment referred to in art. 3, paragraph 2, letter b), primarily dedicated to the Southern Regions.

8. In the case of an equal overall score, the project proposal with the highest score assigned to criterion 1 – “Scientific adequacy”, referred to in the table contained in the previous paragraph 2, prevails. In case of equal score for criterion 1, the project with the highest score assigned to criterion 2 - “Impact” - of the aforementioned table prevails. In case the score assigned to criterion 2 is equal, the project proposal submitted by the candidate with a lower age on the final date for the presentation of the candidatures prevails.
9. The Ministry of University and Research reserves the right to carry out checks aimed at ascertaining compliance with the obligations set out in the concession decree and the truthfulness of the declarations and information provided in response to this Notice.
10. In compliance with current regulations on the evaluation of the university and research system, the ex-post evaluation of research products is managed by the National Agency for University and Research Evaluation (ANVUR), which will carry it out according to times, forms and methods determined by ANVUR itself, in compliance with the regulations in force.

#### **Art. 19 (Methods of disbursement of the contribution and reporting of expenses)**

1. At the outcome of the evaluation of the project proposals referred to in art. 18, the Ministry of University and Research adopts the concession decree for projects eligible for funding.
2. Following the signing of the deed of obligation, the applicant may request an advance payment, to the extent of 10% of the contribution provided by this Notice.
3. For the purposes of monitoring and administrative-accounting controls pursuant to art. 22 of Reg. (EU) 2021/241 the applicants must produce, within the fourth month from the start of the research activities related to the project proposal, a technical-scientific report demonstrating the progress of the research (Annex 8B) or, in the cases referred to in art. 18, paragraph 2, letter b), the overall reporting of expenses, according to the procedures defined by the MUR. Upon the positive outcome of the verifications of this report, carried out in accordance with the procedures set out in the following paragraphs 7 and 8 and in accordance with the payment plan provided for in the decree granting the loan, the Ministry arranges the disbursements of the contribution in favour of the implementing entity, up to a maximum of 50% of the total amount, including the advance payment referred to in paragraph 2.
4. For the same purposes of monitoring and administrative-accounting controls the applicants must produce, within the eighteenth month from the start of the research activities related to the project proposal, a technical-scientific report demonstrating the progress of the research (Annex 9B) or, in the cases referred to in art. 18, paragraph 2, letter b), the overall reporting of expenses, according to the procedures defined by the MUR. Upon the positive outcome of the verifications of this report, carried out according to the procedures referred to in the following paragraphs 7 and 8, and in accordance with the payment plan provided for by the decree granting the loan, the Ministry arranges the disbursements of the grant in favour of the implementing entity, up to a maximum of 90% of the total amount, including the advance payment referred to in paragraph 2 and the first payment referred to in paragraph 3.
5. In the cases referred to in art. 15, paragraph 2, letter b), if the amount of the previously arranged disbursements exceeds the amount of the public grant accrued in relation to the eligible expenses, the recovery of the difference is ordered.

6. The final disbursement is quantified in the measure of 10% of the contribution disbursed by this Notice and is prepared at the conclusion of the project proposal, on the basis of the positive evaluation of a final report, prepared by the applicant, within 15 days from the end of the project (Annex 10B) or, in the cases referred to in art. 15, paragraph 2, letter b), of the final expense report. Within the final report, evidence must be given of the presentation of the research proposal referred to in art. 13, paragraph 2, under penalty of failure to provide the final payment. In the cases referred to in art. 15, paragraph 2, letter b), if the amount of the previously arranged disbursements exceeds the amount of the public grant accrued in relation to the eligible expenses, the recovery of the difference is ordered.
7. The Ministry carries out the “*in itinere*” controls relating to the reports referred to in paragraphs 3, 4 and 6, acquiring the evaluation of an Evaluation Panel for each relevant scientific-disciplinary macro-sector to the MSCA Individual Fellowship and MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships calls. These Panels are identified with the aid of the CNVR composed of Technical-Scientific Experts (ETS), identified in accordance with current legislation.
8. The Ministry carries out the “*in itinere*” controls on the administrative-accounting documentation (expense reporting), through the National Agency for the attraction of investments and business development Spa – Invitalia – in implementation of art. 1 paragraph 550, of Law no. 178 of 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020, and through banks and financial companies, or other qualified subjects.
9. In the event that the beneficiaries do not entertain financial relations with the Ministry of University and Research, the Ministry will request a specific bank or insurance surety guarantee.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **Funding of young researchers who obtained a “Seal of Excellence”**

#### **Art. 20 (Fundable interventions and eligibility criteria)**

1. The proposals of the applicants may be part of one of the research areas belonging to the scientific-disciplinary macro-sectors subject to MSCA Individual Fellowships and MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships, as listed in Annex 1C, an integral part of this Notice.
2. The project proposals submitted under the financial endowment referred to in art. 3, paragraph 2, letter c) must constitute an adaptation of the proposals (“First submission”) that have obtained a “Seal of Excellence” following the participation in Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships calls, within the framework of the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe programs.
3. To achieve the objectives of the NRRP and to implement the provisions therein, the proposals – under penalty of exclusion – must:
  - a) be consistent with the objectives and purposes of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, with the general strategy and the detail sheet of the component of the NRRP;
  - b) aim at achieving the results measured in terms of milestones and targets that may be assigned to the investment, within the terms established by the Plan;



- c) comply with the “do no significant harm” principle, pursuant to Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 in accordance with the technical guidelines prepared by the European Commission (Communication of the European Commission 2021 / C58 / 01);
  - d) be suitable for addressing and bridging gender inequalities;
  - e) support the participation of women and young people, also in accordance with the provisions of the decree-law 31 May 2021, n. 77 (so-called Simplification Decree), amended by the conversion law no. 108, relating to the management of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP);
  - f) promote the exploitation of research results and ensure the protection of intellectual property, ensuring open access to the public to research results and related data (for example, publications of original scientific research results, raw data and metadata, sources, digital graphic and image representations and scientific multimedia materials) in the shortest time and with the least possible limitations, according to the principles of “Open science” and “FAIR Data”.
4. Compliance with the above conditions must be declared. Compliance with the principle “do no significant harm” must be declared through the transmission of the Declaration of fulfilment of the DNSH principle, signed by the applicant (Annex 2C).
  5. The applicant must complete the self-assessment form for compliance with ethical requirements (Annex 3C).

#### **Art. 21 (Duration and terms of the project)**

1. The activities envisaged in the project proposals referred to in art. 20, paragraph 2, must be carried out within a maximum time frame of 24 months starting from the signing of the deed of obligation attached to the decree granting the loan pursuant to art. 26, paragraph 1, and – in any case – within 20 December 2024.

#### **Art. 22 (Eligible Expenses)**

1. The contribution paid for the purposes of this Notice is equal to € 150,000 for each admitted project proposal.
2. The contribution referred to in paragraph 1 corresponds to 100% of the costs of the projects presented by applicants who have obtained a "Seal of Excellence" under the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe framework programs.
3. The amount of the loan is to be understood as a lump sum payment ("lump sum" payment).

#### **Art. 23 (Terms and procedures for submitting the application and documentation to be transmitted)**

1. The applicant presents the Project Proposal (Annex 4C) to a Host Institutions. For each received proposal, Host Institutions writes an Evaluation Report (Annex 6C), according to the criteria referred to in art. 25,



paragraph 2, as well as the documentation proving the compliance with the “do no significant harm” (DNSH) principle, pursuant to Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852.

2. After completion of the evaluation procedure, the applicant, having subscribed the Preliminary agreement with the Host Institution (Annex 5C), presents the application for the purpose of admission to funding. Applications must be submitted in English exclusively electronically, via the <https://www.gea.mur.gov.it> platform starting from 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 12:00 PM (Rome time) and strictly no later than 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 12:00 PM (Rome time), under penalty of exclusion and inadmissibility.
3. Applications submitted with different methods and / or later than described above will be considered inadmissible.
4. The Ministry is not responsible for the loss or delayed receipt of communications due to errors committed by the applicant, nor for any IT problems attributable to third parties, by chance or force majeure.
5. To this end, the Ministry, at the opening of the terms for submitting the application, will guarantee access to the <https://www.gea.mur.gov.it> platform for those authorized to submit the project proposal. Through this access it will be possible to perform all the activities that relate to the compilation and transmission of the application.
6. The application must be signed electronically or in manuscript by the applicant, and it must be complete with all the documents required by this Notice. These documents must comply, in terms of contents and methods of sending, with the indications set out in this Notice.
7. The application is made in the form of self-certification, pursuant to Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and with the assumption of responsibilities pursuant to art. 75 and 76 of the same decree, and must contain the consent to the processing of data, pursuant to and for the purposes of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), adopted on 27 April 2016, and published in the Official Journal of the European Union on May 4, 2016, and of Legislative Decree no. 196/2003 (“*Code regarding the protection of personal data*”) and subsequent amendments and additions.
8. Each application relating to project proposals submitted by applicants who have won MSCA Individual Fellowships or MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships under the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe framework programs provides for:
  - a) The project registry form, which includes the title of the MSCA project with which the “Seal of Excellence” was obtained, scientific-disciplinary macro-sector of the MSCA research project with which the "Seal of Excellence" was obtained , reference call for the MSCA project, abstract of the project, value of the MSCA project with which the “Seal of Excellence” was obtained, upload of the “First submission” with which the Seal of Excellence was obtained, date of communication of the achievement of the “Seal of Excellence”, the score obtained by the project awarded with “Seal of Excellence”, the Evaluation Summary Report received for MSCA, the upload of the “Seal of Excellence”.
  - b) The form relating to the research proposal that readjusts the “First submission” pursuant to this Notice, which includes the title of the related project, the scientific-disciplinary macro-sector, the duration of the project, the keywords (maximum 5), the abstract of the project.
  - c) Uploading the following documents in the "Attachments" section:
    - i. Identity document;
    - ii. Evaluation Summary Report;
    - iii. Seal of Excellence

- iv. "First submission" of the project that obtained the "Seal of Excellence";
- v. Evaluation Report of the Host Institution (Annex 6C);
- vi. Curriculum Vitae of the applicant;
- vii. Preliminary agreement between the Host Institution and the applicants (Annex 5C);
- viii. Declaration of compliance with the DNSH principle (Annex 2C).

9. Each applicant may submit only one proposal under this Notice.

**Art. 24 (Direct call at universities and public research bodies of researchers who have obtained a Seal of Excellence by participating in the tenders of Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions)**

1. Considering the financial resources acquired by the implementing entities under this Notice, available positions may be allocated to the researchers referred to in art. 1:
  - a) as a fixed-term researcher pursuant to art. 24, paragraph 3, letter a), of law no. 240, at universities and university institutions, both public and private, including telematic universities, including high schools with a special system, within the time limits referred to in art. 14, paragraph 6-quinquiesdecies, of the decree-law of 30 April 2022, as converted, with amendments, by law of 29 June 2022, n. 79, or, defined the conditions referred to in paragraph 6-septies of article 14 of the aforementioned decree-law of 30 April 2022, no. 36, as converted by law no. 79, as holder of a research contract;
  - b) as a third-level professional researcher ("*ricercatore di terzo livello professionale*") with a three-year fixed-term contract, at public research bodies with operational headquarters throughout the national territory.
2. The third sentence of article 1, paragraph 9, of Law no. 230 of 4<sup>th</sup> November 2005 does not apply to the procedures in this Article, as required by art. 14, paragraph 1, of the decree-law of 30 April 2022, n. 36, changed through amendments by Law no. 79 of 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Public research bodies may hire the researchers referred to in this article also through the procedures referred to in article 20, paragraph 3, of Legislative Decree no. 127 of 4<sup>th</sup> June 2003.

**Art. 25 (Methods for evaluating and approving the application)**

1. For the purposes of completing the evaluation phase, the Host Institutions chosen by the applicants, in the exercise of their autonomy, appoint an Evaluation Committee, composed of at least three members, according to the criteria of competence, transparency, and rotation, in compliance with the principles of impartiality, promptness and absence of conflicts of interest, Simultaneously with the assessment of merit, the Evaluation Commissions carry out an assessment of the compliance of the project proposals with the principle "do no significant harm", through the use of an exclusion list, and with relevant European and national environmental legislation, according with the provisions of the DNSH Operational Guidelines attached to the Communication of the Ministry of Economy and Finance no. 23 of 31<sup>th</sup> December 2021.
2. The evaluation will be carried out on the basis of the following criteria:

ELEMENTS FOR EVALUATION	SCORE
1. <b>Scientific adequacy:</b>	<b>0-5</b>

Consistency, clarity and ambition of the project goals with respect to those of the MSCA project (First submission) that obtained a “Seal of Excellence”	
2. <b>Expected impact</b> of the project in scientific, social and economic terms evaluation of the First submission, adherence to European and international policy frameworks (for example, the Sustainable Development Goals and the 5 EU Missions of the Horizon Europe Framework Program), and validity in terms of technology and knowledge transfer	<b>0-5</b>
3. <b>Implementation</b> and feasibility; robustness, clarity and feasibility of the research plan in the proposed timing	<b>0-5</b>
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>0-15</b>

Scores must be in the 0-5 range.

<b>SCORES</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>0-1</b>	The proposal does not adequately meet the evaluation criteria or there are inherent weaknesses
<b>2-3</b>	The proposal addresses the evaluation criteria correctly but there are some limitations
<b>4-5</b>	The proposal successfully addresses the evaluation criteria, and any shortcomings are to be considered marginal

3. Projects that achieve an overall score of less than 9 out of 15 or that have at least a score on the individual criteria equal to or less than 1 are not eligible for the grant.
4. The Evaluation Committees appointed by the Host Institutions reserve the right to recalculate the overall investment and the amount of the loan that can be granted if the economic-financial plan is not adequate for the objectives and duration of the project or if the resources are not sufficient to fully finance the project.
5. For all applications received within the deadline referred to in art. 23, paragraph 2, the Ministry of University and Research carries out a preparatory formal-administrative evaluation within, as a rule, 30 days from the closing date for applications. This phase is aimed at verifying the compliance with the submission methods, the completeness of the mandatory documentation, the timing and the compliance with the subjective and objective requirements in this Notice. The preparatory phase is managed by the Directorate-General of Internationalisation and Communication.
6. The Ministry reserves the right to ask for regularisation of the documentation presented by the applicants. Formal deficiencies of the application can be regularised through the application “assistance” procedure. If application “assistance” is used, the Ministry of University and Research assigns the applicant an appropriate deadline for regularization: after this deadline, in the absence of changes to the documentation, the project proposal is excluded from the evaluation phase carried out by the Host Institutions. Deficiencies of the documentation which do not allow the clear identification of the applicant and / or the identification of the content subject to regularisation cannot be regularised through the application “assistance” procedure.
7. After the phase referred to in paragraphs 5 and 6, the Ministry ranks the received project proposals in a unique list, in descending order of score, on the basis of Evaluation Reports. Subsequently, the Ministry draws up and publishes on the platform <https://www.gea.mur.gov.it> the list of eligible applicants. The list provides evidence of the selected applicants whose Host Institution is located in the Southern Regions, to

which priority will be given in order, up to the coverage of 40% of the financial endowment referred to in art. 3, paragraph 2 letter. b), primarily dedicated to the Southern Regions.

8. In the case of an equal overall score, the project proposal with the highest score assigned to criterion 1 – “Scientific adequacy”, referred to in the table contained in the previous paragraph 2, prevails. In case of equal score for criterion 1, the project with the highest score assigned to criterion 2 - “Impact” – of the aforementioned table prevails. In case the score assigned to criterion 2 is equal, the project proposal submitted by the candidate with a lower age on the final date for the presentation of the candidatures prevails.
9. The Ministry of University and Research reserves the right to carry out checks aimed at ascertaining compliance with the obligations set out in the concession decree and the truthfulness of the declarations and information provided in response to this Notice.
10. In compliance with current regulations on the evaluation of the university and research system, the ex-post evaluation of research products is managed by the National Agency for University and Research Evaluation (ANVUR), which will carry it out according to times, forms and methods determined by ANVUR itself, in compliance with the regulations in force.

#### **Art. 26 (Methods of disbursement of the grant / contribution and reporting of expenses)**

1. At the outcome of the evaluation of the project proposals referred to in art. 25, paragraph 7, the Ministry of University and Research adopts the concession decree for projects eligible for funding.
2. After the signing of the deed of obligation, the applicants may request a first advance payment, to the extent of 10% of the contribution provided by this Notice.
3. For the purposes of monitoring and administrative-accounting controls pursuant to art. 22 of Reg. (EU) 2021/241, the applicants must produce, within 90 from the start of the activities, a technical-scientific report demonstrating the progress of the research (Annex 7C). Upon successful verification of this report, and in line with the payment plan provided for by the concession decree, the Ministry arranges periodic disbursements of the grant in favour of the applicant, up to a maximum of 90% of the total grant awarded to the applicant, including the advance payment referred to in paragraph 2.
4. The final disbursement is quantified in the measure of 10% of the contribution disbursed by this Notice and is prepared at the conclusion of the project proposal, on the basis of the evaluation of a final report, prepared within the twenty-fourth month from start of the project (Annex 8C).
5. The Ministry carries out the “in itinere” controls relating to the reports referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 acquiring the evaluation of an Evaluation Panel for each scientific-disciplinary macro-sector relating to the MSCA Individual Fellowship and MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships. These Panels are composed of Technical-Scientific Experts (ETS), identified with the aid of the CNVR, and in accordance with current legislation.
6. If the implementing entities do not have financial relationships with the Ministry of University and Research, the Ministry will request a specific bank or insurance surety guarantee.

## **CHAPTER V**

### **Final provisions**

#### **Art. 27 (Obligations of the Implementing Entity)**

1. Under penalty of forfeiture of the contribution, the implementing entities are obliged:
  - a) to comply with all the conditions set out in the Notice and the relative concession decree;
  - b) to possess a Gender Equality Plan or to provide a letter of commitment to adopt it within one year from the date scheduled for the submission of applications;
  - c) to ensure that the interventions carried out are not different from those identified in the application presented;
  - d) to comply with the cost methodology required in case Simplified Cost Options are adopted;
  - e) to ensure the compliance with the gender equality principle referred to in Articles 2 and 3, paragraph 3, of the Treaty on the European Union, Articles 8, 10, 19 and 15 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and Articles 21 and 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;
  - f) to provide, within the times and in the manner provided for by the Notice and the resulting documents, all the documentation and information requested;
  - g) to provide all the documentation and information required by the Ministry of University and Research, even after the conclusion of the procedures, relating to the research activities implemented, the targets achieved and the expenses reported, for the purposes of the related checks, in accordance with the procedures and tools defined in the manuals adopted by the Ministry and guaranteeing its availability as required pursuant to art. 9, paragraph 4 of the Decree-law no. 77 of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, converted into Law no. 108 of 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021;
  - h) to ensure that the planned activities begin and end within the terms established by the Notice;
  - i) to prepare all the activities necessary for the start of the projects in order not to incur implementation delays, and to conclude them in the manner and on schedule, ensuring consistency with the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, positively assessed by the ECOFIN Council Decision of 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021;
  - j) to identify any factors that may cause delays that considerably affect the implementation and expenditure timing, defined in the time schedule, reporting to the Ministry of University and Research;
  - k) to ensure the timely and complete implementation of the activities, under the scientific responsibility of the applicants, in accordance with the application submitted and admitted to the funding, except for any changes previously authorized by the Ministry of University and Research;
  - l) to ensure the conservation of project documentation in paper or computer files to ensure complete traceability of operations - in compliance with the provisions of Article 9, paragraph 4, of Decree-Law no. 77 of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, converted with the law no. 108 of 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021 - which, in the various control and verification phases provided for by the NRRP management and control system, must be promptly made available upon request by the MUR, the Central Service for PNRR, the Audit Body, the European Commission, the OLAF, the European Court of Auditors (ECA), the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) and the competent national judicial authorities and authorize the Commission, OLAF, the Court of Auditors and the EPPO to exercise the rights referred to in Article 129, paragraph 1, of the Financial Regulation (EU, Euratom, 2018/1046);
  - m) to comply with the double financing prohibition pursuant to Article 9 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241;
  - n) to ensure the adoption of a specific accounting and computerized coding for all transactions relating to the project to ensure the traceability of the use of NRRP resources;



- o) to ensure compliance with all the provisions envisaged by the community and national legislation, with particular reference to the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 and of the decree-law no. 77 of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, as amended by Law no. 108 of 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021;
- p) to adopt measures to comply with the principle of sound financial management in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and in Article 22 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, in particular on the prevention of conflicts of interest, fraud, corruption and the recovery and return of funds that have been unduly allocated, as well as to ensure the absence of the so-called double financing pursuant to art. 9 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241;
- q) to carry out the management and administrative-accounting controls provided for by the applicable national legislation to ensure the regularity of the procedures and expenses incurred, as well as the traceability of the expenses to the project admitted to the funding under the NRRP;
- r) to guarantee the correctness, reliability and consistency with the information path provided for feeding the NRRP information system (ReGiS) of physical, financial and procedural monitoring data, transmitting, on a periodic basis or at the request of the MUR, any information necessary for the correct use of the ReGiS System, including the reporting of the expenses actually incurred and the indicators of implementation of the financed interventions classified under the heading “M4C2 - Investment 1.2 Financing of projects presented by young researchers”, valuing the number of contributions actually paid to applicants, and giving evidence of the number of young people aged between 15 and 29 who receive support, differentiating it by gender (common indicator 14) and the number of researchers working in research centres benefiting from support, differentiating them by gender and age (common indicator 8);
- s) to ensure, for the purposes of traceability of the NRRP resources, that all the expenses related to the project are carried out through the use of a specific separate accounting, as well as to comply with the obligation to request a Single Project Code (“*Codice Unico di Progetto*” - CUP) of the interventions / projects and consequent indication of the same on all administrative / accounting acts, in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1046 of 18 July 2018, which establishes the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union;
- t) to ensure that the Ministry of University and Research receives all the necessary information, relating to the lines of activity for the preparation of the declarations on the achievement of targets and milestones and of the reports and documents on the implementation of the projects, as well as any other information possibly required;
- u) to ensure compliance with the obligations regarding communication and information provided for by art. 34 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, indicating in the project documentation that the Program is funded under the NRRP, with explicit reference to funding from the European Union and the NextGenerationEU initiative, (e.g., using the phrase “*funded by the European Union – NextGenerationEU*”), reporting the emblem of the European Union in the project documentation and providing adequate dissemination and promotion of the Program, including online, both web and social, in line with the provisions of the Communication Strategy of the NRRP;
- v) to ensure that the implementation of the project activities is consistent with the specific principles and obligations of the PNRR relating to the principle “do no significant harm” (DNSH) pursuant to Article 17 of Reg. (EU) 2020/852 and, where applicable, with the principles of digital tagging, gender equality in relation to articles 2, 3, paragraph 3, of the TEU, 8, 10, 19 and 157 of the TFEU, and 21 and 23 of the Charter of fundamental rights of the European Union, the protection and enhancement of young people and overcoming territorial gaps;
- w) to comply with the obligations of recording in the information system of the monitoring data on the procedural, physical and financial progress of the project, in accordance with the provisions of Article 22, paragraph 2, letter d), of the (EU) Regulation 2021/241, as well as on the achievement of any targets associated with them and the relevant evidential documentation;

- x) to allow and facilitate, at every stage of the procedure, the carrying out of all the controls, inspections and monitoring arranged by the Ministry of University and Research, also facilitating the verifications of the Office responsible for the controls of the Ministry itself, of the Audit Units of the European Commission and other authorized bodies, which will also be carried out through on-the-spot checks at the Entities responsible for implementing the projects;
  - y) to ensure timely direct information to the bodies in charge, keeping the Ministry of University and Research informed on the initiation and progress of any judicial, civil, criminal or administrative proceedings that may affect the operations covered by the project and communicate irregularities, fraud, cases of corruption and conflicts of interest found, as well as cases of double financing following the relevant checks and take the necessary measures, in compliance with the procedures adopted by the Ministry, in line with what is indicated by the 'art. 22 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241;
  - z) to ensure to the applicants the necessary infrastructures to conduct the research activities envisaged by the project proposal;
2. In addition to the obligations referred to in paragraph 1, the implementing entities hosting the applicants referred to in art. 4, paragraph 1, are required:
- a) to respect the commitment to direct call, taken with the communication referred to in art. 8 paragraph 4, by signing an appropriate letter of commitment;
  - b) to guarantee the signing of employment contracts for the staff referred to in art. 7, paragraph 5, letter a).
3. In addition to the obligations referred to in paragraph 1, the implementing entities hosting the applicants referred to in art. 4, paragraph 2, are required:
- a) to comply with the commitment to hiring the applicants, within 20 December 2022, applying the type of contract referred to in art. 17, paragraph 1, of this Notice, according to the provisions of the Preliminary Agreement (Annex 6B);
  - b) to ensure the signing of employment contracts for the staff referred to in art. 15, paragraph 5, letter a).
4. In addition to the obligations referred to in paragraph 1, the implementing entities hosting the proponents referred to in art. 4, paragraph 3, are required to comply with the obligation to sign an employment contract for the Applicant, within 20 December 2022, applying the type of contract referred to in art. 24, paragraph 1, of this Notice, according to the provisions of the Preliminary Agreement (Annex 5C).
5. Failure to comply with the obligations and commitments aimed at implementing the NRRP, also consisting in the failure to adopt the acts and measures necessary to start the interventions, or in the delay, inertia or discrepancies in the execution of the same, will result in the appeal, by the Ministry, to the substitutive powers, as indicated in article 12 of the decree-law no. 77 of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, as amended by Law no. 108 of 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

### **Art. 28 (Obligations of the applicant)**

1. The applicants are obliged, under penalty of forfeiture of the contribution:
- a) compliance with all the conditions set out in the Notice and the relative decree of admission to financing;
  - b) to ensure that the interventions carried out are not different from those identified in the application presented;



- c) to provide, within the times and in the manner provided for by the Notice and the resulting documents, all the documentation and information requested;
  - d) to ensure that, except for any extensions granted by the Ministry of University and Research, the planned activities begin and end within the terms established by the Notice;
  - e) to ensure the timely and complete implementation of the activities, in accordance with the application submitted and admitted to the benefit, except for any changes previously authorized by the Ministry of University and Research;
  - f) to undertake not to combine the contributions provided for in the Notice with other benefits obtained for the same expenses;
  - g) to guarantee, by declaring it, not to be, throughout the duration of the project, in situations, even potential ones, of conflict of interest, under penalty of revocation of the intervention and the return of the sums of contribution received by the implementing entity;
  - h) to guarantee open access to the public in the shortest possible time and with the least possible limitations, according to the principles of "Open science" and "FAIR Data".
2. In addition to the obligations referred to in paragraph 1, the proponents referred to in art. 4, paragraph 1, are required:
    - a) make use of the portability institution in favour of the selected Italian Host Institution and, in particular, to sign an appropriate contract with the same by 31 May 2023;
    - b) not to make use - at any time - of the institution of portability to another foreign and / or Italian Host Institution during the loan in question, under penalty of the return of all the sums of contribution received up to that moment.
  3. In addition to the obligations referred to in paragraph 1, the proponents referred to in art. 4, paragraphs 2 and 3, are required to sign an appropriate contract with the Italian Host Institution no later than 20 December 2022.

#### **Art. 29 (Modifications / variations of the project)**

1. The projects authorized by this Notice cannot be modified, except for any changes previously authorized by the Ministry of University and Research and due to force majeure, not attributable to either the proponents or to the implementing entity.

#### **Art. 30 (Head of the notice)**

1. The person in charge of the procedure is **Dr. Michele Mazzola**, Director of Office III - Internationalization of research - of the Directorate-General for Internationalisation and Communication.

#### **Art. 31 (Protection of privacy)**

1. All personal data that comes into possession during the procedure will be processed in compliance with Legislative Decree 196/2003 and subsequent amendments, as well as pursuant to the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (G.D.P.R.) and subsequent amendments. Finally, personal data will be processed in accordance with the provisions contained in art. 22 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241.

### **Art. 32 (Sanction mechanisms)**

1. The assigned contribution is subject to revocation and the beneficiaries subject to total forfeiture from contribution granted if any of the indications and obligations contained in the Notice are not respected and if one of the following conditions is met:
  - a) the declarations made and signed in the application for the grant are false;
  - b) the implementation of the intervention does not comply with what is admitted for funding;
  - c) the beneficiary has obtained other contributions for the same expenses reported;
  - d) the planned activity is not carried out within the deadlines indicated for the conclusion of the projects, except for any extensions;
  - e) the beneficiary does not present all the documentation requested at the time of reporting or do not show it in case of control.
2. In the event of forfeiture, resulting from revocation, and if the contribution has already been paid, the beneficiary will have to return the sums received. With this regard, the Ministry of University and Research reserves the right to compensate the beneficiary, or to enforce the surety.
3. Furthermore, the beneficiaries, if they intend to renounce the grant granted and / or the implementation of the project, must communicate it through the IT platform made available by the Ministry of University and Research for telematic reporting. In such cases, the Ministry of University and Research will revoke the grant granted and request the return of the sums paid or enforce the surety.

### **Art. 33 (Disputes and competent court)**

1. For any disputes that may arise in relation to this notice, the competent court is that of Rome.
2. This notice can be challenged within 60 days of its publication to the competent Regional Administrative Court.

### **Art. 34 (Final provisions)**

1. Failure to comply with the obligations and commitments aimed at implementing the NRRP, also consisting in the failure to adopt the acts and measures necessary to start the interventions, or in the delay, inertia or discrepancy in the execution, will result in appeal by the subject competent to the substitute powers, as indicated in art. 12 of the decree-law 31 May 2021, n. 77, as amended by the conversion law of 29 July 2021, n. 108.
2. This Notice will be sent to the Court of Auditors for the preventive control of legality and to the competent Office for the preventive control of accounting regularity.
3. This Notice is published on the institutional website of the Ministry of University and Research.