

INTERREG VI-A ITALY-MALTA 2021-2027 CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION PROGRAMME

**Project: "MOVE ON 2027: qualification and mobility of human capital in the Italy-Malta cross-border area" –
C1-1.2-58 – CUP G15H24000090007**

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR THE SELECTION OF 15 PARTICIPANTS FOR SKILLS-DEVELOPMENT AND CROSS-BORDER
MOBILITY ACTIVITIES UNDER THE MOVE ON 2027 PROJECT**

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PREAMBLE

Hermes Corporation Limited, hereinafter referred to as Hermes Corporation, in its capacity as Partner (co-beneficiary) of the project “MOVE ON 2027: Qualification and Mobility of Human Capital in the Italy–Malta Cross-Border Area” (C1-1.2-58), financed under Public Notice 1/2023 for the submission of cooperation projects under all specific objectives of the INTERREG VI–A Italy–Malta Programme, approved by the Programme Monitoring Committee through written procedure concluded on 24 November 2023 (DDG 1273/A7 DRP of 29 December 2023 of the Managing Authority), together with Ass.For.SEO, acting as the project’s Lead Partner.

This project is implemented in accordance with the following EU acts:

- Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/75 of 17 January 2022, establishing the list of Interreg programme areas eligible for support from the European Regional Development Fund and external financing instruments;
- With Commission Decision C(2022) 9624 of 13 December 2022, the “INTERREG VI–A Italy–Malta Programme” for the 2021–2027 programming period was approved.
- Under Public Notice 1/2023, Ass.For.SEO submitted the project “MOVE ON 2027 – C1-1.2-58” with Hermes Corporation Limited as Partner.
- By letter dated 13/12/2024, protocol no. 15868, the Managing Authority notified the quality-assessment sheet and conditional approval of the project.
- The revised project was submitted in response to the Monitoring Committee’s requests.
- The Grant Contract between Ass.For.SEO and the Sicilian Region’s Programming Department (Managing

-The MOVE ON 2027 project has the primary objective of improving the qualification and mobility of human capital within the Italy–Malta cooperation area and of developing a cross-border multistakeholder network to ensure the sustainability and capitalisation of project results through the promotion, strengthening, and circulation of skills in a cross-border context. The project is structured into 4 Work Packages:

- WP1 – Management and Coordination
- WP2 – Communication
- WP3 – Research, Analysis and Capitalisation
- WP4 – Strengthening and Circulation of Cross-Border Skills

Through the implementation of project activities, two specific Outputs are expected to be achieved:

1. O.T1.1 – Policy paper for the qualification and circulation of cross-border skills
2. O.T2.1 – Pilot action for the strengthening and circulation of cross-border skills

WP4 provides for the publication of two public calls for participation in skills-development and cross-border mobility activities. Specifically, 60 unemployed young people (45 from Sicily and 15 from Malta) and 15 employed individuals (10 from Sicily and 5 from Malta) will be selected for these activities.

Hermes Corporation, as project partner, is responsible for drafting a public notice for the selection of beneficiaries of the project activities, as well as for developing the necessary tools to support this process.

It is necessary to proceed with the selection of beneficiaries of the training pathways in order to carry out the planned project activities.

Hereby issues this Public Notice for the selection of 15 young persons residing in Malta, for the implementation of training programmes and cross-border mobility pathways, aimed at **enhancing the qualification and mobility of human capital within the Italy–Malta cross-border area.**

LEGAL AND REGULATORY REFERENCES

- **Regulation (EU) 2021/1060** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021, laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund, as well as financial rules applicable thereto.
- **Regulation (EU) 2021/1059** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021, laying down specific provisions for the objective “European Territorial Cooperation” (Interreg).
- **Regulation (EU) 2021/1058** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund.
- **Commission Regulation (EU) 2021/1237** of 23 July 2021 amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market.
- **Commission Regulation (EU) No 240/2014** of 7 January 2014 establishing a European Code of Conduct on Partnership within the framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds.
- **Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013**, as subsequently amended and supplemented, of 18 December 2013 on *de minimis* aid.
- **Directive 2014/24/EU** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement.
- **Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/75** of 17 January 2022 establishing the list of Interreg programme areas eligible to receive support from the European Regional Development Fund.
- **Commission Decision C(2022) 9624 of 13 December 2022**, approving the **INTERREG VI-A Italy–Malta Programme** for the 2021–2027 programming period, and **Resolution No. 170 of 26 April 2023** of the Regional Government of the Sicilian Region, adopting the **INTERREG VI-A Italy–Malta Programme** for the 2021–2027 programming period.
- **Public Call No. 1/2023** for the submission of cooperation projects under all specific objectives of the **INTERREG VI-A Italy–Malta Programme**.
- **Note No. 8980 of 30 June 2023** issued by the Managing Authority, transmitting to the Programme Audit Authority the first version of the document entitled “*Description of the functions and procedures in place for the Managing Authority*”.
- **CIPESS Resolution No. 78 of 22 December 2021**, establishing national co-financing for European territorial cooperation programmes.
- **Law No. 241 of 7 August 1990**, laying down general rules governing administrative action.
- **Legislative Decree No. 36 of 31 March 2023**, establishing the Public Contracts Code.

ART. 1 SUBJECT OF THE PUBLIC CALL

The MOVE ON 2027 Project, selected under Public Call No. 1/2023, addresses the following Priority and related Specific Objective of the INTERREG VI-A Italy–Malta Cross-Border Cooperation Programme 2021–2027:

- **Priority 1** – “A smarter cooperation area to promote research and innovation and the development of skills for smart specialisation.”
- **Specific Objective 1.2** – “Developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship in the cross-border area.”

In line with the above Priority and Specific Objective, the MOVE ON 2027 Project promotes a cross-border pilot action aimed at developing skills and entrepreneurial capacities for 75 beneficiaries (60 from Sicily and 15 from Malta), with the involvement of key stakeholders operating in sectors of mutual interest for the Sicilian and Maltese territories, as identified in the respective Smart Specialisation Strategy (RIS3) documents.

The purpose of this Public Call is to select 15 young beneficiaries residing and/or domiciled in Malta for free participation in a 60-hour online training programme, upon completion of which a 5-day mobility period in Sicily is envisaged, aimed at consolidating the skills acquired and fostering direct experience within a cross-border context.

ART. 2 ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Applications for participation in the skills development and cross-border mobility actions may be submitted by young people transitioning from education to the labour market, of both sexes, aged between 18 and 30 years (not having reached their 31st birthday), who are resident and/or domiciled in Malta as of the date of publication of this Public Call. Eight (8) of the fifteen (15) available places shall be reserved for female applicants.

ART. 3 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SELECTION PROCEDURE

Applicants may participate in the selection procedure provided that, as of the date of publication of this Public Call, and under penalty of exclusion, they meet the following minimum general and specific eligibility requirements:

1. Age between 18 and 30 years, not having reached the age of 31 as of the date of publication of this Public Call;
2. Resident and/or domiciled in Malta;
3. For non-EU citizens, in addition to the above requirements, compliance with valid residence permit regulations.

ART. 4 STRUCTURE OF THE TRAINING AND MOBILITY ACTIVITIES

The fifteen (15) young persons selected under this Public Call shall participate (in a single group of 15 participants) in an online training pathway delivered through a platform made available by Ass.For.SEO, with the aim of enhancing knowledge of the main employment trends within the cross-border area and of the key development strategies of Sicily and Malta, as defined in their respective Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3) (including, by way of example: Agri-food; Blue Economy; Energy; Life Sciences; Smart Cities and Communities; Tourism, Culture and Cultural Heritage).

The training pathway further aims to provide practical knowledge for entry into the labour market, including international mobility opportunities, self-entrepreneurship, and guidance on the acquisition of additional skills capable of strengthening participants' employability prospects.

The online training pathway shall have a total duration of sixty (60) hours.

For Maltese beneficiaries, the training course addressed to fifteen (15) participants, shall be delivered in (15) sessions, each lasting four (4) hours.

The implementation of the activities shall be governed by a Regulation to be signed by the selected participant and HERMES Corporation at the commencement of the activities.

Participants who have attended at least seventy per cent (70%) of the total scheduled training hours shall be entitled to take part, free of charge, in a cross-border mobility experience of five (5) days, involving visits in Sicily to companies, institutions and organisations operating in the sectors and thematic areas addressed during the training pathway.

Upon completion of the activities, comprising participation in both the online training pathway and the cross-border mobility, an attendance certificate shall be issued.

All the above-mentioned activities shall be completed by December 2026, with a mandatory obligation to participate in follow-up activities and to remotely attend the final project event to be held in Palermo, during which the attendance certificates shall be formally awarded.

ART. 5 SUPPORT FOR SKILLS-DEVELOPMENT AND MOBILITY ACTIONS

Selected applicants shall be provided with appropriate assistance and support throughout the skills development and cross-border mobility actions through the MOVE ON 2027 Malta Territorial HUB.

In particular, participants shall be guaranteed coverage of travel expenses (in the form of pre-paid return air tickets to and from Sicily for each participant), board and lodging, as well as accident insurance and third-party liability insurance (RCT) applicable to young people who are beneficiaries of the project, in accordance with the procedures and conditions to be specified in the aforementioned Regulation.

ART. 6 METHODS AND DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS

The application for participation shall be submitted by completing the online application form, accessible via the link provided below.

<https://form.jotform.com/260281962544359>

Until completion of the online application procedure, attaching, as indicated in the application form itself and through the guided procedure, the following documents:

1. Signed Curriculum Vitae in English.

Applicants are advised to complete the CV, using the Europass format, as thoroughly as possible in order to facilitate the work of the Evaluation Committee and enable it to assess:

- training experiences undertaken in Malta and/or abroad.
 - any professional experience carried out in Italy and/or abroad.
 - knowledge of the English language.
 - knowledge of the Italian language.
 - the motivations underlying the submission of the application.
2. Copy of a valid identity card (front and back) or passport, valid for travel abroad.
 3. For non-EU citizens only, a copy of a valid residence permit.

Applications may be submitted from [30/01/2026].

The selection and evaluation procedure, as set out in Article 8 below, shall be carried out on a rolling basis, until the available places are filled, and in any case no later than [30/06/2026].

Information regarding the exhaustion of the available places shall be promptly communicated through a notice published on the project web environment.

ART. 7 GROUNDS FOR INADMISSIBILITY

Applications shall be considered inadmissible where they are:

- submitted by an applicant who is not eligible, due to failure to meet the requirements set out in Article 3 of this Public Call;
- submitted in a manner other than that prescribed by this Public Call, or incomplete with respect to the required information (including failure to fully complete all sections), lacking the required supporting documents or submitted using procedures not compliant with those laid down in Article 6.

ART. 8 SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection procedure under this Public Call, up to the limit of the available places, shall be entrusted to one or more Selection Committees, each composed of three (3) members appointed by HERMES Corporation.

The evaluation process shall be structured as follows:

- a. Verification of admissibility and eligibility of applications

The Selection Committee shall first verify the formal admissibility and eligibility of the applications. The Committee shall assess, at its sole discretion (in any case in compliance with the principles set out in the Code of Ethics of the Public Administration Act—Chapter 595 of the Laws of Malta), whether to allow the regularisation of applications containing errors or omissions that do not constitute false declarations. Any clarifications or additional documentation requested by the Selection Committee in relation to the submitted documentation shall be provided by email.

- b. Merit Based Evaluation :

A merit-based assessment shall be carried out on the basis of the indicators set out in **Table 1**, with a maximum score of fifty (50) points.

- c. Motivational interview

A motivational interview shall be conducted, with a maximum score of fifty (50) points.

Table 1

CRITERION	Scoring Elements	Maximum Score (points)
Age between 18 and 31 years	18 years = 20 pts 20 years = 18 pts 21 years = 17 pts 22 years = 16 pts 23 years = 15 pts 24 years = 14 pts 25 years = 13 pts 26 years = 12 pts 27 years = 11 pts * From 28 up to 31 (not completed) = 10 pts	20 pts
Knowledge of English (minimum level A2)	A2= 1 pt B1= 2 pts B2= 3 pts C1= 4 pts C2= 5 pts	5 pts
Knowledge of Italian (minimum level A2)	A2= 1 pts B1= 2 pts B2= 3 pts C1= 4 pts C2= 5 pts	5 pts
Any previous relevant training experiences related to the sectors covered by this Public Notice, in Malta or abroad	No experience = 1 pts One experience = 2 pts From 2 to 3 experiences = 3 pts	5 pts

	More than 3 experiences = 5 pts	
Any previous relevant work experiences related to the sectors covered by this Public Notice, in Malta or abroad	No experience = 1 pt One experience = 2 pts 2-3 experiences = 3 pts More than 3 = 5 pts	5 pts
Motivation and strengths of the application	From 0 to 10 points, based on coherence and relevance, assessed by the Selection Committee	10 pts
TOTAL		50

*** with effect from the date of publication of this Public Notice**

The minimum score required to access the subsequent interview phase shall be twenty (20) points. Accordingly, admission to the subsequent evaluation phase shall be granted, on the basis of the highest scores obtained, to those applicants who have achieved the above-mentioned minimum score.

Eight (8) of the fifteen (15) available places shall be reserved for female applicants. In the event of a tie in scores between two or more applicants, priority in the ranking shall be determined on the basis of the chronological order of submission of applications, as evidenced by the date and time of receipt of the application.

Eligible applicants shall be summoned by email to attend an online interview, which shall focus on the following aspects:

- Motivation;
- Expectations;
- Responsibility.

Failure to attend the selection interview may result, at the sole discretion of HERMES Corporation, in exclusion from the selection procedure.

The maximum score attributable to the motivational interview shall be fifty (50) points.

The maximum total score attributable to each applicant shall be one hundred (100) points.

Applicants who obtain a total score of not less than sixty (60) points out of the maximum 100 points shall be deemed eligible.

Applicants shall be admitted to participation periodically, in accordance with the ranking list, until the available places are filled.

Upon completion of the verification of admissibility and eligibility conditions and of the evaluation of applications, the Selection Committee shall draw up the following lists and rankings:

- a) a list of excluded applications, due to inadmissibility, ineligibility, or failure to achieve the minimum admission score;
- b) a ranking list of eligible applications, specifying:
 - eligible and admitted applicants;
 - eligible but not admitted applicants.

ART. 9 NOTIFICATION AND PUBLICATION OF THE MERIT RANKING

Applicants successfully placed in the merit ranking shall receive a formal notification of admission to the project.

The ranking list of eligible and admitted applicants, of eligible but not admitted applicants due to the unavailability of places, as well as the list of applicants excluded due to inadmissibility, ineligibility, or failure to achieve the minimum admission score, shall be published on the website of HERMES Corporation at the following link <https://www.hermesmalta.com/moveon-2027>

In the event of withdrawals or exclusions, HERMES Corporation may proceed with the sliding of the ranking list, in accordance with the order of merit.

ART.10 OBLIGATIONS OF PARTICIPANTS

The obligations of the participants shall be set out in the Granting Act, which shall be signed by the selected applicants after completion of the selection procedure and prior to the commencement of the activities. Failure to sign the Granting Act shall result in exclusion from the ranking list.

ART. 11 VERIFICATIONS AND CONTROLS

In accordance with European Union and national legislation adopted for the implementation of the INTERREG VI-A Italy–Malta Programme 2021–2027, selected and admitted applicants shall be subject, during the implementation of the project, to verification and control activities carried out by personnel appointed by HERMES Corporation, by the Programme Bodies, by offices of the European Commission, the European Court of Auditors, or by any other authorised external body.

The original documentation produced during the course of the project (including application documentation and declarations, participation documentation and any additional declarations, reports) shall be retained by the selected participants for a period of five (5) years following the closure of the project.

ART. 12 LOSS OF ELIGIBILITY IN THE RANKING LIST

Without prejudice to the application of criminal law provisions in cases of false declarations, forgery of documents or use thereof, a participant shall forfeit eligibility where, following the checks carried out, the non-truthfulness of the content of the substitute declarations submitted is ascertained.

Confirmation of inclusion in the ranking list shall also be subject to revocation, following a formal notice to comply within ten (10) days, in the event of non-compliance by the beneficiary with the provisions set out in the Regulation.

Furthermore, HERMES Corporation shall retain the sole and unquestionable right to proceed with the sliding of the ranking list and the removal of the selected candidate in the event of absences and/or delays on the part of the beneficiary that may jeopardise the proper implementation of the training pathway, in accordance with the provisions of the Regulation.

ART. 13 INFORMATION AND REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION REGARDING THE PUBLIC CALL

Questions and requests for clarification regarding this Public Call may be submitted to the following email address: faqmalta@moveon2027-italiamalta.it

Replies shall be provided through the publication of specific clarifications in the FAQ section published on <https://www.hermesmalta.com/moveon-2027>

Information activities shall also be carried out at the Territorial HUB located in Gzira, Pinto Building, Triq San Albert, GZR 1159, telephone +356 2718 1517, open from Monday to Thursday, from 09:00 to 13:00.

For further information, enquiries may also be addressed to: moveon2027@hermesmalta.com

ART. 14 SAFEGUARD CLAUSE

HERMES Corporation reserves the right, at its sole and unquestionable discretion, to revoke, amend or annul this Public Call where it deems such action appropriate for reasons of public interest, without applicants being entitled to assert any rights or claims against the Company as a result thereof.

ART. 15 PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROCEDURE

In accordance with the principles of good administration, transparency and accountability, the Person Responsible for the Procedure is the Legal Representative of the Hermes Corporation Ltd (Patricia Estanqueiro).

ART. 16 PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation) and the Data Protection Act (Chapter 586 of the Laws of Malta), personal data provided in connection with this Public Call shall be processed lawfully, fairly and transparently, exclusively for the purposes of implementing the procedures provided for herein.

Pursuant to Article 28 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679, Hermes Corporation Limited is designated as Data Processor. Processing shall be carried out by duly authorised persons and by means of appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the security and confidentiality of the data.

It is further specified that the provision of the data required from applicants in order to access the activities covered by this Public Call is mandatory for the proper conduct of the application evaluation procedure, and that failure to provide such data shall result in the exclusion of the applicant from the procedure.

ART. 17 PUBLICATION

This Public Call shall be published on the website <https://www.hermesmalta.com/moveon-2027>, on the websites provided for under the Italy–Malta Programme, and on the project web portal <https://www.moveon2027-italiamalta.it/>.

From 30/01/2026 it shall be possible to download the application forms and related documentation pertaining to this Public Call.

Signature

