

Training event for the Italian beneficiaries under the I call for proposals Rome – 18 December 2025

The appointment and validation procedure of
the First Level Controllers (FLC)

Transition Phase

- The National Roster of First Level Controllers became fully operational on 28 October 2025
- **A transitional period is foreseen until 31 December 2025**
- During this period beneficiaries may still use the Joint Commission validation procedure
- **From 1 January 2026, the Roster system will be the only procedure for the appointment of FLCs**



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National Roster of First Level Controllers

- Established at national level by the Department for Cohesion Policies
- List of qualified professionals
- Ensures expertise, independence, integrity (EU standards)
- Provides a harmonised and transparent framework



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National Roster of FLCs

Relevance for Beneficiaries

- Beneficiaries can rely on a pre-approved pool of evaluators
- Simplifies and speeds up the process of identifying eligible controllers
- Ensures equal treatment and rotation of professionals
- Strengthens trust in certification and credibility of the Programme



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National Roster of FLCs

How to Appoint an FLC

- Italian beneficiaries send their request for an FLC through the National Roster
- The platform automatically extracts a short list of eligible professionals, based on objective criteria (competence, availability, and rotation)
- Beneficiaries finalise the assignment in compliance with the Public Procurement Code (Legislative Decree 36/2023)
- The selected controller is automatically validated through the system

Requests must be submitted to roster.cte@governo.it (cc: the Programme Representative within the Joint Commission: Ing. Giuseppe Rubino – Special Structure for Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation – Puglia Region gius.rubino@regione.puglia.it – politiche.internazionali@regione.puglia.it)



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Exceptions

Joint Commission validation will remain valid, even after 31 December 2025, for:

- Internal controllers (only for public administrations)
- Audit firms (beyond individual professionals in the Roster)
- European Economic Interest Groupings (GEIE)
- Controllers from local public companies (small municipalities < 20,000 inhabitants)



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The Joint Commission validation procedure

STEP 1: Submission by Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries must submit to the Programme Representative:

- Official transmission letter
- Information sheet
- Declarations of independence and eligibility
- Supporting documents (organigram, register, ID, language skills)
- Programme Representative checks completeness and fills in a verification checklist

Requests must be submitted to the Programme Representative within the Joint Commission: Ing. Giuseppe Rubino – Special Structure for Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation – Puglia Region
gius.rubino@regione.puglia.it – politiche.internazionali@regione.puglia.it

The Joint Commission validation procedure

STEP 2: Validation by the Joint Commission

- Programme Representative checks completeness, fills in a verification checklist and sends all to the Joint Commission
- Joint Commission verifies compliance with requirements
- May request additional supporting evidence
- Decision within 10 working days (exceptionally reducible to 4)

The Joint Commission validation procedure

STEP 3: Final Approval

If requirements are met and no objections arise:

- President of the Joint Commission authorizes validation
- Programme Representative confirms validation in writing

Authorized FLCs can carry out expenditure verification in NEXT MED projects



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Quality checks

Quality Checks (QC) are a national-level mechanism aimed at ensuring the quality and consistency of First Level Control activities.

Key features:

- Document-based checks on the work performed by Italian FLCs
- Sample-based approach
- Requested by the Programme and coordinated at national level
- Focused on the correctness and completeness of expenditure verification

Objective:

To strengthen the reliability of the national control system and ensure uniform application of EU rules.



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Quality checks

Sampling and timing

- Quality Checks cover **10% of certified expenditure** per Programme
- Sampling is carried out **once or twice per year**, based on risk analysis

Selection criteria include risk factors (legal status, role in the project, past irregularities)

Procedure

- Beneficiaries are formally informed if selected
- Requested documents include:
 - FLC checklist and control report
 - Contract/appointment letter of the FLC
 - Statement on proper document archiving

Outcomes

- Results are formally communicated
- Shared with the Joint Secretariat for follow-up and system assessment



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The INTERREG NEXT MED Italian National Contact Point

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