



CALL FOR PROPOSALS No 2023/CFP/POST/04

**FOR SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS FOR THE PROVISION OF
REINTEGRATION SERVICES TO NON-EU NATIONALS
RETURNING TO THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN RESTRICTED
TO FRONTEx FRAMEWORK PARTNERS SELECTED UNDER
CALL FOR PROPOSALS No 2023/CFP/POST/02**

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Glossary and definitions

AO	Authorizing Officer
Country of origin	A non-EU country to which a non-EU national is returning to
CoOGC	Country of Origin Guest Counsellor
ERRIN	European Return and Reintegration Network
FPA	Framework Partnership Agreement
FR	Forced return
Frontex	European Border and Coast Guard Agency
JRS	Joint Reintegration Services
LRP	Local Reintegration Partner
RP/LRP	Reintegration Partner/Local Reintegration Partner - This abbreviation always refers to the partner that is locally working in the country of origin, whether they are a main FPA partner or a subcontractor
SA	Specific Agreement
Subcontractor	Local Reintegration Partner subcontracted by a (Global) Reintegration Partner
MS	European Union Member States and Schengen Associated Countries
Non-EU country	A country outside the EU and Schengen Associated Countries
Non-EU national	A person who is not a citizen of one of the EU Member States or Schengen Associated Countries
RP	Reintegration partner
PA	Post arrival assistance
PR	Post return assistance
UAM	Unaccompanied Minor
VR	Voluntary Return

1 Introduction

Pursuant to Article 48 (1)(a)(i) and (iv) of Regulation (EU) 1896/2019 on the European Border and Coast Guard (hereinafter referred to as ‘Regulation’)¹, Frontex is mandated to support Member States and Schengen Associated Countries (hereinafter collectively referred as Member States or MS) in providing post-arrival and post-return (PA/PR) assistance, also known as reintegration assistance.

On 23 June 2023 the Call for Proposals No 2023/CFP/POST/02 for a Framework Partnership Agreement to provide reintegration services to non-EU nationals returning to their countries of origin was published on the Frontex website. This open call had the objective to conclude Framework Partnership Agreements with interested reintegration service providers (hereinafter referred to as reintegration partners or RP) for a period of two years.

Following the expiration of the deadline on 28 May 2023, the proposals from 6 applicants were carefully evaluated against the admissibility, eligibility, and award criteria. The Evaluation Committee, appointed by the Frontex Executive Director provided on 13 September 2023 a recommendation to the Authorizing Officer for an award decision wherein out of six applicants, four applicants were presented that passed all criteria and could be offered a Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA). The award decision was signed on 18 October 2023 by the Authorizing Officer, confirming the recommendation of the Evaluation Committee. The successful applicants are Caritas International Belgium, IRARA, MICADO Migration and WELDO. The unsuccessful applicants were CAP and Life Makers Foundation Egypt. All applicants were informed about the decision in writing on 23 October 2023.

Following this decision, the FPA’s were prepared and sent to the applicants for signature on 07 December 2023.

Following the start of implementation of the Frontex Joint Reintegration Services on 1 April 2022, 24 Countries of Origin were covered by the selected partners, which was later increased to 37 Countries of Origin in April of 2023. The caseload gradually increased as MS started to make use of the services.

As previously stated, a yearly consultation with MS was conducted in August 2023 to collect data regarding the needs for geographical coverage and the estimated number of potential returnees for 2024. This call for proposals takes into account the results of this consultation and aims to fulfil the needs of the MS by increasing the geographical coverage and diversifying and refining the services offered. At the same time, it reflects the objectives of the policy document ‘Towards an operational strategy for more effective returns’ by the EU Return Coordinator, and in particular point 3 ‘Doubling the number of third countries covered by the Frontex Joint Reintegration Services and its full use by all Member States by the end of 2023.’²

2 Objectives and expected results

2.1 General objective

¹ [EUR-Lex - 32019R1896 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

² [Towards an operational strategy for more effective returns_en.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)

The general objective is that the selected partner will assist Frontex in implementing its mandate in the area of return, as specified in Article 48 (1) (a) (i) and (iv) of Regulation (EU) 2019/1896 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 November 2019 on the European Border and Coast Guard and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1052/2013 and (EU) 2016/1624, by way of providing post-arrival and post-return assistance, also known as reintegration assistance, to non-EU nationals returning to their countries of origin, taking into account the needs of vulnerable persons.³

The general expected outcome of this call for proposals is to **conclude Specific Agreements with Reintegration Partners** for a period of one year to cover specific countries of origin.

2.2 Specific objective

1. The first specific objective of this call for proposals is to ensure the provision of high-qualitative Post-Arrival Assistance (short-term, covering up to 14 working days) and Post-Return Assistance (long-term, up to 12 months) to irregular staying non-EU nationals⁴ to the following countries of origin, indicated below in the table, in accordance with the respect for fundamental rights, and taking into account the best interest of the child.

No.	Country of origin	No.	Country of origin	No.	Country of origin	No.	Country of origin
1	ARGENTINA Lead VR 15 Lead FR 2 Family members 5	5	BURUNDI Lead VR 5 Lead FR 1 Family members 1	9	LEBANON Lead VR 4 Lead FR 1 Family members 1	13	THAILAND Lead VR 2 Lead FR 1 Family members 1
2	AZERBAIJAN Lead VR 1 Lead FR 14 Family members 5	6	COLOMBIA Lead VR 55 Lead FR 4 Family members 18	10	MONTENEGRO Lead VR 2 Lead FR 4 Family members 2	14	UZBEKISTAN Lead VR 5 Lead FR 1 Family members 2
3	BENIN Lead VR 1 Lead FR 1 Family members 1	7	DJIBOUTI Lead VR 1 Lead FR 1 Family members 1	11	RWANDA Lead VR 4 Lead FR 3 Family members 1	15	VENEZUELA Lead VR 12 Lead FR 1 Family members 4
4	BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA Lead VR 4 Lead FR 14 Family members 5	8	HONDURAS Lead VR 30 Lead FR 2 Family members 10	12	SIERRA LEONE Lead VR 17 Lead FR 1 Family members 5	-	-

The number under each of the countries of return represents just an estimation of the number of persons that would be eligible to receive reintegration assistance after return, per year, split into 3 categories: Lead VR for the estimated number of lead applicants

³ [EUR-Lex - 32019R1896 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁴ A person who is not a citizen of one of the EU Member States or Schengen Associated Countries

returning voluntarily, Lead FR for the estimated number of lead applicants returning forcibly and Family members for the total family members returning both voluntarily and forcibly. These estimates should be used when proposing a budget.

2. The second specific objective is to provide assistance to the MS by organising Joint Reintegration Counselling Missions (JRCM). This objective will be reached by deploying reintegration counsellors (country of origin guest counsellors - CoOGC) from the CoO to the MS to provide support in counselling activities to potential returnees. The CoOGCs are staff employed by the same Reintegration Partners that provide reintegration services to returnees. By no means should the CoOGCs replace the return and reintegration counsellors of the MS.

2.3 Expected results

The Call for Proposals should result in the following:

- Signature of Specific Agreements with reliable reintegration partners covering the countries of origin highlighted in section 2.2.
- The provision of a wide range of high-quality services in the area of pre-departure, post-arrival and post-return assistance to irregular residing non-EU nationals on the territories of the MS, returning to their countries of origin, both voluntarily and non-voluntarily. To support an efficient service delivery, the selected partners shall be requested to use Reintegration Assistance Tool (RIAT), developed by the Commission. Moreover, the available activities and services by the partners shall meet high standards of delivery and will be monitored in accordance with a quality monitoring framework⁵.

3 Timetable

The award of Specific Agreements (SA) for this call for proposals shall be conducted according to the following indicative timetable:

	Steps	Date and time or indicative period
(a)	Publication of the Call for proposals for specific countries of origin	22 December 2023
(b)	Deadline for submitting proposals for specific countries of origin	7 February 2024, 23:59 CET
(c)	Evaluation period for proposals for specific countries of origin	February 2024 - March 2024

⁵ According to the EU Strategy on Voluntary Return a Quality Monitoring Framework is being developed by ERRIN and MPI in close cooperation with the MS and Frontex. This Quality Monitoring Framework will be used to ensure the quality of the reintegration services within the FPA.

(d)	Award and signatures of Specific Agreements	March 2024
(e)	Start of implementation	1 April 2024

4 Budget available

The total budget earmarked for 2024 for the co-financing of this call for proposals is estimated at EUR 2,237,459.62. This amount will be split between multiple specific agreements with multiple RP.

This amount is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft budget for 2024 after the adoption of the budget for 2024 by the budgetary authority or provided for in the provisional twelfths.

Frontex reserves the right not to distribute all the funds available.

The total budget for the consecutive years under the FPA will be allocated on a yearly basis.

5 Admissibility Requirements

In order to be admissible:

- Proposals must be sent by email to ECRET.EVALUATION@frontex.europa.eu no later than the deadline for submitting applications referred to in section 3.
- Proposals shall be submitted in electronic form, in 2 copies. One copy shall be in PDF format and one copy in Word/Excel (see section 14), especially the application form and factsheet.
- Proposals must be drafted in English.

Failure to comply with these requirements will lead to rejection of the proposal.

6 Eligibility Criteria

6.1 Eligible proposals

Proposals for coverage of specific countries of origin must meet the following criteria:

- Must be submitted by an organisation that has been awarded and signed an FPA with Frontex following the call for proposals **No. 2023/CFP/POST/02**⁶ for a framework partnership agreement to provide reintegration services to non-EU nationals returning to their countries of origin.
- The countries of origin included in the proposal match the initial coverage specified in the FPA signed under the call for proposals **No. 2023/CFP/POST/02** and also matches the requested coverage specified in this call;⁷
- The partner or subcontractor of the partner has been established in the country of origin, requested in this call, for at least 3 years prior to the submission of the proposal.

⁶ <https://frontex.europa.eu/about-frontex/grants/>

⁷ <https://frontex.europa.eu/about-frontex/grants/>

Supporting documents

In order to assess the proposals' eligibility, the following supporting documents are requested, for each third country included in the proposal:

- A copy of the certificate of official registration or another official document attesting the establishment of the entity or its' subcontractor/partner in the country of origin for at least 3 years;
- Annex II - Factsheet, one for each country of origin covered in the proposal, filled in with details regarding **only** that country of origin. All the supporting documents listed in the factsheet shall also be submitted. Failure to provide the requested supporting documents will result in 0 points being awarded for the specific line.
- Annex III - Estimated Budget, one for each country of origin covered in the proposal.
- Annex IV - Declaration on Honour

6.2 Eligible activities to be covered under the Specific Agreement

The main activity eligible for the Specific Agreement is the provision of reintegration services to non-EU nationals returning to their countries of origin by:

- Providing post-arrival assistance
- Providing post-return assistance
- Providing guidance and counselling
- Supporting the development of the reintegration plan
- Implementing the reintegration plan
- Ensuring quality of services and monitoring of reintegration for the full 12 months of the eligible implementation period of each of the returnee's plans
- Reporting
- Having the necessary infrastructure available to conduct (in person or digital) meetings, adequate office space with private counselling rooms, adequate power and access to internet);
- Having the necessary operational capacity in terms of human resources;
- Having relevant experience in the field of reintegration;
- Ensuring the quality and sustainability of the services provided;
- Ensuring an effective follow-up of reintegration cases via the case management tool.

A secondary activity that is eligible for the Specific Agreement is the deployment of staff from CoO Reintegration Partners to support MS in providing reintegration counselling by:

- Having the necessary operational capacity in terms of human resources.
- Having relevant experience in reintegration counselling.

Implementation period

- Activities shall not start before 1 April 2024.
- Specific Agreements will be signed for one year. The signature of the SA marks the start of the cooperation.

- Applications for actions scheduled to run for a longer period than that specified in this call for proposals will not be accepted.

7. Exclusion Criteria

For details regarding Exclusion criteria please refer to the Call for Proposals 2023/CFP/POST/02 available at <https://frontex.europa.eu/about-frontex/grants/>.

7.1. Supporting documents⁸

Applicants and affiliated entities must provide a declaration on their honour certifying that they are not in one of the situations referred to in Articles 136(1) and 141 of the Financial Regulation, by filling in the relevant form attached to the application form accompanying the call for proposals and available on the Frontex website.

This obligation may be fulfilled as follows:

- (i) the applicant signs a declaration in its name and on behalf of its affiliated entities.

8. Selection criteria⁹

Selection criteria enable the assessment of the applicant's ability to perform the proposed action. The necessary ability of the applicant is assessed under both financial and operational aspects.

The applicant has to fulfil all selection criteria below. For the purposes of this call for proposals, a declaration on honour is required to prove the applicant's financial and operational capacity.

8.1. Financial capacity¹⁰

Applicants must have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activity throughout the duration of the specific agreement and to participate in its funding. The applicants' financial capacity will be assessed based on the following supporting documents to be submitted with the application, based on the estimated yearly budget provided:

- a) Low value Specific Agreements (\leq EUR 60 000):
 - a declaration on their honour.
- b) Specific Agreements $>$ EUR 60 000:
 - a declaration on their honour, and
 - the profit and loss account as well as the balance sheet for the last 1 financial year for which the accounts were closed;

⁸ [Article 137 REGULATION \(EU, Euratom\) 2018/1046 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 July 2018 as referred to in Article 91 of MANAGEMENT BOARD DECISION 19/2019 of 23 July 2019 adopting the Frontex Financial Regulation](#)

⁹ [Article 198 REGULATION \(EU, Euratom\) 2018/1046 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 July 2018 as referred to in Article 91 of MANAGEMENT BOARD DECISION 19/2019 of 23 July 2019 adopting the Frontex Financial Regulation](#)

¹⁰ Article 198 FR.

c) Specific Agreements for an action > EUR 750 000:

- (i) the information and supporting documents mentioned in point b) above, and
- (ii) an audit report produced by an approved external auditor certifying the accounts for the last two years available, where such an audit report is available or whenever a statutory report is required by law.

If the audit report is not available AND a statutory report is not required by law, a self-declaration signed by the applicant's authorised representative certifying the validity of its accounts for the last 2 financial years available must be provided.

On the basis of the documents submitted, if Frontex considers that financial capacity is weak, it may:

- request further information;
- decide not to give pre-financing;
- decide to give pre-financing paid in instalments;
- decide to give pre-financing covered by a bank guarantee;
- where applicable, require the joint and several financial liability of all the co-beneficiaries.

8.2. Operational capacity¹¹

Applicants must have the professional competencies as well as appropriate qualifications necessary to complete the proposed action. In this respect, applicants must submit a declaration on their honour.

9 Award criteria¹²

9.1 Award criteria for the Specific Agreements

The evaluation of the award criteria will be done in 2 stages:

Stage 1:

During the evaluation of the proposals for SA, the RP/LRP will be ranked using the following indicators in the factsheet but also the 5 questions, found in the sections below. There is a minimum threshold of 60% of the total available points to be gained from the factsheet indicators and questions, that the RP must obtain to be awarded a SA for a specific country of origin. Frontex reserves the right to select one or more RP for the same country of origin based on the capacity to provide services and operational needs.

Stage 2:

¹¹ Article 196 and 198 FR.

¹² Article 199 [REGULATION \(EU, Euratom\) 2018/1046 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 July 2018 as referred to in Article 91 of MANAGEMENT BOARD DECISION 19/2019 of 23 July 2019 adopting the Frontex Financial Regulation](#)

The applications that receive more than 60% of the available points, in stage 1, will be evaluated from a cost-effectiveness perspective.

The points awarded in the 3 steps (2 stages) described below will be added together to get the final score. If for a specific TC there are 2 or more offers, the RP/LRP with the highest score will be selected.

The appointed evaluation committee will assess the applications in the following order:

Stage 1:

9.1.1 Factsheet Indicators

In order to be evaluated each applicant should complete and submit one form “Factsheet” (Annex 2) for each country of origin they have been invited to submit proposals for.

The same process of evaluation will take place before the award of each subsequent grant. The awarded specific agreements will have a validity of 1 year and every year a new Call for Specific Agreements will be launched. There is no guarantee that the same RP/LRP will be awarded a specific grant the following year.

All of the following criteria will be evaluated on a regular basis, no less than once per year, before the RP will be awarded the next grant. For some criteria, supporting documents will need to be provided. Details are specified in the Annex.

The factsheet should only be completed with information regarding, exclusively, the activities conducted in the specific country of origin. Global facts that include statistics or data from other countries of origin will be disregarded and points will not be awarded. Supporting documents must be accompanied with certified English translations, otherwise may be disregarded and points will not be granted for the particular indicator.

	Description of indicator	Subcategory	Yes/No	Points
Availability of services depending on the type of return				
1	The organisation is willing to assist returnees after both voluntary and forced return			20
2	The organisation is willing to deploy reintegration counsellors, from its own staff, to the MS			20
Accessibility - Physical presence				
3	The RP has an office in the capital of the country of origin • A copy of the Rental/Ownership Agreement to be submitted			5
4	The RP has offices outside the capital of the country of origin • A copy of the Rental/Ownership Agreement for 30% of the number of locations to be submitted	Between 1 and 5 offices		5
		Between 5 and 10 offices		10
		More than 10 offices		15
5	The RP has a process to cover reintegration assistance in areas where it does not have an office			5
Accessibility - Opening hours				
6	Number of hours per week that the RP is open for returnees	Less than 20 hours/week		0
		More than 20 hours/week		15
7	The RP allows for returnees to walk into the office without prior appointment			10
8	The RP can secure in-person appointments/contacts at the offices with returnees before or after normal working hours.			5
Accessibility - Contact channels				
9	The Reintegration Partner can accommodate digital meetings with returnees			10

10	The Reintegration Partner can accommodate digital meetings with returnees before or after normal working hours			5
11	The contact details that the RP provides are functional			15
Physical Infrastructure				
12	Availability of power supply (average for all locations)	Less than 2 hours/day		0
		More than 2 hours/day		5
13	Availability of Internet access (average for all locations)	Less than 2 hours/day		0
		More than 2 hours/day		5
14	Ability to organise Airport pick-up within 5 days after the request			5
	Network/Embeddedness of the RP List of organisations that the Reintegration Partner has a documented operational relationship within the field of (local/regional/national) to be included if the answer is yes to any of the following	If the Local Reintegration Partner offers any of the below services in house, Yes should be chosen as well.		
15	Embeddedness with employment services • A copy of Contract/Memorandum of Understanding with at least 1 partner to be submitted	1 partner and above		5
16	Embeddedness with local education services • A copy of Contract/Memorandum of Understanding with at least 1 partner to be submitted	1 partner and above		5
17	Embeddedness with local health services • A copy of Contract/Memorandum of Understanding with at least 1 partner to be submitted	1 partner and above		5
18	Embeddedness with local administrative services • A copy of Contract/Memorandum of Understanding with at least 1 partner to be submitted	1 partner and above		5

19	Embeddedness with local government / authorities • A copy of Contract/Memorandum of Understanding with at least 1 partner to be submitted	1 partner and above		5
20	Embeddedness with local NGO / civil society networks • A copy of Contract/Memorandum of Understanding with at least 1 partner to be submitted	1 partner and above		5
Organisational Background				
21	Local presence of the Reintegration Partner in the country of origin - documented number of years in the country of return	Between 3 and 5 years		5
		More than 5 years		10
22	Number of years that the organisation has implemented activities in the area of reintegration (not necessarily after return, can also include Internally Displaced or similar). • Copy of contracts/financing/project to confirm to be submitted	Between 3 and 5 years		5
		More than 5 years		10
23	Number of years that the organisation has implemented activities in the area of reintegration after return from the EU. • Copy of contracts/financing/project to confirm to be submitted	Between 3 and 5 years		5
		More than 5 years		10
24	Organisation has an internal monitoring and control system, incl. early warning, to detect any disruption in the continuity or quality of local service delivery • Copy of guidelines/standards/operating procedure to be submitted			5
25	Organisation has internal guidelines on the management of a reintegration case, the inception of a reintegration plan, the financial justification of expenses and overall reporting requirements.			5

	• Copy of guidelines/standards/operating procedure to be submitted			
26	Number of reintegration cases after return that the RP has managed over the last 3 years (average) in that particular country of return	Less than 25 cases/year		0
		Between 25 and 100 and over cases/year		5
		More than 100 cases/year		10
27	Budget that the RP has spent on reintegration projects after return over the last 3 years (average)	Less than EUR 60.000/year		0
		Between EUR 60,000 and EUR 750,000 / year		5
		Over EUR 750,000 / year		10

In addition to the above-mentioned factsheet, the RP/LRP will be required to provide answers to the following 5 questions. The answers will be evaluated by the selection committee and given a value of between 0 and 20 points each. Please keep the answers as short as possible without detriment to the quality of the answer, but not longer than 100 words.

- 1 Please describe the steps you would take to provide reintegration assistance to returnees, starting from the initial contact, going through the entire process, including meetings, evaluation of requirements stated by the returnee, planning, amending of the reintegration plan, referrals, monitoring of the process and finishing with the case closure and final reporting.
- 2 Please indicate how you would provide reintegration assistance to a returnee that lives in an area that is not covered physically by an office.
- 3 Please indicate the process of evaluating the need for specialised assistance for vulnerable persons including but not limited to unaccompanied minors, single women, victims of trafficking, the elderly, etc.
- 4 Please indicate what challenges you have encountered in providing reintegration assistance in this country of return and what steps have you taken to overcome them.
- 5 Please explain the level of cooperation with the relevant local authorities, including existing agreements on reintegration assistance in your TC and other non-state actors related to reintegration assistance.

Stage 2

9.1.3 Cost Effectiveness

On top of the indicators and questions mentioned above, the offers will be evaluated from the perspective of cost-effectiveness. The aim of this evaluation is to determine the ratio between costs going towards the packages for returnees versus costs incurred by the RP/LRP (covering operating costs and handling fees), as shown in the table below:

Percentage of estimated budget going towards costs for the returnees packages	Percentage of estimated budget going towards costs incurred by RP/LRP	Points awarded
1%-5%	99%-95%	0
6%-10%	94%-90%	5
11%-15%	89%-85%	10
16%-20%	84%-80%	15
21%-25%	79%-75%	20
26%-30%	74%-70%	25
31%-35%	69%-65%	30
36%-40%	64%-60%	35
41%-45%	59%-55%	40
46%-50%	54%-50%	45
51%-55%	49%-45%	50
56%-60%	44%-40%	55

61%-65%	39%-35%	60
66%-70%	34%-30%	65
71%-75%	29%-25%	70
76%-80%	24%-20%	75
81%-85%	19%-15%	80
86%-90%	14%-10%	85
91%-95%	9%-5%	90
96%-100%	4%-0%	100

NB:

- Failure to submit the supporting documents listed in the factsheet, will lead to the respective points not being awarded.
- Documents that are not in English must have a certified translation attached. Failure to submit translation of provided documents will lead to the documents being disregarded and points for that particular indicator will not be awarded.
- All the rental agreements must be valid at the time of submission. Old, expired documents will be disregarded, and points will not be awarded.
- All contracts/Memorandum of Understandings that are submitted must be valid. Old, expired documents will be disregarded, and points will not be awarded.
- If, when completing the factsheets, global data, that covers more than one country of origin in the factsheet will be used, this will be disregarded and points will not be awarded.

If there is a need for more information, during the evaluation process of the proposals for SA, Frontex may invite the project manager/country director responsible for every specific TC for an interview. A CV and contact details of project manager/country director for each country of origin covered in the proposal must be submitted.

Together with Annex II - The Factsheet for each third country covered, the proposal must include a 1-year budget (Annex III) for that respective country or origin that includes a very detailed break-down for each proposed Unit Cost (Operating Cost, Handling Fee for the following packages: Post Arrival package and Post Return package and the number of packages themselves). At the same time, for the reintegration counselling missions a single unit cost is established and should be proposed - Country of Origin Guest counsellor Expert Cost - a cost to cover all expenses on a “per day” basis.

10. Legal commitments¹³

For details regarding Legal Commitments please refer to the Call for Proposals 2023/CFP/POST/02 available at <https://frontex.europa.eu/about-frontex/grants/>.

11. Financial provisions

11.1. Form of the Specific Agreement¹⁴

The reimbursement based on the unit costs, in the context of the call shall be made based on the Specific Agreement signed between Frontex and the Reintegration Partner.

¹³ Article 201 [REGULATION \(EU, Euratom\) 2018/1046 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 July 2018 as referred to in Article 91 of MANAGEMENT BOARD DECISION 19/2019 of 23 July 2019 adopting the Frontex Financial Regulation.](#)

¹⁴ Articles 125 and 194(1)(c) FR

The Specific Agreement enters into force on the date on which the last party signs it. The Specific Agreement will recognise two types of unit costs, as seen below in section 11.1.1 - Unit costs imposed by Frontex and section 11.1.2 - unit costs proposed by the Reintegration Partners.

11.1.1 Reimbursement of eligible costs declared on the basis of unit costs

The Specific Agreements will be defined by applying a maximum co-financing rate of 100 % to the eligible costs declared by the beneficiary and its affiliated entities on the basis of:

- (a) An amount of EUR 2000 per each post-return package granted to the main applicant in voluntary return.
- (b) An amount of EUR 1000 per each post-return package granted to the main applicant in forced return.
- (c) An amount of EUR 1000 per each post-return package granted to each of the family members of the main applicant in voluntary or forced return.
- (d) An amount of EUR 615 per each post-arrival package granted to each applicant in voluntary return that is eligible to receive it.
- (e) An amount of EUR 205 per each post-arrival package granted to each applicant in forced return that is eligible to receive it.

The amount per unit will be paid for every unit consumed.

To be eligible for reimbursement by Frontex, the type of assistance should fall under one or more of the categories eligible under the JRS. The following categories of assistance are eligible for Frontex support:

- 1) **Post-arrival package** - immediate assistance upon arrival, to cover, up to a period of **14 working days** starting on the day of arrival in the country of origin, organised and coordinated between the responsible Member State (MS) and the Reintegration Partner (RP) prior to departure of the returnee. This assistance is provided outside the reintegration plan. The package will be in the amount of
 - a unit cost of **EUR 615** per person, in the case of voluntary return and
 - a unit cost of **EUR 205** per person, in the case of forced return

All services awarded under this package should be started within **5 working days** after the request has been received by the RP/LRP and **end** within **14 working days** from the date of arrival in the country of origin. MS will endeavour to include all the relevant information needed, for example: flight information, immediate medical needs, need for emergency housing, onward transportation need, etc. All invoices/proof of payments must be uploaded into the case management tool.

List of eligible services under this package are:

- a) **Airport Pick-up:** The RP/LRP shall arrange for the pick-up of the returnees from the airport or port of entry, if this service is requested at least **5 working days** prior to the departure from the MS.
- b) **Cash assistance:** a MS can decide to give part of the post arrival package in cash. This is communicated prior to return to the RP in the case management tool.
- c) **Onward transportation:** Feasibility is to be assessed on a case-by-case basis. The MS informs the RP about the needed onward transportation five working days prior to the onward transportation being needed. This service shall also be offered

during the eligibility period for this package, of 14 working days from the date of arrival, if the returnee requests it after arrival. Contact details of the non-EU nationals are shared prior to return to make the necessary arrangements, if available.

- d) **Housing upon arrival:** Temporary accommodation or emergency housing upon arrival, for 1 or more nights, as needed, within the period starting on the day of arrival and ending 14 working days after the date of arrival, should be arranged by the RP/LRP. This is possible with or without airport pick-up. The MS informs the RP about the needed emergency housing five working days prior to the period for which this service being requested. Contact details of the non-EU nationals are shared prior to return to make the necessary arrangements, if available. In case of UAMs, adequate housing for UAMs to be ensured.
- e) **Medical assistance upon arrival:**
- i) The needs assessment is done by the sending MS prior to departure, if there are urgent needs on arrival, or can be done by the RP/LRP after arrival, within the eligibility period of this package. This kind of assistance entails referral to medical professionals, which can lead to purchase of medication with a prescription or purchase of over-the-counter medication and short-term medical services. Urgent needs upon arrival would need to be communicated at least five working days prior to the period for which this service is being requested by the MS, or provided within 5 working days if the need is identified after arrival, within the eligible period for this package. Contact details of the non-EU nationals are shared prior to return to make the necessary arrangements if available.
 - ii) Arrival COVID test (or other mandatory medical check) if required for entry to the country of return, if the request for support has been received by the RP/LRP at least 5 working days before departure.
- f) **Family reunification for UAMs:** The RP/LRP facilitates and monitors the entire reunification process and informs the MS accordingly. This reunification can be with a family member or with a governmental appointed guardian.

- 2) **Post-return package** - assistance beyond immediate arrival which is discussed and agreed between the RP/LRP and the returnee during one or more meetings in the country of return. The reintegration activities related to the post-return package can be implemented in a period no longer than 12 months, counted from the date of departure of the TCN, from the MS and after the approval of the reintegration plan by both Frontex and the MS.

This package can be one or a combination of the following unit costs:

EUR 2000 - main applicant in Voluntary Return (VR)

EUR 1000 - main applicant in Forced Return (FR)

EUR 1000 - for each additional family member (same amount for both VR and FR)

This process can also start before departure and be (partly) agreed between the returnee and the return counsellor. The resulting reintegration support and costs are described in the reintegration plan, which is accepted and approved by the sending MS and by Frontex. All invoices must be uploaded into the case management tool.

List of eligible services under this package are:

- a) **Cash assistance:** a MS can decide to give part of the reintegration assistance in cash. This is communicated prior to return to the RP in the case management tool.
- b) **Long-term housing and related costs:** Rent, basic furniture and renovation/refurbishing costs can be paid from the reintegration budget. Long-term housing can be offered for up to 12 months, counted from the date of departure and after the approval of the reintegration plan by both the MS and Frontex. This can also include referral to appropriate housing for vulnerable groups (elderly, UAM, victims of trafficking, etc.) and it could also include the purchase of living quarters.
- c) **Medical assistance:** Any type of medical assistance as long as it falls within the budget and timeframe for reintegration, including for vulnerable groups.
- d) **Education:**
 - i) **Schooling:** School fees or further education costs for both children and adults can be covered. Specific advice and guidance regarding the most appropriate/adequate structures should be given by the LP/LRP. This can also include special needs referrals and schooling.
 - ii) **Vocational training:** Fees for vocational training can be covered. Specific advice and guidance regarding the most appropriate/adequate structures should be given by the RP/LRP.
- e) **Job counselling and assistance in accessing the labour market:** RP/LRP shall inform the non-EU nationals about the current labour market and give guidance on how to access it. If needed this can be in combination with referral to other relevant organisations.
- f) **Assistance in setting up a small business:** The RP/LRP shall offer assistance to the returnee during the preparation and implementation of a business project. Depending on the needs and capacities of the returnee in setting up a certain business, the role of the RP/LRP can be limited/extended. In any case, the RP/LRP should advise the returnee about possible business ideas and explore together the strengths and weaknesses of a certain project. In the end, the returnee decides which type of business to implement.
- g) **Family Reunification (monitoring):** RP/LRP checks/monitors if reunification has happened and provides feedback.
- h) **Legal counselling and administrative support:** These include advice and referral to relevant organisations in relation to the concrete needs of the non-EU nationals. This often goes hand in hand with administrative support - guidance with the renewal of ID documents, driver's license, enrolment of children in school, translations of legal/medical documents, support to UAMs regarding guardianship, etc. Due care and specialised assistance to be provided in the case of UAMs.
- i) **Psychosocial support:** If needed, the RP/LRP will refer the non-EU nationals to more specialised organisations/hospitals, private and/or public programmes, etc. Due care and specialised assistance to be provided in the case of UAMs and other vulnerable groups (elderly, victims of trafficking).

All other expenses that do not fall under the above categories are not eligible for Frontex financial support and will not be reimbursed.

If the sending MS wish to top-up the amounts for the post-arrival and post-return packages, due to national policy or other reasons, this can be done on the basis of a

bilateral agreement between the MS and the RP. Frontex will not be party to this agreement.

11.1.2 Reimbursement of eligible costs declared on the basis of unit costs based on the usual cost accounting practices of the beneficiaries¹⁵

The specific agreement will be defined by applying a co-financing rate of 100 % to the eligible costs declared by the beneficiary and its affiliated entities on the basis of:

- (a) an amount per unit calculated in accordance with the beneficiary's usual cost accounting practices for the following categories of costs:
 - **Operating Costs:**
 - (a) In the amount of EUR _____ per month for each country of return covered by the RP, covering:
 - (i) Information and communication
 - (ii) Contact with the non-EU national prior to departure
 - (iii) Quality monitoring of the reintegration process for up to 12 months after the date of departure from the MS
 - (iv) Office running costs including staff salaries directly involved in the Frontex JRS. If staff are only partially working on the JRS project, then only the relevant part of their salary shall be included in the calculation.
 - (v) Travel costs
 - (vi) Staff training
 - **Country of Origin Guest Counsellor Expert cost:**
 - (a) In the amount of EUR _____ per each day a counsellor if deployed to MS, covering:
 - (i) all costs including fees, DSA, accommodation¹⁶, travel from the country of origin to the MS and back, and related administrative costs, counted by calendar day (excluding the salaries if already included in the operating costs or handling fee unit cost). For the purpose of the calculation 1 trip from TC to MS should be included for every 30 days.
 - **Handling fee for the post-arrival package:**
 - In the amount of EUR ____ per each assisted person that is entitled to receive the post-arrival package, covering:
 - (i) Being present at the airport, port, or other arrival location, to welcome the returnees and make first contact only if this activity is requested at least 5 working days prior to the return date.
- Always be present at the airport in case there is a return by means of a charter flight if this is requested at least 5 working days in advance of the return date.

¹⁵ This option corresponds to point (v) of Article 1.3.2(a) of the model grant agreement published on BudgWeb.

¹⁶ The EU COM daily rates should be considered when calculating. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32016R1611&from=HR>

Whenever this package is requested, each returnee should be provided with a welcome kit, which should include:

1. Bottle of water
 2. 1 hot meal or a voucher for a meal
 3. Age-appropriate children's toys/books/other
 4. Pre-paid SIM card with number - to ensure further communication.
 5. Toiletries set (male/female):
 - a. Toothbrush and toothpaste
 - b. Soap
 - c. Shampoo
 - d. Female hygiene products
- (ii) Costs with personnel participating in the reception, other than the ones calculated under operating costs.
- (iii) Costs relating to set-up and transportation of staff and materials from RP/LRP HQ to airport, port, bus station or other reception terminal.
- (iv) Costs relating to ensuring the presence of one or more medical professionals (doctor, nurse) during the reception activities.
- (v) Costs relating to materials (tents, generator) used for reception.
- (vi) Cost relating to support offered to national authorities in the registration process
- (vii) Providing post-arrival assistance as described in section 6.2
- (viii) Referral to specialised services
- (ix) Reporting on assistance given
- (x) Financial reporting - collecting and uploading of financial proof for all expenses
- **Handling fee for the post-return package:**
- o In the amount of EUR _____ per each assisted person that is entitled to receive the post-return package, covering:
 - (i) Organising of meetings with the non-EU nationals after their return
 - (ii) Development of a tailor-made reintegration plan
 - (iii) Counselling
 - (iv) Referral to specialised services
 - (v) Reintegration assistance on specific types of reintegration
 - (vi) Quality monitoring of the reintegration
 - (vii) Reporting - Interim and final narrative
 - (viii) Financial reporting - collecting and uploading of financial proof for all expenses into the case management tool.

The amount per unit will be paid for every unit consumed.

Conditions for compliance of the beneficiary's usual cost accounting practices

The beneficiary must ensure that the cost accounting practices used for the purpose of declaring eligible costs are in compliance with the following conditions:

- (i) the cost accounting practices that are used must constitute the usual cost accounting practices of the beneficiary. The beneficiary must apply those

- practices in a consistent manner, based on objective criteria irrespective of the source of funding (EU financing or other);
- (ii) the costs declared can be directly reconciled with the amounts recorded in its general accounts; and
 - (iii) the categories of costs used for the purpose of determining the costs declared do not include any ineligible costs or costs already covered by other forms of grant;
 - (iv) supporting financial documents covering the entire amount proposed must be available for a period of minimum 12 months prior to the date of the publication of the call. These documents will be submitted before the award of each SA under the FPA if requested.

11.2 Payment conditions, checks and audits for unit costs

Contributions based on unit costs will be paid in full provided the reintegration services were provided to the returning non-EU nationals, that the services were implemented properly (with the required quality, fully and on time). If the reintegration services are not properly provided, the amount of the grant will be reduced proportionately.

The fulfilment of the above conditions and/or results triggering the payment of the unit costs as specified in section 11.1.1 and 11.1.2 including where required the achievement of outputs and/or results, will be checked at the latest before the payment of the balance. In addition, the fulfilment of those conditions and/or results may be subject to ex post controls.

For this purpose, in case of verifications, checks or audits, the beneficiary will be required to provide the supporting documents proving: **the number of units declared**.

Where the grant takes the form specified in section 11.1.1 and 11.1.2 the beneficiary will not be required to report on the costs actually incurred for the implementation.

The amounts of unit costs as specified in section 11.1.1 will not be challenged by ex-post controls.

If Frontex has confirmed explicitly that the beneficiary's usual cost accounting practices are in compliance with the conditions set out in this call, costs declared in application of these practices may not be challenged ex post, if:

- the practices actually used comply with those approved by the Frontex; and
- the beneficiary did not conceal any information for the purpose of the approval of its cost accounting practices.

This does not affect the possibility to reduce the grant as specified above or in the case of irregularity, fraud or a breach of other obligations.

Frontex reserves its right to challenge the amounts of unit costs by ex-post controls, where:

- Frontex did not confirm the usual cost accounting practices as complying with the conditions set out in this call, or
- the unit costs are not calculated in accordance with the confirmed cost accounting practices.

Payment of grant on the basis of unit costs as specified in section 11.1.1 and 11.1.2, does not affect the right of access to the statutory records of the beneficiaries for the purposes of:

- reviewing them for future grant, or
- protecting the Union financial interests, e.g. detection of fraud, irregularities or breach of obligations.

11.3 Eligible direct costs

The eligible direct costs for the provision of reintegration services in countries of return are those costs which:

with due regard to the conditions of eligibility set out above, are identifiable as specific costs directly linked to the provision of reintegration services and which can therefore be booked to it directly. For the purpose of providing post-arrival and post-return assistance and supporting the MS in their effort to provide counselling to potential returnees, in this call for proposals, 6 types of Unit Costs are recognised:

- (1) Unit costs dedicated to the reintegration partner:
 - (a) **Operating costs**, to be paid as a unit cost per month for each country of return; In situations whereby the same RP is selected to provide services in a given country, where they continue providing the reintegration in line with the ongoing SA to the cases that were started in the previous grant and are still ongoing, the operating cost will only be paid once based on the new calculation in this call. The new SA will be awarded to complete the ongoing cases, if any, and to finance new cases eligible under this Call for Proposal.
 - (b) **Country of Origin Guest Counsellor Expert cost**, to be paid as a unit cost for each day of the Guest Counsellors deployment to the EU;
 - (c) **Handling fee for the post-arrival package**, covering the handling for each individual;
 - (d) **Handling fee for the post-return package**, covering the handling for each individual;
- (2) Unit costs to be fully used for reintegration activities for the benefit of the returnees:
 - (a) **Post-arrival package** - as described in section 6.2
 - (b) **Post-return package** - as described in section 6.2

11.4 Ineligible costs

The following items are not considered as eligible costs:

- a) return on capital and dividends paid by a beneficiary;
- b) debt and debt service charges;
- c) provisions for losses or debts;
- d) interest owed;
- e) doubtful debts;
- f) exchange losses;
- g) costs of transfers from the Commission charged by the bank of a beneficiary;

- h) costs declared by the beneficiary under another action receiving a grant financed from the Union budget. Such grants include grants awarded by a Member State and financed from the Union budget and grants awarded by bodies other than the Commission for the purpose of implementing the Union budget. In particular, beneficiaries receiving an operating grant financed by the EU or Euratom budget cannot declare indirect costs for the period(s) covered by the operating grant, unless they can demonstrate that the operating grant does not cover any costs of the action.
- i) contributions in kind from third parties;
- j) excessive or reckless expenditure;

11.5 Balanced budget¹⁷

This budget refers to the implementation of the action under this Call for Proposals.

The estimated budget of the entire action, broken down by each country of return must be attached to the application form. It must have revenue and expenditure in balance. The budget must be detailed and must clearly indicate the eligible costs of the action.

The budget must be drawn up in euros.

Applicants for whom costs will not be incurred in euros should use the exchange rate published on the Infor-euro website available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/inforeuro/inforeuro_en.cfm

11.6 Calculation of the final grant amount

The final amount of the grant is calculated by Frontex at the time of the payment of the balance. The calculation involves the following steps:

Step 1 – Application of the reimbursement of the unit costs

The amount under step 1 is obtained by applying the reimbursement of unit costs to which the co-financing rate applies in accordance with sections 11.1.1 and 11.1.2.

Step 2 – Limit to the maximum amount of the SA

The total amount paid to the beneficiaries by Frontex may in no circumstances exceed the maximum amount of the grant as indicated in the SA. If the amount obtained following Step 1 is higher than this maximum amount, the final amount of the grant is limited to the latter.

Step 3 – Reduction due to improper implementation or breach of other obligations

Frontex may reduce the maximum amount of the grant if the action has not been implemented properly (i.e. if it has not been implemented or has been implemented poorly, partially or late), or if another obligation under the Agreement has been breached.

¹⁷ Article 196(1)(e) FR

The amount of the reduction will be proportionate to the degree to which the action has been implemented improperly or to the seriousness of the breach.

11.7 Reporting and payment arrangements

Reporting

The Beneficiary reports on the performance and costs under the Agreement using the reporting tool provided by Frontex.

For deployments and reintegration services, the reports are provided on a bi-monthly basis and they are accumulative, i.e. they cover the period from the start date of the implementation. The reports are provided at the latest on the 15th day after the end of each reporting period covering 60 days.

Frontex validates the reports within 30 days from the established deadlines unless clarification is needed and further communication with the Beneficiary takes place. Validation is a process that includes a cross-checking of reported data with Frontex's internal records, in case of discrepancies a notification to the Beneficiary on corrections to be introduced and a final confirmation of the report.

In case of costs where simplified forms of funding are allowed, once fully validated the information contained in the report is binding for the purposes of the balance payment (except for the costs where full verification is not possible at the moment of report validation).

Fulfilling the reporting obligations is as a pre-condition for any amendment to the Agreement and balance payments.

The Beneficiary and Frontex ensure timely completion and updates of data.

Pre-financing

The pre-financing is intended to cover the Beneficiary's future expenditures related to the implementation of the Agreement.

Following the signature of the Agreement by the last party and its receipt by Frontex, the Beneficiary may send to Frontex a request for the pre-financing **up to 80%** of the cost.

Frontex shall assess the payment request and, if approved, pay within 30 days from receipt of the request for pre-financing, notwithstanding any suspension periods.

Payment of the balance

Payment of the balance, which may not be repeated, is intended to cover the remaining costs of the Beneficiary on the basis of a detailed statement of the costs incurred, after the end of the operational activity. It clears any outstanding pre-financing.

Payment of the balance may take the form of a recovery order, if previous payments exceed the amount of the final financing determined in accordance with the Agreement.

The Beneficiary itself shall certify that the financial documents submitted to Frontex comply with the financial provisions of the Agreement and that the request for payment is substantiated by adequate supporting documents that can be checked.

Upon receipt of the request for payment of the balance and the accompanying documents, Frontex shall:

- a. approve the request; or
- b. ask the Beneficiary for supporting documents or any additional information it deems necessary to allow the approval of the request; or
- c. reject the request and ask for the submission of a new request.

Approval of the documents accompanying the request for payment shall not imply recognition of the regularity or the authenticity, completeness and correctness of the declarations and information it contains.

Frontex shall assess any submitted documents and, if approved, pay within 60 days from receipt of the request for payment of the balance, notwithstanding any suspension periods.

Payment arrangements

The beneficiary may request the following payments provided that the conditions of the grant agreement are fulfilled (e.g. payment deadlines, ceilings, etc.). The payment requests shall be accompanied by the documents provided below and detailed in the specific agreement:

Payment request ¹⁸	Accompanying documents ¹⁹
A pre-financing payment up to 80 % of the maximum grant amount	(a) Request for pre-financing
<p>Payment of the balance</p> <p>Frontex will establish the amount of this payment on the basis of the calculation of the final grant amount (see section 11.2 above). If the total of earlier payments is higher than the final grant amount, the beneficiary will be required to reimburse the amount paid in excess by Frontex through a recovery order²⁰.</p>	<p>(a) Request for the final payment</p> <p>(b) Final financial statement</p> <p>(c) Final Monitoring Report</p> <p>(d) Final Report on the implementation of the action under the Specific Agreement</p> <p>(e) a certificate on the financial statements and underlying accounts (if requested)</p> <p>(f) Final Joint Reintegration Counselling Mission Report</p>

In case of a weak financial capacity, section 8.1 above applies.

Determining the final amount to be paid is conducted according to Frontex policy on ex-ante control (ED Decision R-ED-2020-56)²¹.

In case of grants where the majority of co-financing is based on unit costs, ex-ante control includes a sample check of the number of units claimed under a specific record against supporting documents. A record is defined as an entry with a single deployment or, in case of return activities, an entry related to a given type of cost, in the monitoring tool. The documents provided for each record should justify the number of units claimed

¹⁸ Article 115 FR

¹⁹ Article 203(2) FR

²⁰ Article 115(2) FR

²¹ ED Decision No R-ED-2020-56 of 23/03/2020 on ex-ante policy.

under this record. If the record includes additional costs claimed on the reimbursable basis, ex-ante control covers also supporting documents proving these costs.

11.8 Other financial conditions

a) Non-cumulative award²²

Under no circumstances shall the same costs be financed twice by the Union budget. To ensure this, applicants shall indicate in the Specific Agreement application the sources and amounts of Union funding received or applied for the same action or part of the action or for its (the applicant's) functioning during the same financial year as well as any other funding received or applied for the same action.²³

b) Non-retroactivity²⁴

No Specific Agreement may be awarded retrospectively for actions already completed.

c) Implementation contracts/subcontracting²⁵

Where the implementation of the provision of reintegration services or specialised services (appropriate accommodation for UAM, medical, psychosocial, etc.) requires the award of procurement contracts (implementation contracts), the beneficiary may award the contract in accordance with its usual purchasing practices provided that the contract is awarded to the tender offering best value for money or the lowest price (as appropriate), avoiding conflicts of interest.

The beneficiary is expected to clearly document the tendering procedure and retain the documentation in the event of an audit.

Beneficiaries may subcontract tasks forming part of the action. If they do so, they must ensure that, in addition to the above-mentioned conditions of best value for money and absence of conflicts of interests, the following conditions are also complied with:

- a) recourse to subcontracting is justified because of the nature of the action and what is necessary for its implementation.
- b) the beneficiaries ensure that certain conditions applicable to beneficiaries, enumerated in the grant agreement (e.g. visibility, confidentiality, etc.), are also applicable to the subcontractors.

d) Financial support to third parties²⁶

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

12. Publicity

For details regarding Publicity please refer to the Call for Proposals 2023/CFP/POST/02 available at <https://frontex.europa.eu/about-frontex/grants/>.

²² Article 191 FR

²³ Article 196(1)(f) FR

²⁴ Article 193 FR

²⁵ Article 205 FR

²⁶ Article 204 FR

13. Processing of personal data

For details regarding the Processing of personal data please refer to the Call for Proposals 2023/CFP/POST/02 available at <https://frontex.europa.eu/about-frontex/grants/>.

14 Procedure for the submission of proposals

Proposals must be submitted by the deadline set out under section 3.

No modification to the proposal is allowed once the deadline for submission has elapsed. However, if there is a need to clarify certain aspects or to correct clerical mistakes, Frontex may contact the applicant during the evaluation process²⁷.

Applicants will be informed in writing about the results of the selection process.²⁸

Submission by email:

Applications must be submitted in the electronic form, duly completed and dated, both in PDF (application must be signed) and in Word/Excel.

Where applicable, all additional information considered necessary by the applicant can be included on separate sheets.

Applications must be sent to the following email address²⁹:

ECRET.EVALUATION@frontex.europa.eu

Applications delivered on paper or hand-written applications will not be accepted.

15 Contacts

Questions regarding the call for proposals, indicating the reference number of this call for proposals (2023/CFP/POST/04), can be sent to the functional mailbox address HoU.POST@frontex.europa.eu.

The last day for submission of questions on the call for proposals will be 5 working days before the deadline for submitting applications. Frontex will reply to inquiries as soon as possible, but at the latest 2 working days before the deadline for submission of applications.

The record of the questions and given replies will form integral part of the Evaluation Report made by the Evaluation Committee. Any questions received after the deadline will not be accepted. Any further contact concerning the grant application procedure between members of the Evaluation Committee and the applicants are not allowed and cannot serve as an exchange of information on the evaluation of individual case.

At the initiative of the members of the Evaluation Committee, contact is allowed to clarify issues concerning the application (proposal) which the Evaluation Committee is

²⁷ Articles 151 and 200(3) [REGULATION \(EU, Euratom\) 2018/1046 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 July 2018 as referred to in Article 91 of MANAGEMENT BOARD DECISION 19/2019 of 23 July 2019 adopting the Frontex Financial Regulation](#)

²⁸ Article 200 [REGULATION \(EU, Euratom\) 2018/1046 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 July 2018 as referred to in Article 91 of MANAGEMENT BOARD DECISION 19/2019 of 23 July 2019 adopting the Frontex Financial Regulation](#)

²⁹ Article 149(5) [REGULATION \(EU, Euratom\) 2018/1046 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 July 2018 as referred to in Article 91 of MANAGEMENT BOARD DECISION 19/2019 of 23 July 2019 adopting the Frontex Financial Regulation](#)

not able to assess properly. This contact is allowed as long as it is in line with the principle of equal treatment and does not give rise to legitimate expectations on the part of the applicants contacted. Such contact will be recorded in writing and included in the Evaluation Report.

Frontex will send the reply directly to the email address from which the inquiry was sent and also publish them on the website to ensure equal treatment amongst all applicants.

16 Annexes

- Annex I - Application
- Annex II - Factsheet
- Annex III - Estimated Budget
- Annex IV - Declaration on Honour
- Annex V - Model Specific Agreement