



Bringing our Contemporary Art to the World

**FIFTEENTH EDITION**  
**2026**

# ITALIAN COUNCIL

**PUBLIC CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR CULTURAL PROJECTS AIMED AT THE  
PROMOTION, PRODUCTION, KNOWLEDGE AND DISSEMINATION OF CONTEMPORARY  
ITALIAN CREATIVITY IN THE FIELD OF THE VISUAL ARTS  
IN ITALY AND ABROAD**

**FIFTEENTH EDITION  
2026**

**Italian Council is a programme of the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity of the Italian Ministry of Culture to support, promote and valorise Italian contemporary art throughout the world.**

**For further information: [creativitacontemporanea.cultura.gov.it/italiancouncil/](http://creativitacontemporanea.cultura.gov.it/italiancouncil/)  
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# GENERAL RULES

## Art. 1 - Premises and objectives

1. The Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity of the Italian Ministry of Culture, hereinafter also referred to as "DGCC", hereby issue a Public Call for the comparative selection of projects that promote:
  - a) The production, knowledge and international and national dissemination of Italian contemporary creativity in the field of visual arts
  - b) The growth of the public collections of Italian museums
  - c) The development of the international careers of Italian artists, curators, and critics
2. Projects may be submitted by public or private non-profit bodies, whether Italian or foreign, and only where explicitly provided for, by natural persons, such as artists, curators, and other contemporary art professionals, who meet the requirements referred to in Art. 5.
3. Contributions will be granted based on merit rankings established by the Evaluation Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Committee") in accordance with Art. 4 of the Implementing Regulation of the Italian Council programme (Italian Directorial Decree No. 17 of 12/02/2019 as registered with the Italian Court of Auditors on 19 March 2019, Sheet No. 371).
4. The main objectives of the Italian Council programme are to:
  - a) Support high-quality production, practice, and artistic, critical and curatorial research in the field of contemporary Italian creativity, particularly in the visual arts, with an international perspective
  - b) Increase and promote the knowledge of Italian art, as well as Italian artists, curators, and critics abroad
  - c) Encourage the creation of international networks for the enhancement and dissemination of Italian contemporary art abroad
  - d) Support the development of the careers and research of Italian artists, photographs, curators, and other art professionals

## Art. 2 - Areas of intervention

1. The Italian Council deals with three specific intervention areas, subdivided as follows:
  - a) Area 1 – International commissioning of works of art

- Contribution to the production and international promotion of a new artwork by an Italian artist (Section I)
- b) Area 2 - International promotion of Italian artists, curators and critics**
  - Contribution to the production of a monographic exhibition outside Italy (Section II)
  - Contribution to the participation of an artist in a recurring international event or in a group exhibition outside Italy (Section III)
  - Contribution to the participation of a curator or critic in a recurring international event or exhibition outside Italy (Section IV)
  - Contribution to the realisation of an international publishing product (Section V)
  - Contribution to promotional activities related to the acquisition of one or more artworks of an Italian artist outside Italy (Section VI)
- c) Area 3 - Talent Development**
  - Grant for supporting international research projects and residencies for Italian artists, photographers, curators, and other art professionals in contemporary art and photography (Section VII)

### Art. 3 - Entities involved, partnerships and agreements, constraints

**1.** Applicants may compete individually (as single applicant), or in a project partnership (lead applicant with project partner) exclusively for the cases referred to in Secs. I, II, III, V and VI of this Call.

**2.** For the purposes of this Call, the subjects involved in the proposed project in different capacities are defined as follows.

NAME	DEFINITION AND ROLE	PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND CONSTRAINTS
<b>a) Implementing entities</b>	All entities (public or private non-profit) that implement the project	These include the <b>single applicant</b> or, for Sections I, II, III, V, and VI, the <b>lead applicant</b> together with the <b>project partners</b> , as indicated below.
<i>1. Single Applicant</i>	The public or private non-profit entity that applies for and independently implements the project. In Sec. VII it is also referred to as the <b>"Candidate"</b>	It is the <b>sole beneficiary</b> of the contribution

NAME	DEFINITION AND ROLE	PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND CONSTRAINTS
2. Lead Applicant	The public or private non-profit entity that applies for the project and relies on the support of one or more project partners	It is the <b>sole direct beneficiary</b> of the contribution from the Administration and is fully responsible for the project with respect to the Administration
3. Project Partner	The public or private non-profit entity that supports the lead applicant in implementing specific project activities (e.g. promotion, dissemination, exhibition activities)	It may receive a <b>minority share</b> (max. 45%) of <b>the contribution</b> from the lead applicant, subject to reporting of the expenses incurred. This is intended for <b>foreign institutions that are not lead applicants but also that host or co-produce the project</b> . <u>The project partner should not be confused with the cultural partner, sponsor, or service provider as indicated below</u>
b) Cultural Partner	The public or private entity that culturally promotes the project without directly implementing it	<b>It is not a beneficiary of the contribution.</b> Any public or private entity, except commercial art galleries, may act as a cultural partner if its activities are consistent with the project
c) Co-funder	The individual or public entity or private entity that provides financial support to the project	Provides to the implementing entities a monetary contribution included in the co-funding portion of the project budget. <u>A project partner or cultural partner may also act as a co-funder</u>
d) Sponsor	The commercial entity that provides financial support to the project in exchange for brand promotion	Provides to the implementing entities a monetary contribution included in the co-funding portion of the project budget. <u>A project partner or cultural partner cannot act as a sponsor</u> . Commercial art galleries are excluded, even if they represent the involved artists
e) Technical Sponsor	The commercial entity that provides goods or services free of charge in <u>exchange for brand promotion</u>	Provides goods or services for the project, <b>excluded from the project budget</b> . The value of the goods or services <u>cannot be</u> included in the co-funding portion of the project budget
f) Supplier	The economic entity that supplies goods or services required by the project	Supplies goods or services for the project, is paid by a beneficiary of the contribution and issues a fiscally valid invoice or receipt. <u>Implementing entities or cultural partners cannot act as service providers</u>

3. The primary objective of the Italian Council is to **promote and disseminate** Italian contemporary art and creativity **internationally**, as well as the related professional figures (artists, photographers, curators, and

other sector operators), through the creation of **international networks** for the production and promotion of the project.

The promotional activities, whose inclusion is a mandatory condition for the project's eligibility, must meet the following criteria:

- **Take place primarily in an international context**
- **Ensure significant and measurable dissemination abroad** through direct collaboration with foreign cultural institutions operating in the field of contemporary art

For the purposes of this Call, a "**foreign cultural institution**" refers to a cultural institution with registered and operational headquarters outside the territory of Italy.

Therefore, the following are not eligible as foreign cultural institutions:

- Italian Embassies, Consulates and Italian Cultural Institutes (IIC), as they are branches of the Italian State abroad
- Foreign cultural institutes or academies based in Italy
- Institutions located in Vatican City and in the Republic of San Marino

4. In the cases referred to in Secs. I, II, III, V and VI, the international networks for the production and promotion of the project must be formalized through a **Partnership Agreement between the lead applicant and the project partners** signed by the legal representatives of all the implementing entities involved. This agreement must use the template provided by the Administration (see **Form B**) and must clearly provide for the indemnity clause in favor of the DGCC against any liability arising from disputes related to the management and allocation of contributions, as well as from any dispute or relationship with third parties, including those indirectly arising from the agreement itself.

Even in the case of project partnerships, the DGCC will pay the contribution exclusively to the lead applicant.

5. The involvement of the **cultural partner** does not require the submission of a Partnership Agreement, but rather a formal **Letter of Intent** to promote the project. This letter must be written on letterhead, signed by the legal representative or another person authorized to legally commit the entity involved, and addressed to the single or lead applicant. This letter, which may follow the template provided by the Administration (see **Form C**), must clearly state the intention to promote the project and the methods to be used for these promotional activities. The Letter of Intent must clearly provide for the indemnity clause in favor of the DGCC against any dispute over the working relationship established between the parties involved in the agreement.

**6. Under penalty of exclusion:**

- a) The project must refer exclusively to one of the Sections within one of the three Intervention Areas established by Art. 2 of this Call

- b)** All implementing entities (single applicant, lead applicant and project partners) must meet the requirements outlined in Arts. 1 and 5 of this Call
- c)** All implementing entities (single applicant, lead applicant and project partners) may submit only one application to this Call; it is the responsibility of the lead applicant to ensure there is no conflict of interest with the project partners involved
- d)** With reference to Area 3, the candidate must have never previously received an Italian Council grant

**7.** Implementing entities of one project may also act as cultural partners in another project. Cultural partners may support more than one project. Regarding Area 1, Sec. I, a public collection may be the beneficiary of several works of art from different applications.

**8.** Artists, curators or critics (individually or as a collective) may apply directly as candidates with a single application for the grants provided in Sec. VII of this Call. However, they may be involved as artists, curators, or critics in more than one application for the remaining Secs. I, II, III, IV, V, and VI, provided that these applications have been submitted by different applicants.

#### **Art. 4 - Available resources, maximum contribution and constraints**

**1.** The resources allocated for this Call amount to a total of **€ 2,700,000.00 (two million, seven hundred thousand/00)**. Expense coverage will be provided only where availability is confirmed, as per Chapter 7707 PG 11 and Chapter 7707 PG 13 for the fiscal years 2026, 2027 and 2028.

**2.** Without prejudice to the Administration's right to allocate the resources differently, the funds referred to in paragraph 1 above will be distributed across each Section as outlined in the table below.

AREAS OF INTERVENTION AND SECTIONS	RESOURCES ALLOCATED
<b>Area 1 - International commissioning of works of art</b>	
Contribution to the production and international promotion of a new artwork by an Italian artist (Section I)	<b>€ 1,200,000.00 (one million, two hundred thousand/00)</b>
<b>Area 2 - International promotion of Italian artists, curators and critics</b>	
Contribution to the production of a monographic exhibition outside Italy (Section II)	<b>€ 500,000.00 (five hundred thousand/00)</b>



AREAS OF INTERVENTION AND SECTIONS	RESOURCES ALLOCATED
Contribution to the participation of an artist in a recurring international event or in a group exhibition outside Italy (Section III)	<b>€ 200,000.00 (two hundred thousand/00)</b>
Contribution to the participation of a curator or critic in a recurring international event or exhibition outside Italy (Section IV)	<b>€ 100,000.00 (one hundred thousand/00)</b>
Contribution to the realisation of an international publishing product (Section V)	<b>€ 300,000.00 (three hundred thousand/00)</b>
Contribution to promotional activities related to the acquisition of one or more artworks of an Italian artist outside Italy (Section VI)	<b>€ 100,000.00 (one hundred thousand/00)</b>
<b>Area 3 - Talent Development</b>	
Grant for supporting international research projects and residencies for Italian artists, photographers, curators, and other art professionals in contemporary art and photography (Section VII)	<b>€ 300,000.00 (three hundred thousand/00)</b>

**3.** In the cases referred to in Areas 2 and 3 of this Call, the Administration may, based on the Committee's indications, reallocate any balances from one Section to another.

**4.** The awarding of the contribution will be determined by the DGCC in accordance with the merit rankings established by the Committee, as outlined in Art. 7 of this Call. The evaluation will be based on the quality of the project, the adequacy of the budget, and the requested grant amount, with the limit set as indicated in the following table.

AREAS OF INTERVENTION AND SECTIONS	MAXIMUM AMOUNT GRANTED
<b>Area 1 - International commissioning of works of art</b>	
Contribution to the production and international promotion of a new artwork by an Italian artist (Section I)	<b>Up to a maximum of € 150,000.00</b> up to a maximum of 80% of the total cost of the project

AREAS OF INTERVENTION AND SECTIONS	MAXIMUM AMOUNT GRANTED
<b>Area 2 - International promotion of Italian artists, curators and critics</b>	
Contribution to the production of a monographic exhibition outside Italy (Section II)	<b>Up to a maximum of € 100,000.00</b> up to a maximum of 80% of the total cost of the project
Contribution to the participation of an artist in a recurring international event or in a group exhibition outside Italy (Section III)	<b>Up to a maximum of € 50,000.00</b> up to a maximum of 80% of the total cost of the project
Contribution to the participation of a curator or critic in a recurring international event or exhibition outside Italy (Section IV)	<b>Up to a maximum of € 20,000.00</b> up to a maximum of 80% of the total cost of the project
Contribution to the realisation of an international publishing product (Section V)	<b>Up to a maximum of € 60,000.00</b> up to a maximum of 80% of the total cost of the project
Contribution to promotional activities related to the acquisition of one or more artworks of an Italian artist outside Italy (Section VI)	<b>Up to a maximum of € 50,000.00</b> up to a maximum of 80% of the total cost of the project
<b>Area 3 - Talent Development</b>	
Grant for supporting international research projects and residencies for Italian artists, photographers, curators, and other art professionals in contemporary art and photography (Section VII)	<b>Grant of € 15,000.00 for a 15-month project</b>

**5.** The contribution will be disbursed exclusively in accordance with the procedures and deadlines set out in Art. 9 of this Call, based on the expenditure commitments made by the Administration in reference to the time schedule presented at the time of application and confirmed by the beneficiaries upon acceptance of the contribution.

**6.** The granted contributions are to be understood gross of any tax charge due by law. In the event of an unforeseen or unexpected increase in the budgeted costs, the applicant will be responsible for all economic and financial costs associated with the project that exceed the amount of the contribution. The DGCC reserves the right to assess and approve such variations.

**7.** Given that the contribution is normally paid as a reimbursement of expenses actually incurred, except in the cases referred to in Sec. VII of this Call, applicants must declare, under their own responsibility, that they can support the entire project and ensure that they can cover at least 20% (twenty per cent) of the total project cost either from their own resources or through forms of external co-financing.

As outlined in Article 3 of this Call, where co-funding is provided by parties other than the implementing entities, the contribution must be made in monetary form and not in kind (goods or services). While technical sponsorships for the provision of goods and services (in-kind) are allowed, they must be excluded from the project budget presented in the application.

**8.** For projects funded under Areas 1 and 2 of this Call, double funding is prohibited. Therefore, the cost of an intervention cannot be reimbursed twice from the funds provided by the Italian Council programme and from other national and European public funding sources. This does not preclude the possibility of combining different national and European public funding sources, provided they cover different types of costs.

**9.** In order for an expense to be considered eligible for the contribution, it must be:

- Clearly attributable to the project
- Consistent with the approved project budget
- Incurred after the formal acceptance of the contribution by the beneficiary and within the project completion date
- Incurred by the beneficiary, or by any project partners declared in the application, or by any individual authorized within the project through assignments or agreements, if specified in the relevant sections of the Call
- Documented in accordance with current accounting and tax regulations
- Traceable through electronic payments
- Not falling under the categories of costs indicated as ineligible in the relevant sections of the Call

**10.** The DGCC reserves the right to withhold the amount corresponding to ineligible expenses for funding, as outlined in Secs. I-VI of this Call. Furthermore, the awarded contribution may not be increased under any circumstances. If the final total cost of the project is lower than the amount declared in the project budget, and as a result, the DGCC's contribution exceeds 80% (eighty per cent) of the total project cost, the contribution will be recalculated based on the new total. This adjustment ensures that the cost containment objectives set by the Call are met.

## Art. 5 – Applicants and eligibility requirements

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**1.** In the cases referred to in Areas 1 and 2, Secs. I-VI, only the implementing entities (single or lead applicant, project partner) meeting the eligibility requirements outlined below may participate in this Call, under penalty of exclusion.

### General Requisites

- To be Italian and foreign public or private non-profit entities, such as museums and cultural institutions, territorial authorities and their branches, universities and research centers operating in the field of contemporary visual arts, as well as Third Sector organizations, including formally established foundations, cultural associations, and committees that have been legally established for at least 2 (two) years by the application deadline of this Call.

### Specific Requisites

- The entity must have, among its main objectives, the valorization and promotion of contemporary creativity
- The entity must have carried out projects related to contemporary creativity within the last 2 (two) years as of the application deadline of this Call, even if these projects were not continuous

## **2. In the cases referred to in Area 1. Eligibility requirements of museums receiving the artworks**

For the purposes of this Call **the allocation of the works to publicly owned collections constitute an essential and mandatory requirement**. Accordingly, only proposals providing for the allocation of the works produced to public collections shall be eligible, regardless of the legal status of the museum or of the entity managing the museum.

Accordingly, the following entities are admitted as recipients of the works:

- a) Public museum institutions belonging to the Italian State, the Regions, the Provinces, and the Municipalities
- b) Museum institutions formally belonging to the Italian Public administrations referred to in Article 1.2, of Italian Legislative Decree no. 165/2001, which may also be identified, by way of example, in the Lists of Public Administrations prepared by ISTAT for the current year;
- c) Non-profit entities established under private law are considered equivalent to public entities where they carry out activities related to the management or enhancement of public museums and cultural sites, or provide conservation and cultural services of public interest, provided that:
  - They are established at the initiative of public administrations
  - Public administrations participate in and/or exercise control over them, and appoint their governing bodies
  - They have statutory provisions, founding acts, or regulations that provide for a binding allocation of the works to a public collection, guaranteeing their preservation and permanent public access.

Private non-profit entities (including Third Sector organizations) that are merely beneficiaries of public contributions, in the absence of public establishment and participation and/or public control over governance and fundamental acts, shall not be considered equivalent to public entities.

Publicly owned museums, identified pursuant to Art. 101 of Italian Legislative Decree No. 42/2004 [*Codice dei Beni Culturali e del Paesaggio* – “Code of Cultural Heritage and Landscape”], may be managed by private non-profit entities, provided that:

- management is carried out on the basis of assignment, concession, or agreement acts in accordance with Articles 112 and 115 of the aforementioned Italian Legislative Decree No. 42/2004
- the allocation of the works produced to public collections is ensured, in the sense that such works are subject to a public-use condition and inalienability in accordance with the applicable law

Proposals that do not meet all the requirements set out in this paragraph are excluded.

**3. In the cases referred to in Area 3, Sec. VII**, only candidates who meet the eligibility requirements outlined below may participate in this Call, under penalty of exclusion.

**a) Artists and photographers**

General Requisites

- The candidate must be an Italian citizen or a tax resident in Italy
- The candidate must be at least eighteen years of age

Specific Requisites

- The candidate must be actively involved in the field of contemporary art and photography, and visual culture
- The candidate must have gained significant and proven professional experience at a national and/or international level

**b) Other art professionals in the field of contemporary art and photography: curators; scholars; art critics; art project managers; art producers**

General Requisites

- The candidate must be an Italian citizen or a tax resident in Italy
- The candidate must be at least eighteen years of age
- The candidate must hold a Bachelor's Degree or an equivalent qualification

Specific Requisites

- The candidate must be actively involved in the field of contemporary art or photography and visual culture
- The candidate must have significant and proven professional experience at the national and/or international level
- *Curators*: the candidate must have curated at least one exhibition in venues of national and/or international importance
- *Scholars and art critics*: the candidate must hold a Master's Degree in subjects related to contemporary visual arts and culture and must have published at least one major work on contemporary art, criticism or visual culture

- *Art project manager, Art producer:* the candidate must have worked on at least one event or exhibition of national and/or international importance, leveraging their specific skills

**4. In the case of collectives considered as a sole author**, at least 50% (fifty per cent) of the members must meet the requirements referred to in paragraph 2 of this article. The collective's activity as a single author must be attested by the collective's CV; please note that the CVs of individual members are not acceptable. Joint ventures set up specifically for the project submitted will not be considered collectives.

In the cases referred to in Sec. VII of this Call, candidates participating as a collective designate a group leader who will be responsible for maintaining direct communication with the Administration and will be the sole person accountable for the group's actions. This group leader must be an Italian citizen or tax resident in Italy.

**5.** With the exception of Area 3, each project proposal must designate the following professional roles, to be indicated in the application by attaching a concise CV attesting relevant experience:

- a) **Project Contact Person:** the person responsible for institutional relations and communications with the DGCC.

The Project Contact Person:

- Must be an internal professional to the single or to the lead applicant
- May coincide with the Project Manager or with the Curator

- b) **Project Manager:** responsible for the administrative management, operational coordination, and impact evaluation of the project. The Project Manager ensures compliance with the project production schedule, budget, and monitoring of results.

The Project Manager:

- May be an internal or external professional to the implementing entities
- Must not coincide with the Legal Representative, who must maintain an impartial guarantor role, nor with the Curator

- c) **Curator:** responsible for the scientific and artistic supervision of the project.

The Curator:

- May be an internal or external professional to the implementing entities
- Must be a professional other than from the Project Manager

**6. Under penalty of exclusion**, pursuant to Italian Presidential Decree No. 445 of 28 December 2000, single or lead applicants, or candidates, must, when submitting their application, declare both on their own behalf and on behalf of any other participating entities, that they meet the requirements set out in this article and, more generally, in this Call, as well as the following:

- a) The legal representative of the applicant or candidate must be over eighteen years of age
- b) The legal representative of the applicant or candidate must enjoy civil and political rights. If they hold a nationality other than Italian, they must enjoy civil and political rights in their country of origin or in the country of their citizenship
- c) The legal representative of the applicant or candidate must not be subject to injunctions from public office or any other legal or financial sanctions that prohibit contracting with public administrations

- d) The legal representative of the applicant or candidate must not have any ongoing disputes or conflicts of interest with the Italian Ministry of Culture and must not be in any situation of incompatibility as defined by current regulations
- e) The legal representative of the applicant or candidate must not have a criminal record nor be subject to pending criminal proceedings. In the event of a criminal record or pending proceedings, details of the conviction or pending case must be provided, as indicated in the records of the competent courts
- f) The legal representative of the applicant or candidate must not have committed serious violations (pursuant to Art. 48-bis of Italian Presidential Decree No. 602/1973), definitively ascertained, with respect to the obligations related to the payment of taxes, duties, or social security contributions, in accordance with Italian law or the law of the country in which they are established
- g) Only in the cases referred to in Areas 1 and 2 of this Call: all implementing entities must be non-profit entities
- h) Only in the cases referred to in Areas 1 and 2 of this Call: all implementing entities must comply with the rules on health and safety at work
- i) Only in the cases referred to in Areas 1 and 2 of this Call: all implementing entities must not be in a state of judicial liquidation, composition with creditors (except for composition with creditors that has already received the homologation decree as provided in Art. 112 et seq. of the Italian Business Crisis and Insolvency Code), or in any other insolvency proceedings as outlined in Italian Legislative Decree No. 14/2019, as amended by Italian Legislative Decree No. 83/2022, nor be subject to any proceedings for the declaration of any of these situations
- j) The legal representative of the applicant or candidate must accept and comply with all the conditions of this Call

## Art. 6 - Procedures and deadlines for the submission of applications

1. The application must be submitted exclusively via the Tenders Portal of the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity (hereinafter also referred to as the 'Tenders Portal').

This portal is dedicated to the submission of the applications for the DGCC and can be accessed at the following link: <https://portalebandidgcc.cultura.gov.it>. **Full details regarding the submission process will be provided from 20 February 2026** on the DGCC website page dedicated to this Call, which can be accessed at: <https://creativitacontemporanea.cultura.gov.it/italiancouncil-edizione15/>.

2. The Tenders Portal must be accessed as follows:

- a) Individuals with Italian citizenship or with Italian tax residency, and entities with a registered office in Italy: by using a digital identity SPID (Public Digital Identity System) or CIE (Electronic Identity Card)
- b) Entities with a registered office in another EU Member State: by using eIDAS (electronic IDentification Authentication and Signature) in accordance with EU Regulation (EU) No. 910/2014, or alternatively, by registering in the dedicated form on the Tenders Portal and providing a username and password

c) Entities with a registered office in a non-EU country, or in a country not covered by Regulation (EU) No. 910/2014: by registering in the dedicated form on the Tenders Portal and providing a username and password.

3. Under penalty of exclusion, registration on the Tenders Portal, as well as the completion and online submission of the application and its attachments, must be finalized **no later than 3:00 p.m. (CEST) on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026**. The date and time of submission are certified by the Tenders Portal. After the submission deadline, access to the application form will no longer be possible, even if the submission process is still ongoing. The system will issue a confirmation once the application has been successfully received.

4. The application form must be compiled in Italian, or alternatively in English if the applicant (Areas 1 and 2), or candidate (Area 3), is not a native Italian speaker. The form must be filled out by following all the steps indicated in the Tenders Portal, selecting the appropriate Area and Section for the application. The documents uploaded cannot exceed 5 (five) MB in total, and only \*PDF and \*JPG formats are accepted. Once the application is definitively submitted, no changes can be made.

5. The application form must include all the required documentation for the relevant Section (see Secs. I.3, II.3, III.3, IV.3, V.3, VI.3, VII.3 of this Call). In the online application form, applicants must declare, under their own responsibility and fully aware of the consequences of making false declarations pursuant to Italian Presidential Decree No. 445 of 28 December 2000, the truthfulness of the contents of the proposal.

6. Upon completion of the application, the Tender Portal automatically generates a self-declaration which must be signed — either digitally or by handwritten signature — by the legal representative of the applicant entity (Area 1 and Area 2) or by the candidate (Area 3). The signed document must then be submitted exclusively through the same Tender Portal.

7. Except as provided for in paragraph 9 of this Article, applications received through any means other than those specified in this article will not be considered.

8. For any technical issues related to uploading the application form, please contact the Tenders Portal technical assistance service. Please note that assistance is not guaranteed in the 24 (twenty-four) hours prior to the application deadline for this Call.

9. Any amendments to the procedures and deadlines set out above, arising from events of force majeure or from objective, documented technical impediments, shall be promptly published on the DGCC website. In such exceptional circumstances, the Administration reserves the right to authorize alternative methods of submission, strictly subject to prior verification of the impeding cause and of the timeliness of the related notification.

## Art. 7 – Preliminary assessment, evaluation of applications, execution of projects

1. Applications received in accordance with the methods and within the deadlines specified in Art. 6 of this

Call will undergo a preliminary assessment by the DGCC. This review aims to verify the completeness and admissibility of the submitted documentation, as well as the possession of the required eligibility criteria.

- 2.** During this preliminary check, the DGCC reserves the right to request any clarifications or additional documents in line with Italian Law No. 241/1990 and subsequent amendments. If the required documents are not provided within the specified deadline, the application will be excluded from the evaluation process.
- 3.** Project proposals that do not meet the eligibility requirements outlined in Art. 5 of this Call, or those specified in the relevant Sections of the Call, shall be excluded from the selection process. The Administration reserves the right to request the correction of erroneous or incomplete declarations or applications, as well as the submission of supplementary documentation, where necessary. Any exclusion shall be ordered by means of a reasoned decision pursuant to Italian Law No. 241 of 7 August 1990.
- 4.** Following the preliminary assessment, admissible applications will be evaluated by the Committee according to the criteria set forth in Secs. I-VII of this Call.
- 5.** The decisions of the Committee and its working methods are final and incontestable.
- 6.** If necessary for preliminary assessment purposes related to its work, the Committee may request an extension of up to 30 (thirty) days for the publication of the rankings. Any extension will be communicated on the DGCC website page dedicated to this Call (<https://creativitacontemporanea.cultura.gov.it/italiancouncil-edizione15/>).
- 7.** The Committee will prepare a ranking for each Section within the three Intervention Areas. These rankings will then be approved through a specific Directorial Decree and published on the DGCC website dedicated to this Call (<https://creativitacontemporanea.cultura.gov.it/italiancouncil-edizione15/>).
- 8.** In addition to the outright winners, projects scoring at least 70 (seventy) points out of 100 (one hundred) shall be deemed eligible but not selected for funding. If a beneficiary does not formally accept the award, the next-ranked applicant will be selected. If the awarded contribution is waived within 60 (sixty) days of the publication of the rankings, the next-ranked applicant will be selected.
- 9.** The publication of the rankings and the relevant approval Decree on the DGCC website constitutes official communication to the concerned parties.
- 10.** The submission of the proposal and the subsequent evaluation do not create any expectation or legally relevant position regarding the recognition of any legal and/or economic benefit for the applicants.
- 11.** The start-up, intermediate steps, and conclusion of the winning projects must adhere to the calendar outlined below, which is detailed further in Art. 9 of this Call, subject to any extensions to the publication of the rankings as mentioned in paragraph 6 above.

CALENDAR OF PROJECT DEADLINES	
<b>From 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Announcement to the winners</li><li>Acceptance of the contribution by the beneficiaries</li><li>Official launch of the projects</li></ul>
<b>By 30 September 2026</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Areas 1 and 2: request for the advance payment (35%), or request for the first payment upon reporting (35%)</li><li>Area 3: request for the first 50% of the grant</li></ul>
<b>By 30 April 2027</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Area 3: request for the remaining 50% of the grant</li></ul>
<b>By 30 September 2027</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Areas 1 and 2: request for the interim instalment upon reporting (50%)</li><li>Areas 1 and 2 (for projects spanning two years, 2026 and 2027 only): request for the final instalment (balance)</li><li>Area 3: effective completion of the projects</li></ul>
<b>By 31<sup>st</sup> August 2028</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Areas 1 and 2: effective completion of the projects</li></ul>
<b>By 30 September 2028</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Areas 1 and 2: request for the final instalment (balance)</li></ul>

## Art. 8 - Control and monitoring of activities

1. The DGCC will monitor the performance of the activities envisaged within each winning project at every stage and verify that the project activities are being carried out as approved by the Committee or, in the event of extensions or variations, as expressly agreed and formally approved with the DGCC.
2. The DGCC reserves the right to request the rescheduling of projects and the submission of interim monitoring reports to ensure the effective and timely implementation of the projects. For this purpose, the DGCC shall carry out checks, controls and inspections, both through documentary reviews and on-site inspections conducted by its staff, as well as through in-person or remote audits, regarding the cultural initiatives funded, at any time and at any stage of the implementation of the projects and of the entire procedure.

3. The DGCC will carry out administrative and managerial controls aimed at verifying and ensuring compliance with the conditions set out for obtaining contributions, and to confirm that the declared costs are consistent, effectively incurred and correspond to the accounting and expenditure documents kept by the beneficiary. In both of the above cases, if irreparable discrepancies or shortcomings with respect to the project presented are ascertained, the DGCC will proceed in accordance with the provisions of Art. 11 of this Call.

4. The DGCC remains extraneous to any relationship, even indirect or occasional, between the applicant and any third party, arising from the implementation of the interventions admitted to contribution, as well as to the relationships between the applicant and the parties involved in various ways in the project, including artists, curators and art critics in the cases referred to in Areas 1 and 2 of this Call.

## Art. 9 - Procedures for the disbursement and reporting of contributions

1. Contributions will be disbursed based on the rankings drawn up by the Committee and approved by a specific Directorial Decree, as specified in Art. 7 of this Call.

2. **For projects relating to Areas 1 and 2, Secs. I-VI** of this Call, the contribution will be normally disbursed in three instalments following the publication of the rankings, based on the cash availability of the DGCC, in accordance with the procedures set out below.

### a) Phase 1

- Announcement to the winners and notification of the amount of the contribution awarded. At this stage, the DGCC may ask for projects to be rescheduled if necessary
- Acceptance of the contribution by the beneficiary. The Administration commits the resources based on the production schedule submitted by the beneficiary
- Request for the first instalment of 35% (thirty-five per cent) of the contribution by the beneficiary for the start-up of the project, accompanied by the administrative and accounting documents required by the Administration

In order to ensure the timely start of activities and the proper management of financial flows for the year 2026, **beneficiaries are required to request the disbursement** of the first instalment **by 30 September 2026**, in accordance with one of the alternative procedures set out below, that depend on the legal nature and the characteristics of the beneficiary.

**1) Advance payment without surety.** The contribution is disbursed as an advance payment, upon request by the beneficiary, without the need for a bank surety, for the following categories:

- **Italian public bodies and public administrations**, which have an adequate Single Treasury Account with the Bank of Italy

- **Bodies with registered offices outside Italy**, in order to support the internationalisation of the project

**2) Conditional disbursement (advance payment with surety or payment upon reporting).**

All other entities (including Italian Public Bodies not subject to the Single Treasury Account with the Bank of Italy and foundations with public participation) are required to submit a request for the disbursement of the 35% instalment by choosing between the following options:

- a) **Advance payment subject to submission of a surety.** The surety must be issued by a duly authorized bank, insurance company or by a financial intermediary listed in the Register referred to in Art. 106 of the Italian Legislative Decree No. 385/93. The surety must be submitted no later than 45 days after the acceptance of the contribution
- b) **Payment upon reporting.** Payment is made upon submission of documentation demonstrating expenses actually incurred for an amount not less than 35% of the contribution, together with a report on the activities carried out, detailed accounting of all expenditures incurred by the indicated deadline, the valid DURC [Documento Unico di Regolarità Contributiva – “Unified Tax Compliance Certificate”], and any other administrative and accounting documentation required by the DGCC through the project monitoring and reporting guide provided at the start of the project activities

• After due verification, the DGCC will make the payment

**b) Phase 2**

- Request for the interim instalment of 50% (fifty per cent) of the contribution.

**By 30 September 2027**, upon reaching expenses actually incurred by the beneficiary equal to 50% (fifty per cent) of the granted contribution, it is mandatory to request the interim instalment by submitting a detailed interim report (SAL), accompanied by an accounting of the expenses incurred by the indicated deadline (excluding co-funding expenses), and any other documentation required by the DGCC through the project monitoring and reporting guide provided at the start of the project activities. A valid DURC [Documento Unico di Regolarità Contributiva – “Unified Tax Compliance Certificate”] should also be submitted, but only if the beneficiary is subject to a tax compliance audit under the applicable Italian regulations.

• After due verification, the DGCC will make the payment

**c) Phase 3**

- **By 30 September 2028** and, in any case, within 30 (thirty) days from the end of the project, in order to obtain the balance of the contribution granted, DGCC requires the following documentation to be submitted together with the request for the final instalment of the contribution (balance):

- A financial report of all expenditure actually incurred in the implementation of the project, including any expenses incurred during Phases 1 and 2, as well as co-funding expenses
- A detailed final report on all activities carried out, results achieved and possible outcomes of the project, accompanied by a press review and visual documentation

- An impact evaluation report of the project, aimed at analyzing the benefits generated for the contemporary art system and the target audience in relation to the internationalisation objectives, using both qualitative and quantitative indicators
- Other administrative and accounting documents requested by the DGCC, including a non-authenticated copy of the documentation of the expenses incurred up to that moment with the share of the contribution granted, accompanied by the declaration of the beneficiary certifying the correspondence of the submitted documentation with the originals
- DURC [Documento Unico di Regolarità Contributiva – “Unified Tax Compliance Certificate”], required only if the beneficiary is subject to a tax compliance audit under the applicable Italian regulations
- A selection of at least 6 (six) images of the artwork produced (see Area 1, Sec. I), or of the project realized, and of the promotional activities carried out, free of rights of use and with credits, if any, to be used by the DGCC for institutional communication of the projects
- At least 6 (six) copies of any publication produced within the project, for the DGCC library and archive
- Only in the case of a work of art produced and acquired (see Area 1, Sec. I):
  - Copy of the PACTA certificate [Protocolli per l'Autenticità, la Cura e la Tutela dell'Arte contemporanea - 'Protocols for the Authenticity, Care, and Protection of Contemporary Art']
  - Copy of the inventory slip, or similar document, from the public collection that acquires the artwork
- After due verification, the DGCC will make the payment

**3. For projects relating to Area 3, Sec. VII** of this Call, the contribution will be disbursed in two instalments following the publication of the rankings, based on the cash availability of the DGCC, in accordance with the procedures set out below.

**a) Phase 1**

- Announcement to the winners of the grant
- Acceptance of the grant by the candidate
- **By 30 September 2026:** request for the first instalment of 50% (fifty per cent) of the grant, in compliance with terms established by the DGCC following the beneficiary's admission to the grant, and upon presentation of the administrative and accounting documents required by the Administration
- After due verification, including the DURC [Documento Unico di Regolarità Contributiva – “Unified Tax Compliance Certificate”], which is required only if the beneficiary is subject to a tax compliance audit under the applicable Italian regulations, the DGCC will make the payment

**b) Phase 2**

- **By 30 April 2027, and not earlier than the start of the 2027 financial year:** request for the remaining 50% (fifty per cent) of the grant at mid-term. The DGCC requires the following:
  - A detailed interim report on the activities carried out and the objectives achieved to date, together with any visual documentation along with other administrative and accounting documents requested by the DGCC
- After due verification, including the DURC [Documento Unico di Regolarità Contributiva – “Unified Tax Compliance Certificate”], which is required only if the beneficiary is subject to a tax compliance audit under the applicable Italian regulations, the DGCC will make the payment.

**c) Phase 3**

- The following must be sent to the DGCC to officially close the project:
  - A detailed final report on all the activities carried out, the results obtained, and the possible outcomes of the research project carried out, accompanied by a press review and visual documentation
  - A selection of at least 6 (six) images representative of the project, free of rights of use and with credits, if any, to be used by the DGCC for institutional communication of the projects

The grant is not allocated upon the submission of a report of expenses; however, a detailed and comprehensive description of the project's results is required in the final report, clearly showing the achievement of the objectives in relation to the amount awarded.

**The final report of the research project must be submitted to the DGCC within 30 (thirty) days from the conclusion of the research project. In the case of formally approved extensions, the report may be submitted no later than 31 December 2027.**

**4.** In the cases of Areas 1 and 2 of this Call, projects scheduled to be developed over two years (2026 and 2027) must complete phases 2 and 3 by **30 September 2027**. In such instances, the two phases may be combined.

**5.** In the event that the beneficiary is subject to tax compliance verification as provided for by Art. 48-bis of the Italian Decree of the President of the Republic No. 602/73, should any irregularities be established, the payment of the contribution will be withheld, and the irregularity will be notified to the Italian Revenue Office for the recovery of the sums owed.

**6.** The contribution granted will be paid exclusively to the beneficiary. In the cases referred to in Areas 1 and 2 of this Call, the administrative, accounting and organisational aspects of the management activities will be the sole responsibility of the single or lead applicant.

7. The DGCC reserves the right to provide further details on the terms and conditions outlined in the previous paragraphs of this article through specific indications and guidelines for the monitoring and reporting of projects. These guidelines will be provided to beneficiaries following their admission to the contribution.

## Art. 10 - Obligations of the beneficiary

1. Beneficiaries of the contribution are required to comply with the following.

- a) They must **implement the project as approved by the Committee**, unless variations are approved by the DGCC. Where, for justified reasons and/or unforeseen and/or unforeseeable circumstances beyond the control of the beneficiary, it becomes necessary to modify the project, such modifications must be promptly communicated to the DGCC, as indicated under letter c) below, which shall decide whether or not to authorize the variation
- b) They must comply with the **project production schedule** as submitted and approved by the Committee, or as subsequently approved by the DGCC following a project variation as indicated under letter c) below, in particular with regard to the stages for submitting requests for disbursement of funds, which must be received by the Administration within the deadlines set out in this Call
- c) They must **promptly notify** the DGCC, **by certified e-mail (PEC)** at the address [dg-cc.servizio2@pec.cultura.gov.it](mailto:dg-cc.servizio2@pec.cultura.gov.it), of **any variation in the project** presented and approved by the Committee, having also consulted the recipient museum in the case of projects referred to in Area 1, Sec. I of this Call. The DGCC will express its opinion on the merits of the variations after consulting the Committee in the case of structural changes to the project. Entities with their registered office outside Italy must communicate these changes via the ordinary e-mail address (PEO) [dg-cc.servizio2@cultura.gov.it](mailto:dg-cc.servizio2@cultura.gov.it)
- d) They must **strictly comply with the provisions set out in the project monitoring and reporting guide** provided by the DGCC to beneficiaries following the acceptance of the contribution
- e) They must state that the project is a winner of the Italian Council programme in all information, publicity and promotional material related to the project, in accordance with the guidelines provided to beneficiaries following their admission to the contribution
- f) They must keep all accounting documentation at its headquarters, in compliance with civil, fiscal and tax regulations, for the period laid down by the aforementioned legislation, and make it available for ordinary and extraordinary audits by the Administration

## Art. 11 - Withdrawal, reduction and recovery of the contribution

1. The contribution may be revoked if the DGCC finds that there is an original fault in the application that renders the granting of the contribution unlawful. Without prejudice to the provisions of Art. 75 of Italian Presidential Decree No. 445/2000 on forfeiture, the contribution may be revoked in the following cases.

- a) Waiver by the Beneficiary
- b) Failure of the beneficiary to comply with the prohibition of double funding referred to in Art. 4.8 of this Call
- c) Substantial design changes that alter the nature of the project itself, unless previously requested and approved by the DGCC after the opinion of the Committee
- d) Any other cases provided for in this Call

2. If the situations referred to in letters c) and d) of the preceding paragraph do not seriously affect the quality of the project or its objectives under this Call, the DGCC reserves the right to apply a proportional adjustment to the contribution only. In the event of revocation or reassessing, the DGCC shall recover any amounts already disbursed that are found to be ineligible, in accordance with the procedures established by applicable law.

3. The DGCC will notify the beneficiary of the initiation of proceedings for the annulment or revocation or reassessing of the procedure. The decision to annul or revoke will be adopted within 90 (ninety) days of the notification of initiation of the procedure. By annulment or revocation, the DGCC:

- a) Declares that the beneficiary has forfeited the right to funding
- b) Arranges, where relevant, to recover any undue funding

## Art. 12 - Reference Office and FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

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1. The Office responsible for the procedure for this Call is the Unit 2 – Contemporary art and photography of the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity of the Italian Ministry of Culture. The person responsible for the procedure is Dr. Matteo Piccioni, who can be contacted at [italiancouncil@cultura.gov.it](mailto:italiancouncil@cultura.gov.it).

2. Applicants wishing to compete may obtain clarification of this Call exclusively by submitting written questions to [italiancouncil@cultura.gov.it](mailto:italiancouncil@cultura.gov.it) **no later than 16 March 2026**. The Administration will respond within 5 (five) working days and by periodically publishing, and in any case before 20 March 2026, the most frequently asked questions (FAQs) in an aggregate form on the DGCC website, on the webpage dedicated to this Call. No response will be provided to questions or requests for clarification received through other means or at different times.

## Art. 13 - Severability Clause and Jurisdiction

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1. The DGCC reserves the right to postpone or revoke this procedure, not to grant any award or to cancel the merit ranking, even if final, without any right to reimbursement of the costs incurred by the participants and/or any beneficiaries, and without them being able to make any claim for compensation or of any other nature against the Administration.

2. Until the decision granting the funding has been made, the DGCC reserves the right to withdraw all or part of the funding, without the beneficiaries being able to make any claim to this funding.
3. For any disputes that might arise between the parties from the interpretation and/or execution of this deed, the Court of Rome will have exclusive jurisdiction.
4. For anything not expressly provided for in this Call, reference is made to the relevant provisions in force, the Italian State Accounts Act, and the Implementing Regulation of the Italian Council programme (Directive Decree No. 17 of 12/02/2019 registered at the Court of Auditors on 19 March 2019, Sheet No. 371).

## Art. 14 - Ethical Policy

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1. The actions carried out by the DGCC aim at the maximum inclusion of all the diversities that make up contemporary society, as these differences reflect art and culture in their natural meaning. Consequently, the DGCC ensures that there are no unfair or discriminatory phenomena within the Italian Council programme. On the contrary, it promotes differences in gender, age, race, nationality, religion, gender identity, and sexual orientation, as well as the inclusion of minorities and/or underrepresented groups.
2. During the evaluation and monitoring phases, the DGCC will also ensure that in projects supported by the Italian Council programme, artists, curators, critics, and all workers involved are guaranteed optimal working conditions and adequate compensation, in compliance with the constraints of this Call.

## Art. 15 - Protection of privacy and release for use

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1. The data collected along with the application to participate in this Call will be processed, used and stored, also by means of computerized procedures, pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation), and Italian Legislative Decree No. 196 of 30 June 2003, as by amended Italian Legislative Decree no. 101 of 10 August 2018 and subsequent modifications and supplements, and to the applicable sectoral regulations, exclusively for the purposes related to the completion of the procedure itself and for the subsequent activities related to the matters that are the subject of it, in compliance with the aforementioned legislation.
2. The personal data in question will be processed in accordance with current sector legislation, employing security measures to guarantee the confidentiality of the data subject.
3. By submitting their proposal, the applicant agrees to the processing of data for the purpose of preliminary assessment and verification by the DGCC, as well as the publication, electronically or otherwise, of their

identification data and the amount of the contribution granted, in accordance with the obligations of information and transparency provided for by current sector legislation, with particular regard to Italian Legislative Decree No. 33 of 14 March 2013 on transparency.

**4.** Provision of data is mandatory, and any refusal to provide the same will make it impossible to proceed with evaluation of the application form, as well as the consequent obligations inherent to this Call.

**5.** The data subject may exercise the rights provided for in Arts. 15 et seq. of EU Regulation 2016/679, in accordance with the conditions and limits indicated. These rights include the right to access personal data, to have it rectified, updated or deleted, to restrict or prohibit the processing of data processed in breach of the law, and to object to processing for legitimate reasons. The data subject may also exercise the right to lodge a complaint with the Data Protection Authority.

**6.** By participating in this Call, the applicant also authorises the DGCC to publish the data relating to the project and/or a description of the same. The applicant also authorises the DGCC to use the materials sent free of charge and without time limits for promotional and dissemination purposes on the DGCC communication channels and on any other means of dissemination and publication, including atypical ones, and for any other use that the DGCC may wish to make of them within the scope of its own competences. Furthermore, the applicant confirms that it has no claims arising from the aforementioned authorisation and that it irrevocably waives any right, action or claim that may arise from this authorisation.

**7.** The data controller is the Italian Ministry of Culture, whose contact details are as follows: via del Collegio Romano 27, 00186 – Rome, Italy; e-mail: [urp@cultura.gov.it](mailto:urp@cultura.gov.it). The Data Processor is the DGCC (Via di San Michele 22, 00153 Roma - [dg-cc@cultura.gov.it](mailto:dg-cc@cultura.gov.it)). The Data Protection Officer (DPO) can be contacted at the following addresses: email: [rpd@cultura.gov.it](mailto:rpd@cultura.gov.it); certified e-mail: [rpd@pec.cultura.gov.it](mailto:rpd@pec.cultura.gov.it); telephone: +39 06 67232494; address: via del Collegio Romano 27, 00186 – Rome, Italy.

## Art. 16 - Publicity and transparency

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**1.** This Call is being published on the institutional website of the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity (<https://creativitacontemporanea.cultura.gov.it>).

**2.** The results of the final selection referred to in this Call will be published in accordance with the established procedures, in compliance with the principles of relevance and non-excess, on the institutional website of the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity.

## Art. 17 - Acceptance of the regulations

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1. By participating in this Call, single or lead applicants, or candidates, accept without reservation the regulations contained in this Call, including the attachments and FAQs published on the webpage dedicated to this Call (<https://creativitacontemporanea.cultura.gov.it/italiancouncil-edizione15/>), which constitute an integral part thereof.

# AREAS AND SECTIONS

## Area 1 - International commissioning of works of art

### Section I

#### Contribution to the production and international promotion of a new artwork by an Italian artist

##### Sec. I.1 - Eligible beneficiaries and projects

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###### 1. Who can apply

Public or private non-profit bodies, with a registered office in Italy or abroad, meeting the requirements set forth in Art. 5 of this Call. Please note that natural persons are not eligible to apply or serve as partners. Under penalty of exclusion, if the applicant is based in Italy, it must form a project partnership with at least one entity with registered and operational headquarters outside the territory of Italy, that meets the same requirements set in Art. 5.

###### 2. Contributions are available to

Projects commissioned by foreign institutions, or by partnerships between Italian and foreign institutions, aimed at enhancing Italian public collections through the production of a new artwork by a living artist of Italian citizenship or tax residency in Italy. The project must include international promotion of the artwork. The artwork may also be produced in the context of a residency and/or exhibition.

###### 3. Production of an artwork for the enhancement of an Italian public collection

The production of a single artistic project, with no limits on expression or language, by an artist of Italian citizenship or tax residency in Italy is eligible. The artwork may consist of one or more elements (e.g., a series or a complex installation), to be understood not as autonomous artworks. The artwork may be created in a maximum edition of three, plus an artist's proof: however, this Call can fund only the first edition, which is the one destined for the public collection identified in the proposal.

The artwork produced is destined to grow the **public collections of Italian museums and cultural venues (state, regional, provincial, metropolitan and of public institutions)** that meet the criteria for public subjects as outlined in Art. 5.2 of this Call.

The Committee reserves the right to evaluate the consistency of the proposal with the designate public collection and its cultural program.

The entire artwork produced with the support of the Italian Council's program is intended for a single collection. Under penalty of exclusion, the entire artistic project produced through the contribution granted under the Italian Council programme shall be assigned to a single collection only. Any proposal providing for the destination of the artwork to more than one collection shall be excluded from the selection procedure.

Under penalty of exclusion, by submitting the proposal:

- The single or lead applicant commits to the exclusive transfer of ownership of the artwork produced to the identified public collection
- The artist involved in the project commits to the exclusive transfer of all economic rights to the acquired artwork to the identified public collection, including the right to use, in accordance with the specifications laid down in the PACTA certificate [Protocolli per l'Autenticità, la Cura e la Tutela dell'Arte contemporanea - 'Protocols for the Authenticity, Care, and Protection of Contemporary Art']. This commitment will be formalized by a joint declaration between the single or lead applicant, the artist, and the legal representative of the public collection as required under Sec. I.3.3, letter e) of this Call

The beneficiary is obliged to keep the museum or public collection informed on all stages of the project and any changes.

#### 4. Promotion of the project at international level and in Italy

Under penalty of exclusion, projects must include at least one phase of international promotion, preferably through an exhibition, at qualified and accredited institutions located outside Italy and operating in the field of contemporary art (e.g., museums, art centres, exhibition spaces, art foundations, etc.), provided these are non-profit organizations. Exhibitions held in multiple locations at the same time are also admissible.

As stated in Art. 3.3 of this Call, it is important to note that Italian Embassies, Consulates, and Cultural Institutes are not considered foreign institutions, but Italian institutions abroad. Similarly, foreign cultural institutes and foreign academies located in Italy are also ineligible.

The promotion phase in Italy aims to raise awareness of the project, particularly emphasizing the acquisition phase by public collections. A maximum of 2 (two) promotional activities in Italy will be supported; in any case, these must be fewer in number and secondary in scope compared to the international activities.

The following international promotional actions may be included, purely as examples: temporary exhibitions, whether solo or collective, participation in recurring international events (biennials, triennials, festivals, etc.), or side events linked to them; events tied to the official opening of exhibitions; presentations or debates, workshops, public programs and educational programs. Promotional activities in Italy may also include 'project rooms' or themed exhibitions dedicated to the artwork in its final location.

#### 5. Project partners and Cultural partners

If the project is presented by multiple implementing entities, the collaboration between lead applicant and **project partners** must be formalized with a **Partnership Agreement**, as specified in Art. 3.4 of this Call. In accordance with paragraph 1 above, in order to ensure full international collaboration, it is compulsory – under penalty of exclusion if the applicant has its registered office in Italy – to establish a project partnership

with at least one non-profit entity whose registered office and operational headquarters are located outside Italy.

**Cultural partners** involved in the national and international promotion of the project must sign a **Letter of Intent**, as detailed in Art. 3.5 of this Call. Promotional events at the identified public collection also require a Letter of Intent from the institution itself. Cultural partners without Letters of Intent as well as promotional events carried out by entities not formally recognized as partners are not eligible for evaluation.

## 6. Agreement with the artist

Following the award of funding, the beneficiary (single or lead applicant) must submit a signed agreement or contract with the artist being promoted by the project. This agreement does not follow a predefined format but must clearly outline the scope, purpose, and duration of the agreement. It should also include the artist's commitment to comply with the rules of this Call, as well as the roles, responsibilities of the parties and the financial compensation allocated to the artist, both as a fee and for reimbursement of expenses incurred within the project. This agreement must indemnify the DGCC from any disputes, as well as from any liabilities or consequences arising—directly or indirectly—from the agreement between the applicant and the artist. The agreement must be accompanied by a valid copy of the ID documents of all signatories.

## Sec. I.2 - Eligible costs, restrictions, and duration of projects

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### 1. Eligible costs for funding (purely by way of example)

- Costs to produce the artwork: production materials; technical staff involved in the production of the artwork; contribution to the artist's remuneration up to a maximum of 10% (ten per cent) of the total contribution requested. If the artwork is produced as part of a residency or exhibition, the contribution requested for the latter must be less than the production costs of the artwork, which is considered a priority
- Travel costs (economy class) and accommodation, costs of any visas and health insurance, provided they are incurred exclusively for the implementation of the project (e.g. production of the artwork, site visits, research, events and other promotional activities)
- Costs for project support staff: fees for curators, project manager, coordinators, assistants, consultants, etc. The contribution requested for personnel costs must not exceed 25% (twenty-five per cent) of the total amount requested and must be commensurate with the effort required to carry out the activity, not the total duration of the project
- Communications costs: press office and social media manager; graphic design; purchase of advertising space; costs of managing and creating websites, platforms and applications, etc.
- Costs of promotional activities: installation and dismantling; hire of equipment and technological tools, artworks shipment and insurance fees; video and photographic documentation; any publications

(printing and distribution costs; graphic design; copyright; fees for contributors, translators, editors, etc.)

- Administrative and general costs: administrative advice to support the project, insurance or bank surety, stationery, utilities, not exceeding 10% (ten per cent) of the total contribution requested
- Contingency costs not exceeding 5% (five per cent) of the total contribution requested

## 2. Non-eligible costs for funding (purely by way of example)

- Costs and expenses that do not comply with the provisions set forth in Art. 4.9
- Acquisition costs of the artwork to be produced
- Purchase of durable goods (e.g. cameras, personal computers, scanners, tablets, telephones and related hardware and software accessories, etc.) and any other purchase considered an investment if it is not an integral part of the artwork to be produced
- Costs of project-related activities carried out by the staff of the implementing entities
- Lump sum and per diem expenses
- Expenses incurred in cash (which may only be covered through co-financing)
- Free donations
- Any costs not duly documented or relating to project changes not previously authorised by the DGCC
- Costs not directly related to the implementation of the activity
- Costs related to the maintenance or security of buildings
- Costs related to fines, disputes, settlements, registration of documents, criminal sanctions and related interest
- Economic quantification of voluntary work
- Costs not borne by the beneficiary, or the project partners declared in the application, or by the artist appointed to the project through specific assignments or agreements

3. The project submitted can only be implemented within the timeframe set forth in the timetable referred to in Art. 7.11 of this Call and in compliance with the additional timeframe laid down in Art. 9 of this Call, from the day following the formal acceptance of the contribution by the beneficiary and, in any case, **not before 1 July 2026**. The project must be completed in all its stages **by 31 August 2028**.

4. Promotional activities that have been started but not completed by the project deadline may still be considered valid, but only expenditure actually incurred and documented up to that date will be eligible. In any case, activities initiated must be completed by 2028. The artwork produced must have been formally acquired by the Italian public collection, inventoried or undergone a similar process by the date of submission of the final report; failure to comply will result in non-payment of the final instalment.

## Sec. I.3 - Required documentation

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Only proposals submitted in accordance with the procedures indicated in Art. 6 of this Call will be eligible for merit evaluation. When applying via the DGCC's Tenders Portal, the electronic application form for Area 1, Section I, must include the following information.

### 1. Application form

- a) Details and legal form of the implementing entities, of the public collection that acquires the artwork, of any cultural partners and co-funders and/or sponsors involved
- b) A declaration by the single or lead applicant of its capacity to bear the costs of the whole project and a commitment to provide at least 20% (twenty per cent) of the total proposed budget from its own resources or from the contribution of any co-funders and/or sponsors
- c) A self-certification by the single or lead applicant attesting compliance with the general requisites pursuant to Art. 5 of this Call, of all the implementing entities and of the artist concerned
- d) Formal acceptance of the conditions of this Call by the single or lead applicant for themselves and for the other parties directly involved in the project
- e) Consent to the processing of personal data and acceptance of the privacy notice pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, and subsequent modifications and supplements, and the Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679. If applicable, project partners must also sign a copy of the privacy notice to be attached to the application

### 2. Project proposal

- a) A summary of the proposal
- b) Information on the applicant, the public collection receiving the artwork, any project and cultural partners involved, any co-funders and/or sponsors, the project manager and the curator appointed within the project, and the artist to be promoted (including a concise portfolio), demonstrating compliance with the eligibility requirements set out in Art. 5 of this Call
- c) A clear and detailed description of the project, accompanied by any relevant visual material, demonstrating the credibility, feasibility, and practical viability of the proposal, as well as the main reasons supporting it and the objectives to be achieved. The description should also include the technical specification of the artwork to be produced
- d) Promotional activities abroad
- e) Promotional activities in Italy
- f) Communications strategy
- g) Proposal for a possible publication
- h) For site-specific artwork in public locations subject to regulatory or heritage restrictions, the contribution is subordinate to the single or lead applicant's full responsibility for verifying the feasibility of the proposal with all authorities having jurisdiction in protecting existing restrictions, pursuant to

Arts. 21, 45, 146 et seq. of the Italian Legislative Decree No. 42/2004. To this end, it is necessary to attach a copy of the request for authorization from the Soprintendenza Archeologia Belle Arti e Paesaggio [Superintendency of Archaeology, Fine Arts and Landscape] competent for the territory, any copy of the request for an opinion on landscape compatibility, as well as any copy of the request for an opinion from the competent Municipal Authority. If such authorization is already in the applicant's possession, a copy of it may be attached. During the preliminary assessment, the administration will carry out the necessary enquiries to determine the projects' feasibility

- i) A detailed production schedule in the form of a Gantt chart for the years 2026, 2027 and 2028, in line with the time limits set by this Call
- j) Project budget: a detailed statement of all the project costs, including any VAT, as indicated in Sec. I.2 of this Call divided into general or macro-items and detailed items or sub-items as instructed on the Tenders Portal. The costs for which the contribution is requested and those co-funded by the applicant must be clearly specified, adhering to the prohibition of double funding outlined in Art. 4.8 of this Call

### 3. Documents

- a) A copy of a valid ID document of the legal representative of the single or lead applicant
- b) Any Partnership Agreement signed by the legal representatives of all involved parties, with copies of valid ID documents of the signatories. (See **Form B**) Under penalty of exclusion, if the applicant has its registered office in Italy, the Partnership Agreement must include at least one entity with its registered and operational headquarters outside Italy
- c) Authorization for the processing of personal data and acceptance of the privacy notice pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, and subsequent modifications and supplements, and the Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679, signed by the legal representative of any project partner involved. (See **Form D**)
- d) A copy of a valid ID document and the Tax ID [Codice Fiscale] of the artist being promoted by the project
- e) Under penalty of exclusion, a declaration signed jointly by the artist, the single or lead applicant, and the legal representative of the public collection, regarding the transfer of ownership and of the rights of economic use of the artwork to the host museum, with attached copies of valid ID documents of the signatories. (See **Form A**)
- f) Any Letters of Intent from the involved cultural partners promoting the project. (See **Form C**)
- g) In the event of a request for an advance payment subject to submission of a surety, as per Art. 9.2, letter a) of this Call, a commitment to submit the insurance policy within 45 (forty-five) days of funding acceptance or a pre-agreement with the issuing body. (See **Form E**)

## Sec. I.4 - Evaluation of proposals

1. As indicated in Art. 7, requests received by the deadlines indicated in Art. 6 of this Call will undergo preliminary assessment by the DGCC to verify the completeness and correctness of the submitted documentation. Subsequently, the proposals will be evaluated by the Committee, which will create a ranking based on the following criteria.

CRITERION	MAXIMUM SCORE
<b>a)</b> Overall quality, credibility and originality of the proposal in terms of alignment with the objectives set forth in the Call; the clarity of its objectives, and its potential to generate cultural value and international visibility	<b>30</b>
<b>b)</b> Artistic merit of the project and its consistency with the practice and research of the promoted artist, as well as with the receiving collection	<b>20</b>
<b>c)</b> Internationalization and promotion strategy of the project, with reference to the partner network and the actions planned for international circulation and promotion	<b>20</b>
<b>d)</b> Quality and credibility of the implementing entities and of the partners involved, in terms of their recognition within the context of contemporary creativity, experience and reliability	<b>15</b>
<b>e)</b> Technical and managerial feasibility and economic sustainability of the project, evaluated on the basis of the proposal's operational structure, the time schedule and the consistency with the budget, in relation to the planned activities	<b>15</b>

## Area 2 - International promotion of Italian artists, curators and critics

### Section II

#### Contribution to the production of a monographic exhibition outside Italy

##### Sec. II.1 - Eligible beneficiaries and projects

###### 1. Who can apply

Public or private non-profit bodies, with a registered office in Italy or abroad, meeting the requirements set forth in Art. 5 of this Call. Please note that natural persons are not eligible to apply or serve as partners. Under penalty of exclusion, if the applicant is not the same entity as the foreign institution organizing the exhibition, a Partnership Agreement with the latter is mandatory.

###### 2. Contributions are available to

Projects that involve a solo exhibition dedicated to a single living artist of Italian citizenship or tax residency in Italy, or to a single Italian non-living artist whose activity dates back to the last 70 (seventy) years before the deadline of this Call, at accredited public or private foreign institutions having their registered and operating office outside Italy, deemed significant for the area of contemporary arts, lasting no less than 30 (thirty) days beyond promotion-related activities (including but not limited to: talks, workshops, public programs, publications, etc.). The production and/or acquisition of an artwork cannot be funded.

###### 3. Project partners and Cultural partners

If the project is presented by multiple implementing entities, the collaboration between lead applicant and **project partners** must be formalized with a **Partnership Agreement**, as specified in Art. 3.4 of this Call. In accordance with paragraph 1 above, if the applicant is not the same entity as the foreign institution organizing the exhibition, a Partnership Agreement with the latter is mandatory under penalty of exclusion. (See Sec. II.3.3, letter b).

**Cultural partners** involved in the national and international promotion of the project must sign a **Letter of Intent** as detailed in Art. 3.5 of this Call. Cultural partners without Letters of Intent as well as promotional events carried out by entities not formally recognized as partners are not eligible for evaluation.

## Sec. II.2 - Eligible costs, restrictions, and duration of the projects

### 1. Eligible costs for funding (purely by way of example)

- Costs for the production of the exhibition: installation and dismantling; hire of equipment and technological tools; artworks shipment and insurance fees; technical personnel employed in the production of the exhibition (stand-builders, fitters, assistants, etc.)
- Travel costs (economy class) and accommodation, costs of any visas and health insurance, provided they are incurred exclusively for the implementation of the project (e.g. site visits, events and promotional activities)
- Costs for project support staff: fees for curators, project manager, coordinators, assistants, consultants, etc. The contribution requested for personnel costs must not exceed 25% (twenty-five per cent) of the total amount requested and must be commensurate with the effort required to carry out the activity, not the total duration of the project
- Communications costs: press office and social media manager; graphic design; purchase of advertising space; costs of managing and creating websites, platforms and applications
- Costs of promotional activities: hire of equipment and technological tools; video and photographic documentation; any publications (printing and distribution costs; graphic design; copyright; fees for contributors, translators, editors, etc.)
- Administrative and general costs: administrative advice to support the project, insurance or bank surety, stationery, utilities, not exceeding 10% (ten per cent) of the total contribution requested
- Contingency costs not exceeding 5% (five per cent) of the total contribution requested

### 2. Non-eligible costs for funding (purely by way of example)

- Costs and expenses that do not comply with the provisions set forth in Art. 4.9
- Costs related to the production and/or acquisition of artworks. These costs cannot be included in the project budget, which must relate to the exhibition project only
- Artist's fee, which must nonetheless be guaranteed by the applicant and included in the project budget as co-financing
- Purchase of durable goods (e.g. cameras, personal computers, scanners, tablets, telephones and related hardware and software accessories, etc.) and any other purchase considered as an investment
- Costs of project-related activities carried out by the staff of the implementing entities
- Lump sum and per diem expenses
- Expenses incurred in cash (which may only be covered through co-financing)
- Free donations
- Any costs not duly documented or relating to project changes not previously authorised by the DGCC
- Costs not directly related to the implementation of the activity
- Costs related to the maintenance or security of buildings

- Costs related to fines, disputes, settlements, registration of documents, criminal sanctions and related interest
- Economic quantification of voluntary work
- Costs not borne by the beneficiary, by one of the project partners declared in the application, or by any other party entitled to do so within the project through assignments or agreements

3. The project submitted can only be implemented within the timeframe set forth in the timetable referred to in Art. 7.11 of this Call and in compliance with the additional timeframe laid down in Art. 9 of this Call, from the day following the formal acceptance of the contribution by the beneficiary and, in any case, **not before 1 July 2026**. The project must be completed in all its stages **by 31 August 2028**.

### Sec. II.3 - Required documentation

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Only proposals submitted in accordance with the procedures indicated in Art. 6 of this Call will be eligible for merit evaluation. When applying via the DGCC's Tenders Portal, the electronic application form for Area 2, Section II, must include the following information.

#### 1. Application form

- a) Details and legal form of the implementing entities, of any cultural partners and co-funders and/or sponsors involved
- b) A declaration by the single or lead applicant of its capacity to bear the costs of the whole project and a commitment to provide at least 20% (twenty per cent) of the total proposed budget from its own resources or from the contribution of any co-funders and/or sponsors
- c) A self-certification by the single or lead applicant attesting compliance with the general requisites pursuant to Art. 5 of this Call, of all the implementing entities and of the artist concerned
- d) Formal acceptance of the conditions of this Call by the single or lead applicant for themselves and for the other parties directly involved in the project
- e) Consent to the processing of personal data and acceptance of the privacy notice pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, and subsequent modifications and supplements, and the Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679. If applicable, project partners must also sign a copy of the privacy notice to be attached to the application

#### 2. Project Proposal

- a) A summary of the proposal
- b) Information on the applicant, any project and cultural partners involved, any co-funders and/or sponsors, the project manager and the curator appointed within the project, and the artist to be

promoted (including a concise portfolio), demonstrating compliance with the eligibility requirements set out in Art. 5 of this Call

- c) A clear and detailed description of the project, accompanied by any relevant visual material, demonstrating the credibility, feasibility, and practical viability of the proposal, as well as the main reasons supporting it and the objectives to be achieved
- d) Promotional activities
- e) Communications strategy
- f) Proposal for a possible publication
- g) A detailed production schedule in the form of a Gantt chart for the years 2026, 2027 and 2028, considering the time limits set by this Call
- h) Project budget: a detailed statement of all the project costs, including any VAT, as indicated in Sec. II.2 of this Call divided into general or macro-items and detailed items or sub-items as instructed on the Tenders Portal. The costs for which the contribution is requested and those co-funded by the applicant must be clearly specified, adhering to the prohibition of double funding outlined in Art. 4.8 of this Call

### 3. Documents

- a) A copy of a valid ID document of the legal representative of the single or lead applicant
- b) Any Partnership Agreement signed by the legal representatives of all involved parties, with attached copies of valid ID documents of the signatories (See **Form B**). Under penalty of exclusion, if the applicant is not the same as the foreign institution organizing the exhibition, a Partnership Agreement with the latter is mandatory
- c) Authorization for the processing of personal data and acceptance of the privacy notice pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, and subsequent modifications and supplements, and the Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679, signed by the legal representative of any project partner involved. (See **Form D**)
- d) A copy of a valid ID document and the Tax ID [Codice Fiscale] of the artist being promoted by the project. In the case of an artist no longer living, the ID document may be replaced by a declaration from the applicant certifying, under his or her own responsibility, the requisites of the artist in question
- e) Any Letters of Intent from the involved cultural partners promoting the project. (See **Form C**)
- f) In the event of a request for an advance payment subject to submission of a surety as per Art. 9.2, letter a) of this Call, a commitment to submit the insurance policy within 45 (forty-five) days of funding acceptance or a pre-agreement with the issuing body. (See **Form E**)

## Sec. II.4 - Evaluation of proposals

1. As indicated in Art. 7, requests received by the deadlines indicated in Art. 6 of this Call will undergo a preliminary assessment check by the DGCC to verify the completeness and correctness of the submitted documentation. Subsequently, the proposals will be evaluated by the Committee, which will create a ranking based on the following criteria.

CRITERION	MAXIMUM SCORE
<b>a)</b> Overall quality, credibility and originality of the proposal in terms of alignment with the objectives set forth in the Call, the clarity of its objectives, and its potential to generate cultural value and international visibility	<b>30</b>
<b>b)</b> Artistic merit of the project and its consistency with the practice and research of the promoted artist, as well as with the receiving collection	<b>20</b>
<b>c)</b> Quality and effectiveness of the exhibition and related activities, particularly regarding international visibility and their impact on the artist's career	<b>20</b>
<b>d)</b> Quality and credibility of the implementing entities and of the partners involved, in terms of their recognition within the context of contemporary creativity, experience and reliability	<b>15</b>
<b>e)</b> Technical and managerial feasibility and economic sustainability of the project, evaluated on the basis of the proposal's operational structure, the time schedule and the consistency with the budget, in relation to the planned activities	<b>15</b>

## Area 2 - International promotion of Italian artists, curators and critics

### Section III

#### Contribution to the participation of an artist in a recurring international event or in a group exhibition outside Italy

##### Sec. III.1 - Eligible beneficiaries and projects

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###### 1. Who can apply

Public or private non-profit bodies, with a registered office in Italy or abroad, meeting the requirements set forth in Art. 5 of this Call. Please note that natural persons are not eligible to apply or serve as partners. Under penalty of exclusion, if the applicant is not the same entity as the foreign institution organizing the event or the exhibition, a Partnership Agreement with the latter is mandatory.

###### 2. Contributions are available to

Projects that include the participation of a single living artist of Italian citizenship or tax residency in Italy, in recurring international cultural events outside Italy (including but not limited to: Biennials, Triennials, Festivals, etc.), or in group exhibitions at accredited public or private, non-profit foreign institutions having their registered and operating office outside Italy, deemed significant for the area of contemporary arts, lasting no less than 30 (thirty) days beyond any promotion-related activities (including but not limited to: talks, workshops, catalogue, etc.). Eligible projects may include participation in side events, provided they are part of the official programme.

###### 3. Project partners and Cultural partners

If the project is presented by multiple implementing entities, the collaboration between lead applicant and **project partners** must be formalized with a **Partnership Agreement**, as specified in Art. 3.4 of this Call. In accordance with paragraph 1 above, if the applicant is not the same entity as the foreign institution organizing the event or the exhibition, a Partnership Agreement with the latter is mandatory under penalty of exclusion. (See Sec. III.3.3, letter b).

**Cultural partners** involved in the national and international promotion of the project must sign a **Letter of Intent** as detailed in Art. 3.5 of this Call. Cultural partners without Letters of Intent as well as promotional events carried out by entities not formally recognized as partners are not eligible for evaluation.

## Sec. III.2 - Eligible costs, restrictions, and duration of projects

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**1. The request for a contribution must be limited to the artist's participation in the event or exhibition.** Only the specific costs directly related to the artist's participation, as well as any general costs associated with the event or exhibition, may be included, as outlined in the following paragraphs.

### 2. Eligible costs for funding (purely by way of example)

- Production costs: installation and dismantling; hire of equipment and technological tools; artworks shipment and insurance fees; technical personnel employed in the production of the exhibition (stand builders, fitters, assistants, etc.)
- Travel costs (economy class) and accommodation, costs of any visas and health insurance, provided they are incurred exclusively for the implementation of the project (e.g. site visits, events and other promotional activities)
- Costs for project support staff: fees for producers, coordinators, assistants, consultants, etc. The contribution requested for staff costs may not exceed 15% (fifteen per cent) of the total amount requested and must be commensurate with the effort required to carry out the activity, not the total duration of the project or the entire event or exhibition
- Communications costs: press office and social media manager; graphic design; purchase of advertising space; costs of managing and creating websites, platforms and applications. If these costs relate to the entire exhibition or event, only part of them may be supported, up to a maximum of 10% (ten per cent) of the total contribution requested
- Costs of promotional activities: hire of equipment and technological tools; video and photographic documentation; any publications (printing and distribution costs; graphic design; copyright; fees for contributors, translators, editors, etc.). If these costs relate to the entire exhibition or event, only part of them may be supported, up to a maximum of 10% (ten per cent) of the total contribution requested
- Administrative and general costs: administrative advice to support the project, insurance or bank surety, stationery, utilities, not exceeding 10% (ten per cent) of the total contribution requested
- Contingency costs not exceeding 5% (five per cent) of the total contribution requested

### 3. Non-eligible costs for funding (purely by way of example)

- Costs and expenses that do not comply with the provisions set forth in Art. 4.9
- Costs related to the production of artworks. These costs cannot be included in the project budget, which must relate solely to the artist's participation in the event or exhibition
- Artist's fee, which must nonetheless be guaranteed by the applicant and included in the project budget as co-financing
- Purchase of durable goods (e.g. cameras, personal computers, scanners, tablets, telephones and related hardware and software accessories, etc.) and any other purchase considered as an investment

- Costs of project-related activities carried out by the staff of the implementing entities
- Lump sum and per diem expenses
- Expenses incurred in cash (which may only be covered through co-financing)
- Free donations
- Any costs not duly documented or relating to project changes not previously authorised by the DGCC
- Costs not directly related to the implementation of the activity
- Costs related to the maintenance or security of buildings
- Costs related to fines, disputes, settlements, registration of documents, criminal sanctions and related interest
- Economic quantification of voluntary work
- Costs not borne by the beneficiary, by one of the project partners declared in the application, or by any other party entitled to do so within the project through assignments or agreements

4. The project submitted can only be implemented within the timeframe set forth in the timetable referred to in Art. 7.11 of this Call and in compliance with the additional timeframe laid down in Art. 9 of this Call, from the day following the formal acceptance of the contribution by the beneficiary and, in any case, **not before 1 July 2026**. The project must be completed in all its stages **by 31 August 2028**.

### Sec. III.3 - Required documentation

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Only proposals submitted in accordance with the procedures indicated in Art. 6 of this Call will be eligible for merit evaluation. When applying via the DGCC's Tenders Portal, the electronic application form for Area 2, Section III, must include the following information.

#### 1. Application form

- a) Details and legal form of the implementing entities, of any cultural partners and co-funders and/or sponsors involved
- b) A declaration by the single or lead applicant of its capacity to bear the costs of the whole project and a commitment to provide at least 20% (twenty per cent) of the total proposed budget from its own resources or from the contribution of any co-funders and/or sponsors
- c) A self-certification by the single or lead applicant attesting compliance with the general requisites pursuant to Art. 5 of this Call, of all the implementing entities and of the artist concerned
- d) Formal acceptance of the conditions of this Call by the single or lead applicant for themselves and for the other parties directly involved in the project
- e) Consent to the processing of personal data and acceptance of the privacy notice pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, and subsequent modifications and supplements, and the

Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679. If applicable, project partners must also sign a copy of the privacy notice to be attached to the application

## 2. Project Proposal

- a) A summary of the proposal
- b) Information on the applicant, any project and cultural partners involved, any co-funders and/or sponsors, the project manager and the curator appointed within the project, and the artist to be promoted (including a concise portfolio), demonstrating compliance with the eligibility requirements set out in Art. 5 of this Call
- c) A clear and detailed description of the project, accompanied by any relevant visual material, demonstrating the credibility, feasibility, and practical viability of the proposal, as well as the main reasons supporting it and the objectives to be achieved
- d) Promotional activities
- e) Communications strategy
- f) Proposal for a possible publication
- g) A detailed production schedule in the form of a Gantt chart for the years 2026, 2027 and 2028, considering the time limits set by this Call
- h) Project budget: a detailed statement of all the project costs, including any VAT, as indicated in Sec. III.2 of this Call divided into general or macro-items and detailed items or sub-items as instructed on the Tenders Portal. The costs for which the contribution is requested and those co-funded by the applicant must be clearly specified, adhering to the prohibition of double funding outlined in Art. 4.8 of this Call. With reference to Sec. III.2.1 of this Call, please note that the contribution request must be limited to the artist's participation in the event or exhibition and not to the whole event or exhibition

## 3. Documents

- a) A copy of a valid ID document of the legal representative of the single or lead applicant
- b) Any Partnership Agreement signed by the legal representatives of all involved parties, with attached copies of valid ID documents of the signatories (See **Form B**). Under penalty of exclusion, if the applicant is not the same entity as the foreign institution organizing the event or the exhibition, a Partnership Agreement with the latter is mandatory
- c) Authorization for the processing of personal data and acceptance of the privacy notice pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, and subsequent modifications and supplements, and the Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679, signed by the legal representative of any project partner involved. (See **Form D**)
- d) A copy of a valid ID document and the Tax ID [Codice Fiscale] of the artist being promoted by the project
- e) Any Letters of Intent from the involved cultural partners promoting the project. (See **Form C**)
- f) In the event of a request for an advance payment subject to submission of a surety as per Art. 9.2, letter a) of this Call, a commitment to submit the insurance policy within 45 (forty-five) days of funding acceptance or a pre-agreement with the issuing body. (See **Form E**)

### Sec. III.4 - Evaluation of proposals

---

1. As indicated in Art. 7, requests received by the deadlines indicated in Art. 6 of this Call will undergo preliminary assessment by the DGCC to verify the completeness and correctness of the submitted documentation. Subsequently, the proposals will be evaluated by the Committee, which will create a ranking based on the following criteria.

CRITERION	MAXIMUM SCORE
<b>a)</b> Overall quality, credibility and originality of the proposal in terms of alignment with the objectives set forth in the Call, the clarity of its objectives, and its potential to generate cultural value and international visibility	<b>30</b>
<b>b)</b> Artistic quality of the project in relation to the CV of the artist being promoted	<b>20</b>
<b>c)</b> Quality and effectiveness of the event or exhibition and related activities, particularly regarding international visibility and their impact on the artist's career	<b>20</b>
<b>d)</b> Quality and credibility of the implementing entities and of the partners involved, in terms of their recognition within the context of contemporary creativity, experience and reliability	<b>15</b>
<b>e)</b> Technical and managerial feasibility and economic sustainability of the project, evaluated on the basis of the proposal's operational structure, the time schedule and the consistency with the budget, in relation to the planned activities	<b>15</b>

## Area 2 - International promotion of Italian artists, curators and critics

### Section IV

#### Contribution to the participation of a curator or critic in a recurring international event or exhibition outside Italy

##### Sec. IV.1 - Eligible beneficiaries and projects

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###### 1. Who can apply

Public or private non-profit bodies exclusively with registered office and operational headquarters outside Italy, meeting the requirements set forth in Article 5 of this Call and applying as a single applicant. Please note that natural persons are not eligible to apply or serve as partners. Under penalty of exclusion, the applicant must be the body organising the event or exhibition which is the subject of the proposal.

###### 2. Contributions are available to

Projects that involve inviting a curator and/or critic of Italian citizenship or tax residency in Italy, as a guest curator in a recurring international cultural event located outside Italy (purely by way of example: Biennials, Triennials, festivals, etc.), or in a solo or group exhibitions at accredited public or private, non-profit foreign institutions having their registered and operating office outside Italy, deemed significant for the area of contemporary arts, lasting no less than 30 (thirty) days beyond any promotion-related activities (including but not limited to: talks, workshops, publication, etc.). Eligible projects also include participation in side events, provided they are part of the official programme.

###### 3. Cultural partnerships

**Cultural partners** involved in the international promotion of the project must sign a **Letter of Intent** as detailed in Art. 3.5 of this Call. Cultural partners without Letters of Intent as well as promotional events carried out by entities not formally recognized as cultural partners are not eligible for evaluation. Please note that this section does not provide for project partners.

##### Sec. IV.2 - Eligible costs, restrictions, and duration of projects

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1. The request for a contribution must be limited to the curator's and/or critic's participation in the event or exhibition. Only the specific costs directly related to their participation, as well as any general costs

associated with the event or exhibition, may be included as part of the request, as outlined in the following paragraphs.

## 2. Eligible costs for funding (purely by way of example)

- Travel costs (economy class), accommodation, local transport and meals, any visas, permits and health insurance, if they relate exclusively to the curator and/or critic promoted by the project and are aimed at the implementation of the project (e.g. site visits, installation and dismantling, vernissage, promotional activities, etc.)
- Any publication planned for the event or exhibition: printing, distribution, graphic design, copyright, contributors', translators' and editors' fees, up to a maximum of 20% (twenty per cent) of the total cost of the publication

## 3. Non-eligible costs for funding (purely by way of example)

- Costs and expenses that do not comply with the provisions set forth in Art. 4.9
- Fee for the curator or critic supported by the project, which must nonetheless be guaranteed by the applicant and included in the project budget as co-financing
- Purchase of durable goods (e.g. cameras, personal computers, scanners, tablets, telephones and related hardware and software accessories, etc.) and any other purchase considered as an investment
- Costs of project-related activities carried out by the staff of the implementing entities
- Lump sum and per diem expenses
- Expenses incurred in cash (which may only be covered through co-financing)
- Free donations
- Any costs not duly documented or relating to project changes not previously authorised by the DGCC
- Costs not directly related to the implementation of the activity
- Costs related to the maintenance or security of buildings
- Costs related to fines, disputes, settlements, registration of documents, criminal sanctions and related interest
- Economic quantification of voluntary work
- Costs not borne by the beneficiary, or by any other party entitled to do so within the project through assignments or agreements

4. The project submitted can only be implemented within the timeframe set forth in the timetable referred to in Art. 7.11 of this Call and in compliance with the additional timeframe laid down in Art. 9 of this Call, from the day following the formal acceptance of the contribution by the beneficiary and, in any case, **not before 1 July 2026**. The project must be completed in all its stages **by 31 August 2028**.

## Sec. IV.3 - Required documentation

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Only proposals submitted in accordance with the procedures indicated in Art. 6 of this Call will be eligible for merit evaluation. When applying via the DGCC's Tenders Portal, the electronic application form for Area 2, Section IV, must include the following information.

### 1. Application form

- a) Details and legal nature of the single applicant, of any cultural partners and co-funders and/or sponsors involved
- b) A declaration by the single applicant of its capacity to bear the costs of the whole project and a commitment to provide at least 20% (twenty per cent) of the total proposed budget from its own resources or from the contribution of any co-funders and/or sponsors
- c) A self-certification by the single applicant, certifying that the general requirements set out in Art. 5 of this Call are met for itself and for the curator or critic involved
- d) Formal acceptance of the conditions of this Call by the single applicant for itself and for the other parties directly involved in the project
- e) Consent to the processing of personal data and acceptance of the privacy notice pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, and subsequent modifications and supplements, and the Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679

### 2. Project Proposal

- a) A summary of the proposal
- b) Information on the single applicant, any cultural partners involved, any co-funders and/or sponsors, the project manager appointed within the project, and the curator or critic to be promoted along with a concise portfolio of recently completed projects, demonstrating compliance with the eligibility requirements set out in Art. 5 of this Call
- c) A clear and detailed description of the project, accompanied by any relevant visual material, demonstrating the credibility, feasibility, and practical viability of the proposal, as well as the main reasons supporting it and the objectives to be achieved
- d) Any promotional activities; communications strategy
- e) Proposal for a possible publication
- f) A detailed production schedule in the form of a Gantt chart for the years 2026, 2027 and 2028, considering the time limits set by this Call
- g) Project budget: a detailed statement of all the project costs, including any VAT, as indicated in Sec. IV.2 of this Call divided into general or macro-items and detailed items or sub-items as instructed on the Tenders Portal. The costs for which the contribution is requested and those co-funded by the applicant must be clearly specified, adhering to the prohibition of double funding outlined in Art. 4.8 of this Call. With reference to Sec. IV.2.1 of this Call, please note that the contribution request must

be limited to the curator's and/or critic's participation in the event or exhibition and not to the whole event or exhibition

### 3. Documents

- a) A copy of a valid ID document of the legal representative of the applicant
- b) A copy of a valid ID document and the Tax ID [Codice Fiscale] of the curator or critic being promoted by the project
- c) Any Letters of Intent from the involved cultural partners promoting the project. (See **Form C**)

### Sec. IV.4 - Evaluation of proposals

1. As indicated in Art. 7, requests received by the deadlines indicated in Art. 6 of this Call will undergo preliminary assessment by the DGCC to verify the completeness and correctness of the submitted documentation. Subsequently, the proposals will be evaluated by the Committee, which will create a ranking based on the following criteria.

CRITERION	MAXIMUM SCORE
<b>a)</b> Overall quality, credibility and originality of the proposal in terms of alignment with the objectives set forth in the Call, the clarity of its objectives, and its potential to generate cultural value and international visibility	<b>30</b>
<b>b)</b> Artistic quality of the project in relation to the CV of the critic or curator being promoted	<b>20</b>
<b>c)</b> Quality and effectiveness of the event or exhibition, and the related activities, in terms of international visibility and their impact on the career of the curator or critic being promoted	<b>20</b>
<b>d)</b> Quality and credibility of applicant and of the cultural partners involved, in terms of their recognition within the context of contemporary creativity, experience and reliability, and experience of the applicant and the involved partners	<b>15</b>
<b>e)</b> Technical and managerial feasibility and economic sustainability of the project, evaluated on the basis of the proposal's operational structure, the time schedule and the consistency with the budget, in relation to the planned activities	<b>15</b>

## Area 2 - International promotion of Italian artists, curators, and critics

### Section V

#### Contribution to the realisation of an international publishing product

##### Sec. V.1 - Eligible beneficiaries and projects

###### 1. Who can apply

Public or private non-profit bodies, with a registered office in Italy or abroad, meeting the requirements set forth in Art. 5 of this Call. Please note that natural persons are not eligible to apply or serve as partners. Under penalty of exclusion, if the applicant has its registered office in Italy, the involvement of at least one cultural partner with both its registered and operational headquarters outside Italy is mandatory.

###### 2. Contributions are available to

Editorial products intended for an international audience and for international distribution, relating to Italian contemporary art over the past 70 (seventy) years, as calculated from the deadline of this Call. These projects must be published in English, Italian, and/or another language, potentially in two separate editions, along with their international promotion and distribution.

For the purposes of this Call, and in accordance with Italian Law no. 62 of 7 March 2001, a publishing product is defined as any product produced on paper (including books) or on a digital medium, intended to be published or disseminate to the public through electronic means, radio, or television – excluding discographic or cinematographic products. Digital publishing products intended for electronic reading media and/or websites are also eligible. The production of podcasts and/or audio content is eligible, provided that the content is accessible to the public via widely distributed podcast channels in both Italy and abroad.

Projects providing for the involvement of foreign publishing houses in the production and international distribution of the publishing product will be positively evaluated.

Projects that include sector-specific libraries in the international distribution plan will also be positively evaluated.

Examples of eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- A publishing product focused on aspects and issues related to Italian art, visual culture, and historical-artistic debates from the past 70 (seventy) years, as calculated from the deadline of this Call
- A monograph dedicated to living Italian artists or artists with tax residency in Italy, or non-living Italian artists whose activity occurred within the last 70 (seventy) years from the deadline of this Call
- A publishing product by a living artist and/or curator and/or critic, of Italian citizenship or with tax residency in Italy, related to their research and/or activities

- A publishing product involving the publication in English and/or another language of a work previously published only in Italian

### 3. Project partners and Cultural partners

If the project is presented by multiple implementing entities, the collaboration between lead applicant and **project partners must** be formalized with a **Partnership Agreement**, as specified in Art. 3.4 of this Call.

**Cultural partners** involved in the national and international promotion of the project must sign a **Letter of Intent** as detailed in Art. 3.5 of this Call. With reference to the paragraph 1 above, if the applicant has its registered office in Italy, the involvement of at least one **cultural partner** with both its registered and operational office outside Italy is mandatory under penalty of exclusion. (See Sec. V.3.3, letter d). Cultural partners without Letters of Intent as well as promotional events carried out by entities not formally recognized as partners are not eligible for evaluation.

With regard to printed publishing products, in the interest of ensuring comprehensive and effective internationalisation of the project, a Letter of Intent or similar document is required from the publishing house involved, guaranteeing adequate international distribution of the publishing product. This may include agreements with other publishing houses or foreign distributors. If the publishing house has its registered office and operational headquarters in Italy, this letter or document is mandatory, under penalty of exclusion. (See Sec. V.3.3, letter e).

Please note, as per Art. 3 of this Call, that the publishing house involved in the project is considered a supplier of a service and cannot be the same as an implementing entity (single or lead applicant, or project partner) or a cultural partner.

## Sec. V.2 - Eligible costs, restrictions, and duration of projects

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### 1. Eligible costs for funding (purely by way of example)

- Production costs: fees for editors, contributors, proofreaders, translators, graphic designers; possible copyrights; printing; national and/or international distribution, etc.
- Travel costs (economy class), accommodation, any visa fees, and health insurance, provided they are related to the implementation of the project and its related promotional activities
- Costs for project support staff: fees for project manager, coordinators, assistants, consultants, etc. The contribution requested for personnel costs must not exceed 25% (twenty-five per cent) of the total amount requested and must be commensurate with the effort required to carry out the activity, not the total duration of the project
- Communications costs: press office and social media manager; graphic design; purchase of advertising space; costs of managing and creating websites, platforms and applications
- Costs of promotional activities: hire of equipment and technological tools; video and photographic documentation

- Administrative and general costs: administrative advice to support the project, insurance or bank surety, stationery, utilities, not exceeding 10% (ten per cent) of the total contribution requested
- Contingency costs not exceeding 5% (five per cent) of the total contribution requested

## 2. Non-eligible costs for funding (purely by way of example)

- Costs and expenses that do not comply with the provisions set forth in Art. 4.9
- Purchase of durable goods (e.g. cameras, personal computers, scanners, tablets, telephones and related hardware and software accessories, etc.) and any other purchase considered as an investment
- Costs of project-related activities carried out by the staff of the implementing entities
- Lump sum and per diem expenses
- Expenses incurred in cash (which may only be covered through co-financing)
- Free donations
- Any costs not duly documented or relating to project changes not previously authorised by the DGCC
- Costs not directly related to the implementation of the activity
- Costs related to the maintenance or security of buildings
- Costs related to fines, disputes, settlements, registration of documents, criminal sanctions and related interest
- Economic quantification of voluntary work
- Costs not borne by the beneficiary, by one of the project partners declared in the application, or by any other party entitled to do so within the project through assignments or agreements

3. The project submitted can only be implemented within the timeframe set forth in the timetable referred to in Art. 7.11 of this Call and in compliance with the additional timeframe laid down in Art. 9 of this Call, from the day following the formal acceptance of the contribution by the beneficiary and, in any case, **not before 1 July 2026**. The project must be completed in all its stages **by 31 August 2028**.

4. Promotional activities that have been started but not completed by the project deadline may still be considered valid, but only expenditure actually incurred and documented up to that date will be eligible. In any case, activities initiated must be completed by 2028. The publishing product must be completed and submitted to the DGCC by the established deadline; failure to comply will result in non-payment of the final instalment.

## Sec. V.3 - Required documentation

Only proposals submitted in accordance with the procedures indicated in Art. 6 of this Call will be eligible for merit evaluation. When applying via the DGCC's Tenders Portal, the electronic application form for Area 2, Section V, must include the following information.

## 1. Application form

- a) Details and legal form of the implementing entities, of any cultural partners and co-funders and/or sponsors involved
- b) A declaration by the single or lead applicant of its capacity to bear the costs of the whole project and a commitment to provide at least 20% (twenty per cent) of the total proposed budget from its own resources or from the contribution of any co-funders and/or sponsors
- c) A self-certification by the single or lead applicant attesting compliance with the general requisites of all the implementing entities pursuant to Art. 5 of this Call
- d) Formal acceptance of the conditions of this Call by the single or lead applicant for themselves and for the other parties directly involved in the project
- e) Consent to the processing of personal data and acceptance of the privacy notice pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, and subsequent modifications and supplements, and the Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679. If applicable, project partners must also sign a copy of the privacy notice to be attached to the application

## 2. Project Proposal

- a) A summary of the proposal
- b) Information on the applicant, any project and cultural partners involved, any co-funders and/or sponsors, the project manager and the curator appointed within the project, the contributors, any other artists, curators, critics and scholars directly involved, proving compliance with the eligibility requirements set out in Art. 5 of this Call
- c) A clear and detailed description of the project, accompanied by any relevant visual material, demonstrating the credibility, feasibility, and practical viability of the proposal, as well as the main reasons supporting it and the objectives to be achieved. The following additional information must be provided in the description of the publishing product: title, synopsis, publisher, format, number of pages or length, any presence of images, print run, international and national distribution plan, any distribution plan in international and national sectorial libraries
- d) Promotional activities abroad and in Italy
- e) Communications strategy
- f) A detailed production schedule in the form of a Gantt chart for the years 2026, 2027 and 2028, considering the time limits set by this Call
- g) Project budget: a detailed statement of all the project costs, including any VAT, as indicated in Sec. V.2 of this Call divided into general or macro-items and detailed items or sub-items as instructed on the Tenders Portal. The costs for which the contribution is requested and those co-funded by the applicant must be clearly specified, adhering to the prohibition of double funding outlined in Art. 4.8 of this Call

## 3. Documents

- a) A copy of a valid ID document of the legal representative of the single or lead applicant

- b) Any Partnership Agreement signed by the legal representatives of all involved parties, with attached copies of valid ID documents of the signatories. (See **Form B**)
- c) Authorization for the processing of personal data and acceptance of the privacy notice pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, and subsequent modifications and supplements, and the Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679, signed by the legal representative of any project partner involved. (See **Form D**)
- d) Letters of Intent from the involved cultural partners promoting the project. (See **Form C**) Under penalty of exclusion, if the applicant has its registered office in Italy, the involvement of at least one cultural partner with its registered and operational office outside Italy is mandatory
- e) Letter of Intent, or similar document, from the publishing house involved guaranteeing adequate international distribution of the publishing product. If the publishing house has its registered office and operational headquarters in Italy, this letter or document is mandatory, under penalty of exclusion
- f) In the event of a request for an advance payment subject to submission of a surety as per Art. 9.2, letter a) of this Call, a commitment to submit the insurance policy within 45 (forty-five) days of funding acceptance or a pre-agreement with the issuing body. (See **Form E**)

#### Sec. V.4 - Evaluation of proposals

1. As indicated in Art. 7, requests received by the deadlines indicated in Art. 6 of this Call will undergo preliminary assessment by the DGCC to verify the completeness and correctness of the submitted documentation. Subsequently, the proposals will be evaluated by the Committee, which will create a ranking based on the following criteria.

CRITERION	MAXIMUM SCORE
<b>a)</b> Overall quality, credibility and originality of the proposal in terms of alignment with the objectives set forth in the Call, the clarity of its objectives, and its potential to generate cultural value and international visibility	<b>30</b>
<b>b)</b> The originality and historical-critical quality of the content, the prestige of the contributing authors, and the publication's capacity to contribute substantially to knowledge and international debate on Italian art in recent decades	<b>20</b>
<b>c)</b> Quality of the publisher, international distribution of the publishing product, and quality and effectiveness of international promotion activities	<b>20</b>

CRITERION	MAXIMUM SCORE
<b>d)</b> Quality and credibility of the implementing entities and of the partners involved, in terms of their recognition within the context of contemporary creativity, experience and reliability	<b>15</b>
<b>e)</b> Technical and managerial feasibility and economic sustainability of the project, evaluated on the basis of the proposal's operational structure, the time schedule and the consistency with the budget, in relation to the planned activities	<b>15</b>

## Area 2 - International promotion of Italian artists, curators, and critics

### Section VI

#### Contribution to promotional activities related to the acquisition of one or more artworks of an Italian artist outside Italy

##### Sec. VI.1 - Eligible beneficiaries and projects

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###### 1. Who can apply

Public or private non-profit bodies exclusively with registered office and operational headquarters outside Italy in particular: museum institutions, foundations, cultural associations, universities, formally established committees, and any other non-profit legal body aiming at valorising, promoting, and/or training in the field of contemporary art and meeting the requirements set forth in Art. 5 of this Call. Please note that natural persons are not eligible to apply or serve as partners.

###### 2. Contributions are available to

Projects for collateral activities relating to the purchase – recent or in progress – by a museum or by a collection open to the public with registered office and operational headquarters outside Italy. The acquisition must concern one or more artworks created within the past 70 (seventy) years from the deadline of this Call, by a single artist, Italian or tax resident in Italy, living or no longer living, whose artistic production is deemed significant for the history of contemporary art.

The acquisition procedure can be ongoing at the time of the application. Promotional projects relating to concluded acquisitions are also admissible, provided that these occurred within 6 (six) months prior to the deadline of this Call. The acquisition and/or production of artworks may not be covered by the contribution of the Italian Council.

Eligible projects may concern:

- An exhibition linked to the acquisition, with related publication
- A publication related to the acquired artwork(s)
- Other promotional activities such as performances, talks, conferences, public program, workshops, etc.

Projects must also include at least one promotional activity in Italy or in collaboration with the network of Italian cultural institutes abroad, such as meetings, conferences, study days, side events, etc.

###### 3. Project partners and Cultural partners

If the project is presented by multiple implementing entities, the collaboration between lead applicant and **project partners** must be formalized with a **Partnership Agreement**, as specified in Art. 3.4 of this Call.

**Cultural partners** involved in the national and international promotion of the project must sign a **Letter of Intent** as detailed in Art. 3.5 of this Call. Cultural partners without letters of commitment, as well as promotional events carried out by entities not formally recognized as partners, are not eligible for evaluation.

## Sec. VI.2 - Eligible costs, restrictions and duration of projects

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### 1. Eligible costs for funding (purely by way of example)

- Travel costs (economy class) and accommodation, costs of any visas and health insurance, provided they are incurred exclusively for the implementation of the project
- Costs for project support staff: fees for curators, project manager, coordinators, assistants, consultants, etc. The contribution requested for personnel costs must not exceed 25% (twenty-five per cent) of the total amount requested and must be commensurate with the effort required to carry out the activity, not the total duration of the project
- Communications costs: press office and social media manager; graphic design; purchase of advertising space; costs of managing and creating websites, platforms and applications
- Costs of promotional activities: installation and dismantling; hire of equipment and technological tools; artworks shipment and insurance fees; technical personnel employed in the production of the exhibition (stand-builders, fitters, etc.); video and photographic documentation
- Publication (if any): printing and distribution costs; graphic design; copyright; fees for contributors, translators, editors, etc.
- Administrative and general costs: administrative advice to support the project, insurance, stationery, utilities, not exceeding 10% (ten per cent) of the total contribution requested
- Contingency costs not exceeding 5% (five per cent) of the total contribution requested

### 2. Non-eligible costs for funding (purely by way of example)

- Costs and expenses that do not comply with the provisions set forth in Art. 4.9
- Costs related to the production and/or acquisition of artworks
- Fee for the artist involved in the project
- Purchase of durable goods (e.g. cameras, personal computers, scanners, tablets, telephones and related hardware and software accessories, etc.) and any other purchase considered as an investment
- Costs of project-related activities carried out by the staff of the implementing entities
- Lump sum and per diem expenses
- Expenses incurred in cash (which may only be covered through co-financing)
- Free donations
- Any costs not duly documented or relating to project changes not previously authorised by the DGCC
- Costs not directly related to the implementation of the activity

- Costs related to the maintenance or security of buildings
- Costs related to fines, disputes, settlements, registration of documents, criminal sanctions and related interest
- Economic quantification of voluntary work
- Costs not borne by the beneficiary, by any project partners declared in the application within the project through specific assignments or agreements

**3.** The project submitted can only be implemented within the timeframe set forth in the timetable referred to in Art. 7.11 of this Call and in compliance with the additional timeframe laid down in Art. 9 of this Call, from the day following the formal acceptance of the contribution by the beneficiary and, in any case, **not before 1 July 2026**. The project must be completed in all its stages **by 31 August 2028**.

### **Sec. VI.3 - Required documentation**

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Only proposals submitted in accordance with the procedures indicated in Art. 6 of this Call will be eligible for merit evaluation. When applying via the DGCC's Tenders Portal, the electronic application form for Area 2, Section VI, must include the following information.

#### **1. Application form**

- a) Details and legal form of the implementing entities, of the museum or collection that acquires the artwork(s), of any cultural partners and co-funders and/or sponsors involved
- b) A declaration by the single or lead applicant of its capacity to bear the costs of the whole project and a commitment to provide at least 20% (twenty per cent) of the total proposed budget from its own resources or from the contribution of any co-funders and/or sponsors
- c) A self-certification by the single or lead applicant attesting compliance with the general requisites pursuant to Art. 5 of this Call, of all the implementing entities and of the artist concerned
- d) Formal acceptance of the conditions of this Call by the single or lead applicant for themselves and for the other parties directly involved in the project
- e) Consent to the processing of personal data and acceptance of the privacy notice pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, and subsequent modifications and supplements, and the Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679. If applicable, project partners must also sign a copy of the privacy notice to be attached to the application

#### **2. Project Proposal**

- a) A summary of the proposal
- b) Information on the applicant, the museum or collection that acquires the artwork(s), any project and cultural partners involved, any co-funders and/or sponsors, the project manager and the curator

overseeing the project, and the artist to be promoted (including a CV and a concise portfolio), proving compliance with the eligibility requirements set out in Art. 5 of this Call

- c) Technical details of the artwork(s) to be acquired; short biography of the artist
- d) A clear and detailed description of the project, accompanied by any relevant visual material, demonstrating the credibility, feasibility, and practical viability of the proposal, as well as the main reasons supporting it and the objectives to be achieved
- e) Communications strategy
- f) Proposal for a possible publication
- g) A detailed production schedule in the form of a Gantt chart for the years 2026, 2027 and 2028, considering the time limits set by this Call
- h) Project budget: a detailed statement of all the project costs, including any VAT, as indicated in Sec. VI.2 of this Call divided into general or macro-items and detailed items or sub-items as instructed on the Tenders Portal. The costs for which the contribution is requested and those co-funded by the applicant must be clearly specified, adhering to the prohibition of double funding outlined in Art. 4.8 of this Call

### 3. Documents

- a) A copy of a valid ID document of the legal representative of the single or lead applicant
- b) In the case of a previously acquired artwork: a copy of the official inventory document or similar document certifying the recent acquisition of the artwork
- c) Any Partnership Agreement signed by the legal representatives of all involved parties, with attached copies of valid ID documents of the signatories. (See **Form B**)
- d) Authorization for the processing of personal data and acceptance of the privacy notice pursuant Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, and subsequent modifications and supplements, and the Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679, signed by the legal representative of any project partner involved. (See **Form D**)
- e) Any Letters of Intent from the involved cultural partners promoting the project. (See **Form C**)

## Sec. VI.4 - Evaluation of proposals

1. As indicated in Art. 7, requests received by the deadlines indicated in Art. 6 of this Call will undergo preliminary assessment by the DGCC to verify the completeness and correctness of the submitted documentation. Subsequently, the proposals will be evaluated by the Committee, which will create a ranking based on the following criteria.

CRITERION	MAXIMUM SCORE
<b>a)</b> Overall quality, credibility and originality of the proposal in terms of alignment with the objectives set forth in the Call, the clarity of its objectives, and its potential to generate cultural value and international visibility	<b>30</b>
<b>b)</b> Quality of the project in relation to the CV of the artist being promoted	<b>20</b>
<b>c)</b> Quality and effectiveness of the promotional activities in terms of the international visibility of the acquired artwork(s)	<b>20</b>
<b>d)</b> Quality, credibility, and experience of the applicants, with reference to the collection and/or museum acquiring the artwork(s), as well as the partners involved	<b>15</b>
<b>e)</b> Technical and managerial feasibility and economic sustainability of the project, evaluated on the basis of the proposal's operational structure, the time schedule and the consistency with the budget, in relation to the planned activities	<b>15</b>

## Area 3 - Talent development

### Section VII

#### Grant for international research projects and residencies for Italian Artists, Photographers, Curators, and other professionals in contemporary art and photography

##### Sec. VII.1 - Eligible applicants and projects

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###### 1. Who can apply

Contemporary art professionals and workers with Italian citizenship or tax residency in Italy (hereinafter referred to as 'Candidate', or 'Applicant'), including collectives, who have never previously received an Italian Council grant and meet the requirements set forth in Art. 5 of this Call. Please note that the grant is exclusively intended for: artists, photographers, curators, art critics, scholars, art project managers, and art producers.

###### 2. Number and amount of grants

A total of No. 20 (twenty) grants are made available under this Call, each in the amount of € 15,000.00 (fifteen thousand/00), as specified in Art. 4.4 of this Call, and intended for research project and residency projects, allocated as follows:

- No. 10 (ten) grants intended for artists and photographers, of which no. 5 (five) for research projects and no. 5 (five) for residency projects
- No. 6 (six) grants intended for curators, art project managers, and art producers, of which no. 3 (three) for research projects and no. 3 (three) for residency projects
- No. 4 (four) grants intended for scholars and art critics, of which no. 2 (two) for research projects and no. 2 (two) for residency projects

The Committee, in consultation with the DGCC, reserves the right to adjust the allocation of the grants among the above-mentioned categories, based on the quantity and quality of the applications received.

###### 3. Purpose of the grant

The grant is intended for candidates submitting a research project or a residency project aimed at the development of their professional pathway within an international perspective. Projects shall focus on clearly defined, current, and original themes, must be implemented within the 15-month period provided for in Art. 7.11, and must demonstrate both the feasibility of the proposed research and its effectiveness in creating or strengthening the candidate's international professional network.

In particular:

- research projects must include one or more study trips abroad that have a significant impact on the proposed research activity
- residency projects must include a residency period abroad of at least 30 days at public or private non-profit organisations with both legal and operational headquarters outside Italy, active and recognised in the contemporary field, and must include a related study and research activity

In both cases, the purpose of the grant is to enable the candidate to focus his theoretical, practical, and artistic research on the proposed project within an international context. Projects must therefore mandatorily include contacts, collaborations, and network-building with international organisations, optionally also with Italian organisations, and must provide for at least one public presentation abroad of the results achieved.

By way of example only, dissemination activities may include: small-scale exhibition presenting the research outcomes; participation in events and festivals; meetings and conferences, including those held remotely through the use of video-conferencing tools; workshops; and small publications dedicated to the research results.

#### 4. Cultural partnerships: Letters of Intent and Letters of Invitation

All collaboration and dissemination activities included in the project must be supported by the establishment of cultural partnerships with the involved organisations, which are required to sign a Letter of Intent.

- In the case of a research project, it is mandatory, under penalty of exclusion, for the candidate to submit at least one **Letter of Intent** signed by a cultural partner with both legal and operational headquarters outside Italy. Letters of intent may be drafted using the template (**Form C**) provided by the Administration, as detailed in Art. 3.5 of this Call
- In the case of a residency project, it is mandatory, under penalty of exclusion, for the candidate to submit the **Letter of Invitation** from the involved international organisation, which constitutes, for all intents and purposes, the establishment of a cultural partnership. The Administration does not provide a template for the Letter of Invitation, which must be drafted and signed by the host institution where the residency will take place in accordance with the institution's own rules and procedures

With reference to all submitted projects, it is specified that are not eligible for evaluation cultural partners without letters of intent, as well as activities planned in collaboration with entities not formally recognized as partners.

#### Sec. VII.2 - Amount of the grant, constraints, and duration of the projects

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1. Each grant amounts to € 15,000.00 (fifteen thousand/00) gross, for a research or residency project to be implemented over a period of 15 months. For the purposes of eligibility for funding, the Committee shall

assess the appropriateness of the amount on the basis of the research proposed, the activities set out in the project production schedule, and the expected results.

**2.** The grant is intended to support the candidate during the research and residency period and during any stays outside Italy, as well as all the activities necessary for the implementation and dissemination of the project. By way of example only, the grant covers: travel (economy class), local transport, visa fees, health insurance, accommodation and/or studio rental, organisation of a small exhibition and/or publication limited to the presentation of the results of the research project or the residency abroad, expenses related to the promotion and presentation of the research abroad, and in Italy.

**3.** Projects may also include research activities connected to the creation of new artworks, exhibitions, or scientific publications; however, the related production must not be directly funded by the grant. **Therefore, the grant cannot be directly allocated to the production of artworks, exhibitions, or scientific publications, except insofar as they serve solely to present the research outcomes.**

**4.** With reference to Art. 4.6 of this Call, the contributions granted under the Italian Council programme are paid gross of any tax charge due by law.

**5.** The grant must not be intended as an academic title. Applicants are required to disclose any research grants or scholarships of any kind allocated for the same project, even if awarded after the potential receipt of the grant.

**6.** The submitted project may be implemented exclusively within the timeframe set forth in the timetable referred to in Art. 7.11 of this Call and in compliance with the additional timeframe laid down in Art. 9 of this Call. Project implementation shall commence from the day following formal acceptance of the funding by the applicant, and in any case **not before 1 July 2026**, and must be concluded in all its phases **by 30 September 2027**.

### Sec. VII.3 - Required documentation

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Only proposals submitted in accordance with the procedures indicated in Art. 6 of this Call will be eligible for merit evaluation. When applying via the DGCC's Tenders Portal, the electronic application form for Area 3, Section VII, must include the following information.

#### 1. Application form

- a)** Details of the applicant
- b)** Details and legal form of cultural partners involved

- c) A self-certification by the applicant attesting compliance with the general requisites pursuant to Art. 5 of this Call
- d) Formal acceptance of the conditions of this Call by the applicant
- e) Consent to the processing of personal data and acceptance of the privacy notice pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, and subsequent modifications and supplements, and the Regulation (EU) No. 679/2016

## 2. Project proposal

- a) A summary of the proposal
- b) Information on the applicant, clearly specifying:
  - Research and/or activities carried out in previous years, with indication of the main activities both nationally and internationally
  - A comprehensive CV detailing all experiences and activities undertaken up to the date of submission, with a focus on: education and academic qualifications; any national and/or international exhibitions; participation in national and/or international events; participation in national or international conferences; publications; bibliography; artworks included in non-profit public or private collections (for artists); teaching activities; collaborations with national or international recognized institutions in the field of contemporary culture
  - For artists and photographers: a portfolio including a selection of projects from the last five years
- c) A clear and detailed description of the research project, accompanied by any relevant visual material, demonstrating the credibility, feasibility, and practical viability of the proposal, as well as the main reasons supporting it and the objectives to be achieved
- d) In the case of a residency project, information on the host organisation where the residency is to take place, proving compliance with the General Requisites set out in Art. 5.1 of this Call
- e) Project promotion activities with the involved cultural partners, including key partner information demonstrating alignment with the project
- f) A detailed production schedule in the form of a Gantt chart covering the 15-month research period distributed over the years 2026 and 2027, considering the time limits set by this Call
- g) Declaration concerning any other research grants or scholarships of any kind allocated for the same project

## 3. Documents

- a) A copy of a valid ID document and tax code [Codice Fiscale] of the applicant.

- b) Under penalty of exclusion:

- In the case of a **research project**: at least one **Letter of Intent** to promote the project from an involved foreign cultural partner (see **Form C**)
- In the case of a **residency project**: a **Letter of Invitation** from the involved institution, issued on official letterhead and signed by the President or Director of the host institution. As specified in Sec. VII.1.4, no template is provided for the Letter of Invitation

- c) Any additional Letters of Intent from the involved cultural partners promoting the project (See **Form C**)
- d) Under penalty of exclusion a **Motivation Letter** from the applicant
- e) Under penalty of exclusion at least one **Recommendation Letter** on official letterhead and duly signed by accredited experts and professionals in the field of contemporary culture

## Sec. VII.4 - Evaluation of proposals

1. As indicated in Art. 7, application received within the deadlines set forth in Art. 6 of this Call shall undergo a preliminary assessment by the DGCC to verify the completeness and correctness of the submitted documentation and the eligibility for evaluation. Subsequently, the proposals will be evaluated by the Committee, which shall create a ranking list divided as specified in Sec. VII.1.2 and based on the following criteria.

CRITERION	MAXIMUM SCORE
<b>a)</b> Overall quality, credibility and originality of the proposal in terms of alignment with the objectives set forth in the Call, the development of international networks, and the potential outputs and outcomes envisaged	<b>30</b>
<b>b)</b> Quality of the research in relation to the CV and the motivation of the candidate	<b>20</b>
<b>c)</b> Impact of the project in terms of international visibility and potential developments in the candidate's professional career outside Italy	<b>20</b>
<b>d)</b> Quality and credibility of the relevant individuals and cultural partners involved	<b>15</b>
<b>e)</b> Clarity and coherence of the project presentation, feasibility of implementation according to the project production schedule, and appropriateness in relation to the amount of the grant	<b>15</b>