

ANNEX C9bis: Twinning Light - Publication of the Call for Proposals on the Internet
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**TWINNING CALL FOR PROPOSALS
issued by the European Commission**

1. Publication reference

EUROPEAID/186515/DD/ACT/ME

2. Programme and Financing source

Project title: Operational Strengthening of Montenegro's AFCOS System for the Protection of the EU Financial Interests

Programme title: IPA III Action Programme for 2025-2027 Montenegro — Direct management (IPA 2025), MNE2025-2027MAAP - EU Integration Facility for 2025, 2026 and 2027, ACT-63249, PC-61048

3. Nature of activities, geographical area and project duration

(a) Short description (5 lines) of planned objectives: The objective of this twinning light is to strengthen the operational and preventive anti-fraud capacity of the AFCOS system by developing practical tools for managing irregularities and fraud, enhancing institutional coordination and cooperation with OLAF, reinforcing reporting and procedural frameworks, and increasing the awareness and capacity of stakeholders involved in protecting the EU's financial interests.

(b) Geographical area: Montenegro

(c) Maximum project duration: 8 months implementation period + 3 reporting period

4. Overall amount available for this Call for Proposals

EUR 250 000

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

5. Eligibility: Who may apply?

Only Public Administrations and Mandated bodies as per Twinning Manual of European Union Member States may apply through European Union Member States' National Contact Points.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

6. Provisional notification date of results of the award process

September 2026

SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA

7. Selection and Award criteria

Selection criteria consider the **operational capacity of the Member State Project Leader and Short term experts** mentioned in the proposal; the assessment is expressed on a **Yes/No** basis and a single negative evaluation of one criterion disqualifies the proposal.

Award criteria consider the **merit of the main qualifying aspects** of the proposal and are evaluated applying a **scoring system (1 to 5)**:

Selection and award of the Member State will be based on an evaluation of several qualitative aspects including but not limited to the proposed methodology, the experience of the proposed Project Leader, the institutional setting and the capacity of the administration and the Member State presentation, etc.

See Annex C6bis of the Twinning Manual: Twinning Light Administrative compliance and Eligibility grid and Annex C8 of the Twinning Manual Twinning Light Selection Fact Sheet

APPLICATION FORMALITIES

8. Twinning proposal and details to be provided

Twining proposals must be submitted by the Member State Administration to the **EU Member States National Contact Points for Twinning** following the instructions of the **Twining Manual** which must be strictly observed (including the use of the template).

Only one Twinning proposal for Member State can be submitted by the **Member State National Contact Points for Twinning** to the Contracting Authority within the deadline for applications.

The MS application should be submitted to the Contracting Authority via the email address of **Member State National Contact Points for Twinning**.

9. Deadline for applications

Deadline for submission of Twinning proposals by the MS National Contact Points

to the Contracting Authority: **19 June 2026, 16:30 Central European Time (UTC+01:00).**

The deadline for submission of Twinning proposals by the EU Member State Public Administrations to the corresponding National Contact Point is decided by the latter.

Any application received by the Contracting Authority after this deadline will not be considered.

10. Detailed information

Detailed information on this Call for Proposals is contained in the Twinning Manual and in the specific project Twinning Fiche, which is available at the European Union Member States **National Contact Points for Twinning**.

The tentative date envisaged for starting the evaluation committee meetings is: **22 June 2026.**

