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Answer given by President von der Leyen
on behalf of the European Commission
(3.3.2026)

The Commission acknowledges that the period for informing all applicants of the outcome of the evaluation has been extended beyond six months from the final date for submission of complete proposals in accordance with Article 197 paragraph 2 of the Financial Regulation¹. This extension, announced on the website of the Commission Representation in Italy², was necessary due to the very high number of applications received (more than 300).

As confirmed in the Evaluation Report and the Award Decision, the selection criteria were applied correctly and consistently. The Commission also carried out the ex-ante control required for grant procedures, which confirmed the correctness and consistency of the process.

The Commission respects all publication obligations it has pursuant to Article 38 of the Financial Regulation and will make available the list of beneficiaries and the amount awarded on the website of the Commission Representation in Italy³.

¹ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast), available at <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>.

² https://italy.representation.ec.europa.eu/notizie-ed-eventi/notizie/comunicazione-invito-presentare-proposte-commitgrants2025-2025-09-05_it.

³ https://italy.representation.ec.europa.eu/index_it.