



# ENACT.

European Network Against  
Crime and Terrorism

## ENACT Call for Expert Reports

---

Dissemination Level	PUBLIC
Publication Date	26/05/2026

## Disclaimer

---

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

## Copyright

---

This deliverable contains original unpublished work except where clearly indicated otherwise. Acknowledgement of previously published material and of the work of others has been made through appropriate citation, quotation or both. Reproduction is authorised provided the source is acknowledged.

## Contents

1	Overview .....	3
2	Scope and Target Output.....	3
2.1	Scope .....	3
2.2	Target output: Advanced Reports .....	3
3	Important Dates.....	4
4	Thematic Pillars and Thematic Offering.....	4
4.1	Capability Pillar .....	4
4.2	Technology Pillar .....	6
4.3	Market and Standardisation Pillar.....	6
4.4	Ethical, Legal and Societal (ELS) Pillar .....	7
5	What is Expected from the Experts .....	8
6	Submission Details and Eligibility .....	9
6.1	Submission Details.....	9
6.2	Eligibility .....	9
6.3	Additional Information .....	9
7	Structure of the Submission Template .....	10
8	Selection Methodology.....	10
8.1	Stage 1 – Abstract Evaluation .....	11
8.2	Evaluation Body.....	12
8.3	Stage 2 – Confirmation and Report Development .....	12
8.4	Summary of Evaluation Criteria .....	13
8.5	Report Validation Body .....	14
9	Financial Support and Expert Compensation .....	14
9.1	Engagement Model.....	15
9.2	Compensation Model .....	15
9.3	Payment Schedule and Milestones.....	15
9.4	Additional Information .....	15
10	Use of Generative AI .....	16
11	Logistics .....	16
12	. Additional Notes.....	17

## 1 Overview

The *Call for Expert Reports* is a strategic initiative from ENACT within the scope of the **EU Research and Innovation (R&I) Fighting Crime and Terrorism (FCT) landscape**.

The initiative aims to engage **highly qualified external experts** to support the development of **advanced analytical knowledge** addressing priority challenges, emerging trends and open questions in the FCT domain, at the intersection between research, innovation and operational practice.

Within this framework, the project defines and **offers a structured thematic offering** to external experts, organised around **four thematic pillars** corresponding to the project Observatories: **(1) Capability, (2) Technology, (3) Market and Standardisation, and (4) Ethical, Legal and Societal (ELS)**.

Experts are invited to engage with this offering by **proposing thematic analytical reports** aligned with the scope of one thematic pillar, thereby supporting the generation of evidence-based, accessible, and policy-relevant knowledge relevant to the broader EU FCT ecosystem.

## 2 Scope and Target Output

### 2.1 Scope

The Call solicits experts to propose and deliver abstracts related to at least one of the four ENACT thematic pillars. From the submissions received, **four abstracts – one per pillar** – will be selected and suggesting experts (or expert teams) will be commissioned to develop them into **four Advanced Reports**. Each proposing expert (or expert team) will be selected to develop only one Advanced Report per pillar, as per the proposed abstract selected.

In summation, the scope of this call anticipates:

- **one abstract per each of the four thematic pillars** will be selected through the Call for Expert Reports – four abstracts in total;
- each selected abstract will form the basis for the development of **one Advanced Report, to be produced by the same expert (or expert team) who submitted the abstract** – four reports in total.

The public version of the **ENACT Structured Knowledge Base** will be available to expert authors, to offer relevant knowledge acquired by ENACT throughout its lifetime (thus far).

### 2.2 Target output: Advanced Reports

**Advanced Reports** represent the core output of the Call and are designed to provide clear, evidence-based, and accessible analytical insights relevant to the EU FCT R&I context. Advanced Reports shall:

- be **clear and concise**, with a maximum length of **30 pages** (additional information may be included in annexes);
- be written in **English** and in **non-technical language**, understandable for non-experts;
- rely on **evidence and well-founded arguments** to support statements and conclusions;
- **not contain EU classified or confidential information**, including content protected by intellectual property rights;
- fully respect all **confidentiality and impartiality requirements** applicable to each report.

The preparation of the advanced report will follow [ENACT's Template for Advanced Reports](#)

### 3 Important Dates

- **Call launch and submission system open:** 26 May 2026
- **Abstract submission deadline** (1,800 – 3,000 characters including spaces): 30 May 2026
- **Abstract evaluation and selection:** 11 – 19 June 2026
- **Communication of selection results:** between 19 - 23 June 2026
- **Advanced Reports submission deadline:** 20 July 2026
- **Advanced Report Review and Validation:** by 31 July 2026
- **Camera-ready Advanced Report deadline:** 17 August 2026

### 4 Thematic Pillars and Thematic Offering

The Call is structured around a thematic offering around four thematic pillars: **(1) Capability, (2) Technology, (3) Market and Standardisation, and (4) Ethical, Legal and Societal (ELS) issues**. These pillars provide the thematic framework for expert contributions and guide the preparation of abstracts and subsequent Advanced Reports.

Experts are invited to submit one abstract responding to one of the pillars outlined below.

For each pillar, a rationale, indicative focus areas, and guiding questions are provided to frame the scope of expected contributions and support experts in the preparation of their abstracts.

#### 4.1 Capability Pillar

This pillar focuses on the **operational capabilities, preparedness needs and functional gaps** of law enforcement and security actors in the FCT domain, with particular attention to operational effectiveness, coordination capacities, workforce preparedness and the ability to respond to evolving security threats and complex operational environments.

**Focus areas may include, but are not limited to:**

- operational preparedness and response capacities (e.g. crisis response, incident management, operational coordination, rapid deployment capacities, etc.);
- intelligence and investigative capacities (e.g. intelligence analysis, investigative coordination, evidence handling procedures, strategic threat assessment, operational planning, etc.);
- cross-border and inter-agency cooperation capacities (e.g. coordination mechanisms, joint operational procedures, information exchange practices, institutional collaboration workflows, etc.);
- cybercrime and hybrid threat response capacities (e.g. cyber incident response preparedness, ransomware response coordination, cyber threat monitoring capacities, hybrid threat preparedness, etc.);
- policy and strategic coordination needs (e.g. EU and national policy priorities, capability development agendas, strategic planning, alignment of operational needs with policy objectives, etc.);
- human resources and workforce preparedness (e.g. specialised expertise, training needs, digital skills, organisational adaptation, operational decision-making capacities, etc.);
- critical infrastructure and public security protection capacities (e.g. resilience planning, protection preparedness, operational monitoring capacities, public-space security preparedness, etc.);
- organisational resilience and adaptability (e.g. continuity planning, stress-testing capacities, lessons learned processes, resource allocation capacities, institutional adaptability, etc.);
- capability maturity and operational gaps (e.g. operational readiness, coordination gaps, resource constraints, procedural bottlenecks, scalability challenges, capability shortfalls, etc.).

**Guiding questions (indicative):**

- What policy gaps at EU or Member State level need to be addressed to strengthen the EU response against Crime and Terrorism?
- What operational capability gaps and coordination challenges emerge in cross-border investigations involving encrypted communication platforms used by organised crime groups?
- How do hybrid threat scenarios targeting public spaces or major events expose weaknesses in inter-agency coordination, crisis response and operational continuity capacities?
- How can operational needs be better translated into strategic planning, policy priorities and future capability development agendas?
- How can specific training and organisational models better support intelligence-led operations?

## 4.2 Technology Pillar

This pillar focuses on the practical adoption and operational use of advanced technologies in law enforcement, with particular attention to the **application of emerging technologies applied in the FCT domain, human–technology interaction and interoperability challenges.**

**Focus areas may include, but are not limited to:**

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and data analytics (e.g. generative AI, computer vision, predictive analytics, NLP and multilingual intelligence extraction, etc.);
- cybercrime and digital investigations (e.g. digital forensics, malware analysis, blockchain analytics, threat intelligence platforms, OSINT automation, etc.);
- interoperability and information sharing (e.g. secure data-sharing architectures, federated databases, API interoperability frameworks, expert knowledge bases, etc.);
- biometrics and identity technologies (e.g. facial recognition, voice recognition, multimodal biometrics, etc.);
- surveillance, detection and situational awareness (e.g. UAV/UAS systems, IoT sensor networks, smart cameras, edge AI analytics, geospatial intelligence platforms, etc.);
- emerging and disruptive technologies (e.g. quantum computing, synthetic media/deepfakes, autonomous systems, advanced cryptography, anti-spoofing, etc.);
- technology readiness (e.g. TRL maturity, scalability, cost-efficiency, integration complexity).

**Guiding questions (indicative):**

- Which particular technology(/ies) is emerging or becoming strategically important, how, what are the implications?
- How mature and deployable are particular technological solutions?
- How does (e.g.) synthetic media/content applied in criminal tactics change the landscape of cybercrime?
- How are emerging technologies adopted by high-risk or malicious organisations, what are the implications and risks for EU technology stakeholders and LEAs?
- What is the technology readiness, the on-going public or private roadmap, the technical barriers and challenges for LEA preparedness toward (e.g.) quantum technologies adoption?
- What limits the effective operational deployment of advanced technologies?
- Where do gaps exist between innovation, standards, and real-world adoption?

## 4.3 Market and Standardisation Pillar

This pillar focuses on the **market conditions, standardisation needs** and **innovation ecosystem** factors influencing the uptake, scaling, interoperability and sustainability of security solutions in the FCT domain, with particular attention to barriers to deployment, cross-border adoption and the transition from research outcomes to operational use.

**Focus areas may include, but are not limited to:**

- market uptake and deployment pathways (e.g. barriers to adoption, procurement challenges, operational deployment models, transition from pilots to sustained use, etc.);
- market fragmentation and industrial ecosystems (e.g. fragmentation of suppliers and solutions, dependencies on non-EU providers, public–private cooperation models, innovation ecosystems, etc.);
- standards and interoperability frameworks (e.g. interoperability standards, certification schemes, common technical specifications, harmonisation approaches, etc.);
- scalability and sustainability of security solutions (e.g. cross-border scalability, long-term sustainability, maintenance and support capacities, cost-efficiency considerations, etc.);
- innovation governance and strategic autonomy (e.g. European competitiveness, resilience of supply chains, trusted European technologies, strategic industrial priorities, etc.).

**Guiding questions (indicative):**

- What hinders or enables large-scale operational uptake and cross-border deployment of particular security solutions within the EU market?
- How do gaps in interoperability standards, certification schemes or common specifications affect the adoption and integration of security technologies across Member States?
- What market, procurement or industrial ecosystem challenges limit the transition of security innovations from EU-funded research projects to sustained operational deployment?

## 4.4 Ethical, Legal and Societal (ELS) Pillar

This pillar focuses on the **ethical, legal and societal implications of security policies, operational practices** and **emerging technologies** in the FCT domain, with particular attention to fundamental rights, accountability, societal trust, democratic oversight and the impacts on individuals and vulnerable groups.

**Focus areas may include, but are not limited to:**

- fundamental rights and legal safeguards (e.g. privacy, data protection, proportionality, non-discrimination, due process, legal oversight mechanisms, etc.);
- ethical governance and accountability (e.g. transparency, explainability, human oversight, accountability frameworks, responsible governance models, auditability, etc.);
- societal impacts and public trust (e.g. societal acceptance, legitimacy of security practices, impacts on vulnerable groups and victims, public perceptions, trust in institutions, etc.);
- misuse and harmful applications of emerging technologies (e.g. malicious use of AI, synthetic media manipulation, surveillance abuse, discriminatory impacts, disinformation and influence operations, etc.);

- impact assessment and safeguards (e.g. fundamental rights impact assessments, ethical impact assessments, risk mitigation measures, safeguards-by-design approaches, etc.).
- misuse of emerging technologies by malicious actors;
- societal implications for victims and vulnerable groups;
- public trust, legitimacy, and societal acceptance;
- accountability and rights-based governance models;
- Impact assessments and other safeguards related to fundamental rights.

#### **Guiding questions (indicative):**

- How do emerging technologies and evolving security practices reshape ethical and societal risks in FCT?
- What are the implications of particular technologies (e.g. AI-enabled surveillance, biometric identification, synthetic media) for fundamental rights, accountability and public trust?
- How can transparency, human oversight and rights-based safeguards be operationalised in the deployment and governance of security technologies and operational practices?
- What are the best practices regarding ethics and fundamental impact assessments in new technologies aimed at FCT?

## **5 What is Expected from the Experts**

Selected experts (or expert teams) are expected to contribute to the **EU Research and Innovation (R&I) Fighting Crime and Terrorism (FCT) landscape** by developing targeted analytical inputs in response to the thematic offering proposed by the project.

In particular, experts are expected to:

- select **one thematic pillar** (Capability, Technology, Market, or Ethical, Legal and Societal – ELS) from the proposed thematic offering;
- submit **one abstract of 1,800-3,000 characters (including spaces)**, addressing a relevant topic within the scope of the selected thematic pillar;
- develop **one Advanced Report** based on the selected abstract, in line with the project requirements and standards;
- ensure that contributions are **clear, concise, and written in non-technical language**, making them accessible to non-specialist audiences;
- support statements and conclusions with **robust evidence and well-founded arguments**;
- fully comply with all applicable requirements related to confidentiality, impartiality, and the exclusion of EU classified or confidential information;
- participate, where required, in coordination or validation exchanges supporting the preparation and finalisation of the report;

- deliver agreed outputs in accordance with the defined timeline.

Experts' contributions are expected to be focused and time-bound, centred on the preparation of high-quality analytical content relevant to the EU R&I context on Fighting Crime and Terrorism.

## 6 Submission Details and Eligibility

### 6.1 Submission Details

Interested experts are invited to submit their application in accordance with the requirements outlined in this Call and by using the dedicated submission template.

Each application shall include:

- a **completed Submission Template**, covering all required sections;
- a **1,800 – 3,000 characters (including spaces) abstract**, included within the template, addressing one selected thematic pillar;

Applications must be submitted no later than **10 June 2026** via [the EU Survey Platform](#).

Applicants are required to clearly indicate the **selected thematic pillar** in the relevant section of the template.

### 6.2 Eligibility

To be considered eligible, submissions must:

- be submitted **within the specified deadline**;
- be **complete**, including all mandatory sections of the template;
- comply with the defined requirements, including **abstract length (1,800 – 3,000 characters, including spaces)** and language;
- be **readable and structured** in accordance with the submission template.
- include a declaration of any actual or potential conflict of interest.

Individuals affiliated with consortium partners are **not eligible to apply** under this Call for Expert Reports. All applicants must disclose any possible conflict of interest and relevant affiliations.

Only applications fulfilling the above conditions will be considered during the evaluation process.

### 6.3 Additional Information

Applicants may be contacted during the evaluation phase for clarification purposes, where necessary.

Further practical details regarding the next steps will be communicated to selected experts following the completion of the selection process.

## 7 Structure of the Submission Template

Applicants are required to submit their application using the [dedicated submission template](#), structured as follows:

1. **Author(s) Information:** Basic information about the applicant, including name, affiliation, and contact details.
2. **Area of Expertise and Relevant Experience (up to 1200 characters, including spaces):** Description of the applicant's main domain(s) of expertise, with reference to the selected thematic pillar, overview of relevant professional experience, including roles, responsibilities, and areas of specialization. Description of experience related to research, innovation, and the use or assessment of advanced technologies, where relevant.
3. **Relevant Background:** Up to five selected projects, initiatives, case studies, publications, reports, or other relevant outputs demonstrating relevant experience and expertise in the FCT domain.
4. **Availability and conflict of interest:** Indication of availability and ability to contribute to the development of the Advanced Report within the proposed timeline. Declaration of non-existence of conflict of interest.
5. **Thematic pillar:** Selection of the thematic pillar that the proposed abstract is submitted under.
6. **Report title:** Tentative title of the proposed report. The title can be modified during the report preparation stage, if the proposal is elected, however maintaining the core theme of the proposed report.
7. **Abstract (1,800 – 3,000 characters, including spaces):** A concise statement describing:
  - The main analytical **(sub-)topic** the report will explore
  - The **relevance** of the topic to the FCT domain
  - The **approach or methodology to be used** (e.g. literature review, case studies, policy analysis, operational assessment, market/technology mapping, etc.)
  - The expected **contribution or added value** for the target FCT-related stakeholders (e.g. practitioners, policymakers, researchers, technology developers, LEAs, industry stakeholders, etc.)
  - The **expected key findings, recommendations, or insights** the report aims to generate

## 8 Selection Methodology

The selection process is designed to ensure transparency, quality, and alignment with the objectives of the Call and the EU Research and Innovation (R&I) Fighting Crime and Terrorism (FCT) landscape.

Selection will be conducted in **two main stages** and will focus on the relevance, quality, and coherence of the proposed contributions with the thematic offering.

## 8.1 Stage 1 – Abstract Evaluation

Submitted abstracts (1,800 – 3,000 characters) will be assessed as the primary basis for selection.

To ensure impartiality and mitigate any potential conflict of interest, abstracts will be evaluated through a **blind review process (where feasible)**, meaning that evaluators will assess the abstract content without access to the applicant’s identity or background.

Abstracts will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- **Relevance** to the selected thematic pillar and its rationale, focus areas, and guiding questions;
- **Clarity and analytical focus** of the proposed contribution;
- **Soundness of the approach**, including the use of evidence or well-founded arguments;
- **Added value** of the proposed contribution to the EU R&I FCT context;
- **Feasibility** of developing the proposed abstract into a full Advanced Report within the defined scope and requirements.

Criterion	Description	Assessment Focus
<b>Relevance to the Thematic Pillar</b>	Degree to which the abstract is aligned with the selected thematic pillar, including its rationale, focus areas and guiding questions.	Coherence with thematic scope; clear positioning within the selected pillar.
<b>Analytical Clarity and Focus</b>	Clarity of the problem statement, objectives and analytical focus of the proposed contribution.	Well-defined scope; logical structure; clear analytical intent.
<b>Soundness of the Approach</b>	Robustness of the proposed approach and use of evidence or well-founded arguments.	Use of data, references, practical experience or analytical reasoning to support claims.
<b>Added Value for the EU R&amp;I FCT Landscape</b>	Potential contribution of the proposed Advanced Report to the EU Research and Innovation context on Fighting Crime and Terrorism.	Originality, relevance for EU stakeholders, contribution to knowledge or practice.
<b>Feasibility and Compliance</b>	Feasibility of developing the abstract into an Advanced Report in line with the defined requirements.	Compliance with length, language, non-technical approach, timeline, and confidentiality requirements.

Each abstract will be evaluated using a **0–5 scoring scale** for each criterion, where:

- **0** = Not addressed / not relevant
- **1** = Very weak
- **2** = Weak
- **3** = Adequate
- **4** = Good
- **5** = Excellent

The maximum achievable score is **25 points**. Abstracts will be ranked based on the total score achieved. The highest-scoring abstract within each thematic pillar will be selected for the development of one Advanced Report.

**Note:** The evaluation criteria and scoring system above apply exclusively to the assessment of the abstract under Stage 1. The applicant’s background is not subject to scoring but is reviewed separately at stage 2 for verification purposes, including assessment of expertise, eligibility, and potential conflicts of interest.

## 8.2 Evaluation Body

The evaluation and selection process will be carried out by a dedicated assessment team both from within and outside the ENACT consortium, composed of project representatives and relevant thematic experts, ensuring balanced consideration of strategic, analytical, and thematic aspects.

As the manager of the call, CENTRIC will **not** be part of the Stage 1 evaluation body, being responsible for the pseudonymisation of the personal data to allow for the blind review process. Members of the Stage 1 evaluation body will not have access to information which may lead to the identification of the proposing author

## 8.3 Stage 2 – Confirmation and Report Development

Following the selection of the **three highest-scoring abstracts** within each thematic pillar, the selected expert or expert team will be invited to confirm availability and proceed with the development of the corresponding Advanced Report.

At this stage, applicants will be required to provide **concise background information** and a **conflict of interest declaration** (where applicable). Background information will consist of the applicant’s **area of expertise** and **up to five relevant outputs** (e.g. publications, projects, or case studies) to support the assessment of their capability. The expert’s background will not be used solely for exclusion purposes, but will be assessed under an additional selection criterion, **Expertise and Track Record (0–5 points)**, evaluating the relevance and demonstrated capability of the expert (or expert team) to deliver the proposed Advanced Report.

The overall score will therefore be calculated as:

- **Stage 1 (Abstract evaluation): up to 25 points;**
- **Stage 2 (Expertise and Track Record): up to 5 points;**

for a **maximum total of 30 points**

In parallel, eligibility/compliance and conflict-of-interest checks will be performed. In case of ineligibility, major inconsistencies, or unresolved conflicts of interest, the project reserves the right to withdraw the invitation and consider the next-ranked abstract within the same thematic pillar.

**Expertise and Track Record (0–5 points) - Scoring scale**

Assessment is based on the relevance and demonstrated experience of the expert (or expert team) in relation to the proposed topic and thematic pillar.

Score	Level	Description
0	Not demonstrated	No relevant background information or evidence provided; unable to assess capability.
1	Very limited relevance	Very limited or weakly relevant expertise; minimal evidence of experience related to the proposed topic or thematic pillar.
2	Limited experience	Some relevant experience, but limited depth or insufficient evidence of comparable work or outputs.
3	Adequate relevant expertise	Clear and relevant expertise; sufficient evidence of experience related to the topic and ability to contribute to the report
4	Strong relevant expertise	Strong and directly relevant expertise; solid track record of comparable analytical work, projects, or outputs
5	Excellent and highly relevant expertise	Outstanding and highly relevant expertise; clear and well-documented track record demonstrating strong capability to deliver the report at a high level.

**8.4 Summary of Evaluation Criteria**

The table below summarises the evaluation criteria applied across both Stage 1 and Stage 2.

Stage	What is assessed	Criterion	Max Points
Stage 1	Abstract only (blind review where feasible)	Relevance to the Thematic Pillar	0-5
Stage 1	Abstract only (blind review where feasible)	Analytical Clarity and Focus	0-5
Stage 1	Abstract only (blind review where feasible)	Soundness of the Approach	0-5

Stage 1	Abstract only (blind review where feasible)	Added Value for the EU R&I FCT Landscape	0-5
Stage 1	Abstract only (blind review where feasible)	Feasibility and Compliance	0-5
Stage 2	Background + CoI (applied only to top-ranked abstracts per pillar)	Expertise & Track Record	0-5

## 8.5 Report Validation Body

The reports will be reviewed and validated by two ENACT consortium members, to ensure adherence to the proposed thematic, clarity and coherence, methodological soundness, alignment with ENACT objectives and pillar scope and overall quality of the produced report. Where needed, comments for improvement will be directed back to authors, which will be addressed within the designated timeline to produce the final, camera-ready report.

## 9 Financial Support and Expert Compensation

The production of the Advanced Reports is directly funded under the ENACT Grant.

Selected experts will receive **financial compensation** for the development of the Advanced Report, subject to the terms and conditions defined by the project.

The compensation shall cover the preparation and delivery of **one Advanced Report per selected expert (or expert team)**, in line with the scope, requirements, and timeline outlined in this Call.

Financial compensation will be defined upfront in the Expert Contract, based on:

- i. the standard applicable rate (see “Engagement Model”), and
- ii. the number of working hours proposed by the expert at application stage and confirmed at selection.

The contract will specify the agreed maximum number of hours and the corresponding total professional fee from the outset.

Payment will be subject to:

- the **successful completion and submission** of the Advanced Report;
- compliance with the defined requirements, including **quality standards, timeline** and applicable **confidentiality and impartiality provisions**;
- the **validation and acceptance** of the report by the project.

Any applicable taxes or charges shall be borne by the expert, in accordance with the relevant regulations.

## 9.1 Engagement Model

The assignment is defined as a **short-term, results-oriented engagement**, with an indicative duration of up to **two months** following the approval of the abstract. The preparation of one Advanced Report may engage more than one expert, with the compensation model (see below) reflecting the **total effort** required for the expert or team of experts, to produce **one** Advanced Report.

## 9.2 Compensation Model

Experts will receive a **professional fee** for the development of the Advanced Report.

- **Estimated effort:** each Advanced Report is estimated to require approximately **60 to 80 hours of work**, with an upper limit of **up to 100 hours** in justified cases;
- the estimated effort corresponds to an indicative workload of **9–11 working days**, with a maximum of **15 working days**;
- **Hourly rate:** remuneration is calculated based on a **standard hourly rate**, aligned with EU expert compensation frameworks ([methodology-for-expert-fees\\_en.pdf](#));
- **Total contract value:** the final professional fee will be calculated as the product of the approved hourly rate and the estimated number of working hours for the specific thematic pillar.
- **Final payment:** the final payment will be based on the agreed professional fee and on the proof of the hours of work deployed by the expert or team to conclude the report
- **Declaration of effort:** In the case of a single expert, the total effort will be attributed to that expert, while in the case of expert teams, the Expert Contract will specify the distribution of effort (in hours) per author. **This allocation will be based on the effort proposed at application stage and confirmed at contracting stage.**

The final financial terms will be formalised in the **Expert Contract** prior to the start of the report development phase.

## 9.3 Payment Schedule and Milestones

Payment will be made upon submission, technical validation, and formal approval of the final Advanced Report by the Report Validation Body.

In duly justified cases, alternative payment arrangements may be agreed.

## 9.4 Additional Information

No travel is foreseen under this Call for Experts.

Any potential participation in dissemination or presentation activities related to the produced Advanced Reports (e.g. project events) will be considered separately and does not form part of the present assignment.

## 10 Use of Generative AI

The use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools is permitted **exclusively** as a support to content development activities and must fully comply with applicable policies, ethical standards, and confidentiality requirements.

In particular:

- Generative AI tools may be used to support drafting, summarisation and analytical activities;
- the inclusion of confidential, sensitive, or non-public information in AI tools is strictly prohibited;
- experts shall ensure that any tools or uses comply with applicable EU regulations and best practices, for example, the latest [ERA guidelines on Generative AI in Research](#), the [GPAI code of practice](#), and the [EDPS Guidance on Generative AI](#), and do not involve the processing of confidential or sensitive information;
- any content developed with the support of Generative AI must be clearly and transparently disclosed;
- experts are required to curate, fact-check, analyse and appropriately incorporate any AI-generated content (including references), under full human supervision;
- experts remain fully responsible and accountable for the quality, accuracy, originality and integrity of all submitted content, regardless of the use of AI tools.
- experts are required to **explicitly** indicate in the Advanced Report if and how Generative AI tools have been used, for example through a brief statement or footnote.

The use of Generative AI does not replace expert judgement, critical analysis, or professional responsibility.

## 11 Logistics

The Call for Expert Reports is managed within the framework of the project and follows the indicative timeline outlined in this document.

Following the abstract evaluation and selection process:

- selected experts will be contacted and invited to confirm their availability;
- the development of Advanced Reports will be carried out in coordination with the project team, according to the agreed schedule.

All activities related to the Call, including coordination and exchange with selected experts, will be conducted primarily in remote mode, using standard online collaboration tools.

Further practical details, including timelines for report development and formats for delivery, will be communicated to selected experts after the conclusion of the selection process

## 12. Additional Notes

Participation in this Call for Expert Reports implies full acceptance of the terms outlined above, including compliance with confidentiality and data protection requirements.

Further updates and operational details will be shared throughout the initiative.