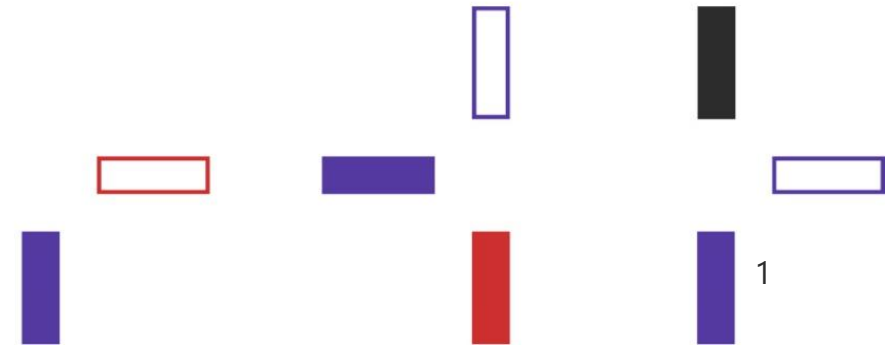


Evaluation review process in Horizon Europe/ EIC Accelerator

European
Innovation
Council



Grzegorz Ambroziewicz EISMEA E03



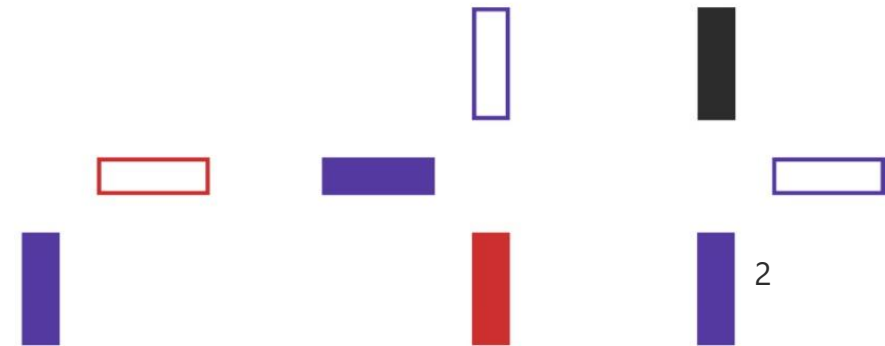


Evaluation review process – legal basis

Regulation 2021/695, establishing Horizon Europe

Article 30 - Evaluation review procedure, enquiries and complaints

1. An applicant may request an evaluation review if it considers that the applicable evaluation procedure has not been correctly applied to its proposal.
2. Only the procedural aspects of an evaluation may be the subject of a request for an evaluation review. The evaluation of the merits of a proposal shall not be the subject of an evaluation review.





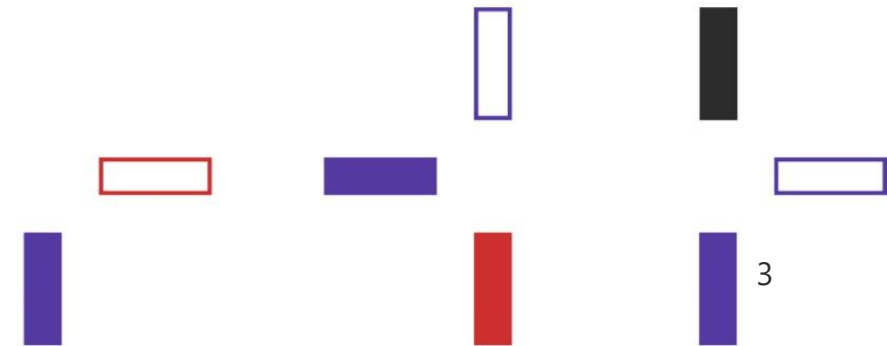
Evaluation review process – legal basis

✓ Is **LIMITED** to procedural aspects of the evaluation

- suitability of the experts,
- manifest errors of assessment,
- factual errors (substantive inaccuracy of the facts), etc.

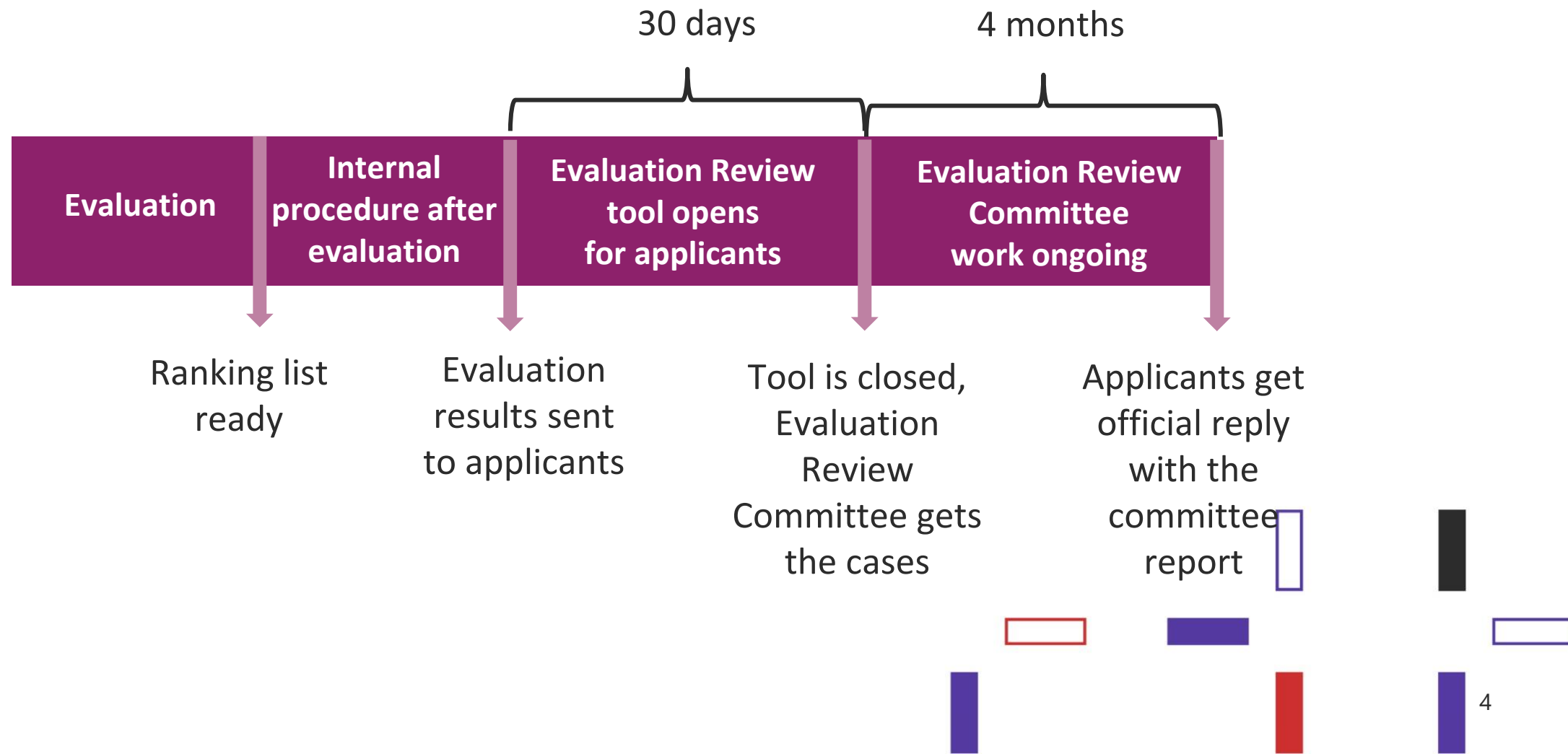
X Does **NOT** extend to the merits of the evaluation

- assessment by the experts of the quality of the proposal.





Evaluation review process - overview





Fairness & impartiality

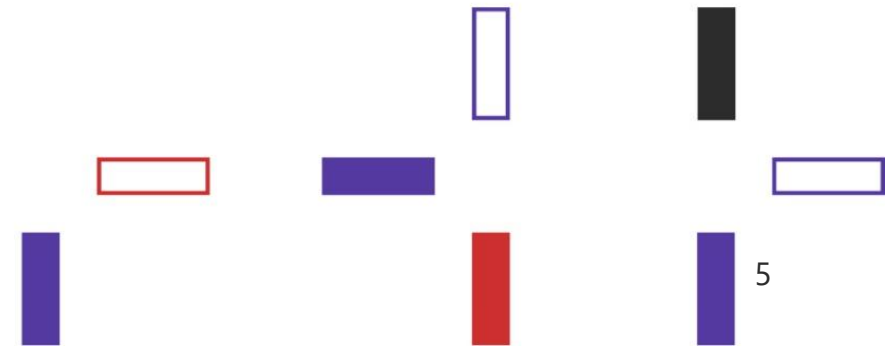
Complainants must be treated equally and impartially, irrespective of their origin or identity.

Efficiency

Complaints should be handled efficiently without compromising quality or neglecting the rules.

Confidentiality

Proposals and all beneficiary-related information, data, and documents received must be treated confidentially.



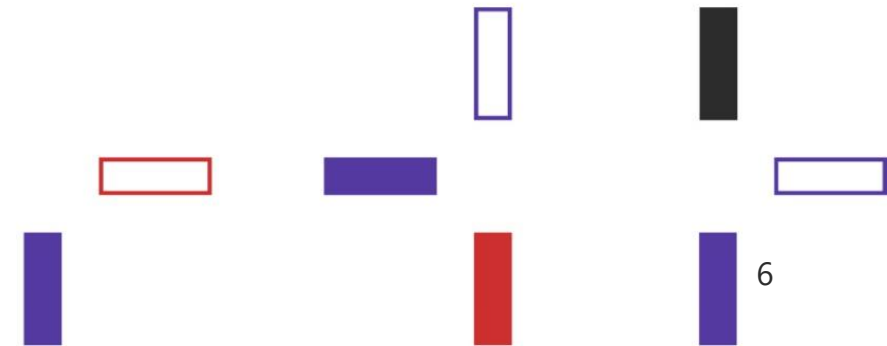


How is the complaint filed:

- **By the coordinator**
- **Within 30 days** after receiving the evaluation result letter electronically.

Timing & deadlines for the Evaluation Review completion:

Whole process should be completed within **4 months** after the deadline for submitting complaints, including sending the response to applicants.





How the complaint is assessed?

The **Evaluation Review Committee** must review the evaluation on the basis of the **complaint** and all the **documents** relating to the proposal, the call and the evaluation, such as:

- *Evaluators' CVs*
- *Proposal*
- *Work Programme*
- *Other call documents (e.g. GfA)*
- *Evaluation reports (evaluation summary report (ESR), individual evaluation reports (IERs), ethics summary report / security summary report, if applicable).*

Want to submit a request?



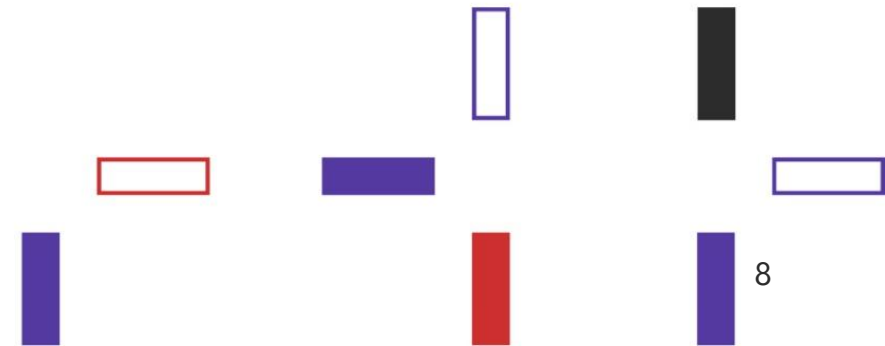
When to submit a request for Evaluation Review:

- ✓ When you have spotted a clear contradiction in the ESR
- ✓ When you consider there is a factual mistake in the ESR
- ✓ When you feel that experts were not suitably qualified to assess your proposal
- ✓ When you suspect that the evaluation procedure was not followed

When NOT to submit a request for Evaluation Review:

- ✗ You are not happy with the result of the evaluation, you have expected positive comments
- ✗ When you disagree with the opinion of the experts
- ✗ When you find your score too low
- ✗ When your resubmitted proposal scores lower than the one from the previous year

NB: the list is not exhaustive





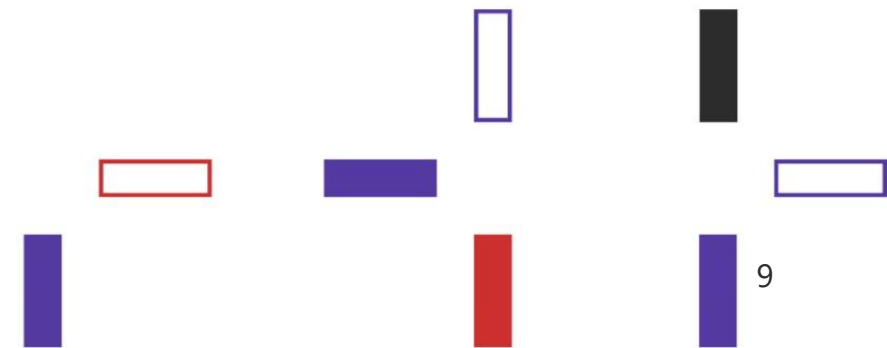
Case A: Inadmissible

- Request not submitted by coordinator;
- Request submitted out of time or out of the IT system;
- Request does not contain any reasons;
- Request does not raise shortcomings in the evaluation procedure.

Example:

No reasons, no shortcomings are highlighted

“Please re-evaluate my proposal. Kind regards, XY”





Case B: Unfounded (majority of cases)

No sufficient evidence to support the complaint; procedure was correct; the results of the evaluation are confirmed.

Majority of cases – disagreement with experts` assessment.

Example:

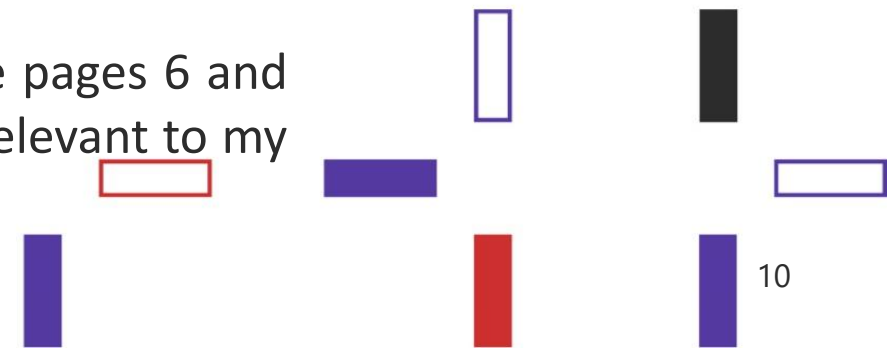
Experts state in the ESR:

“Methodology is not sufficiently justified, it is missing XYZ”

Experts assessment is questioned, it is a disagreement with suitably qualified experts, this is not in the scope of the evaluation review.

Applicant argues:

“I disagree with experts, my methodology is well described on the pages 6 and 7, and those missing elements mentioned by the experts are not relevant to my project.”



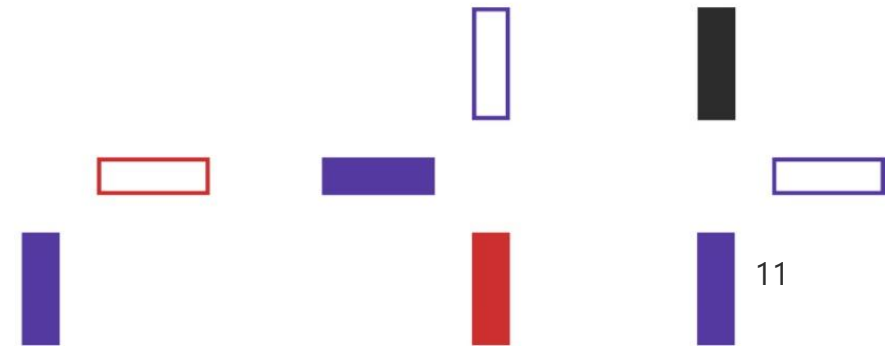


Case C: Committee agrees with the applicant however no influence on outcome

Committee found evidence to support the complaint, **but no re-evaluation is recommended** because the shortcoming is limited to a certain part of the evaluation and **did not influence the overall outcome**.

Example:

Committee agrees with the applicant on the point raised under e.g. criterion 2. However, **the re-evaluation would not change the overall result**.





Case D: Founded, full or partial re-evaluation recommended

Procedural errors, factual errors, manifest errors of assessment with impact on the outcome of the evaluation, etc.

Serious problem in the evaluation procedure which is likely to have jeopardised the evaluation result (whether or not to retain the proposal in question); substantive inaccuracy of the facts.

Example:

Experts state in the ESR:

“The work plan is not complete, **list of deliverables is not presented.**”

Applicant argues:

“I disagree with experts, the list of deliverables is presented on the page 17.”

The Committee agrees with the applicant. They recalculate the score for this concerned criterion and the **proposal would be in the funding range = re-evaluation**



111 redress cases for cut-offs in 2023

Vast majority of complainants question the assessment by the experts of the quality of the proposal.

