



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION AND HUMANITARIAN AID  
OPERATIONS (ECHO)  
Strategy and Policy  
The Director

Brussels  
ECHO.B.3/JS

### CORRESPONDENCE SLIP

**ADDRESSEES:** Directors-General for Civil Protection of the Member States and Participating States to the Union Civil Protection Mechanism

**CC:** Members of the Civil Protection Committee; Member States' Permanent Representations and Participating States Permanent Missions to the EU

**Subject:** **UCPM Peer Review programme 2025-2027 cycle**  
**Call for Expressions of Interest – Deadline 29 May 2026**

Dear Directors-General,

I am pleased to **launch a new call for expressions of interest for national or sub-national authorities interested in undergoing a peer review** of their disaster risk management and civil protection systems. This call concerns our availability for **four peer reviews**, which can be carried out during **2026-2027**.

A peer review provides a country or a region with the opportunity to reflect on its readiness to cope with disasters from natural hazards and human-induced disasters and to identify ways of strengthening its prevention and preparedness policy and practices. In addition, peer reviews also facilitate the sharing of good practices at European level.

The Peer Review programme is carried out in **close partnership between the Commission, the team of peers** (civil protection experts and practitioners selected for the specific review), **and the relevant authorities** of the country/region under review. The Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Climate Change (CMCC), based in Italy, is supporting the programme as technical consultant. Since 2013, [20 countries and one region](#) have undergone a peer review – most recently the German Land of Brandenburg, Czechia and Kosovo\*.

**As responsibilities for disaster risk management and preparedness are decentralised in many countries, we encourage applications from subnational authorities, for instance regional authorities from federal states.** The recent precedent of Land Brandenburg validated that a peer review organised at regional/subnational level with the necessary

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\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

support of central authorities can be strongly beneficial. We therefore kindly ask national level authorities to share the call with subnational authorities where relevant.

**Countries and regions interested in a peer review are invited to send an expression of interest to [ECHO-CP-PEER-REVIEW@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ECHO-CP-PEER-REVIEW@ec.europa.eu) by 29 May 2026.** Requests for a peer review will only be considered if submitted by the central/national civil protection authority or in the case of requests submitted by subnational authorities they must be accompanied by a letter of support signed by the national authority. Please indicate the details of your interest by using the enclosed **Template for Expression of Interest**.

For more information on the methodology used for UCPM peer reviews, please refer to the enclosed **Factsheet** and the [peer review webpage](#). Key documents include: the Disaster Risk Management Peer Review Assessment Framework ([DRM PRAF](#)), updated in 2025, and the wildfire version of the PRAF ([Wildfire PRAF](#)), should you wish to undergo a review focusing specifically on wildfire risk management.

In close collaboration with DG ECHO, the authority requesting the review is expected to support the peer review process throughout its duration, for planning the review, identification of the review focus areas, sharing relevant documents for the desk research, participation in preparatory meetings, identifying and engaging with stakeholders for the on-site review mission, and assist with certain logistical arrangements, e.g. for local meeting venues and local transport. The [Peer Review Guidelines](#) provide more details on the responsibilities of the main actors in the process.

We look forward to hearing from you. Do not hesitate to contact my team should you have any need for clarifications. Also to mention, we hope to count on your continued support in proposing potential peers with relevant expertise for the future peer reviews.

Yours sincerely,

Hanna JAHNS

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Enclosure: Template for Expression of Interest  
Fact Sheet - UCPM Peer Review Programme 2025-2027