Declaration of impartiality and confidentiality

I, the undersigned,

< first and last name of the assessor >

have been nominated as member of the Interreg South Baltic Programme 2021 – 2027 (hereinafter referred as to the Programme) assessment team for the 2nd Call for proposals assessment round.

I hereby declare that during the whole term of my appointment I will follow the rules of the Programme described in the *Interreg South Baltic Programme 2021-2027* approved by the European Commission on 4 October 2022, in the respective *Programme Manual, Annexes to the Programme Manual,* *Application Form and its Guidelines.* Carrying out my activities, I will take into consideration in particular the interests and needs of the South Baltic area.

I declare that my assessment of applications is free from bias and is not influenced by any partial interest.

In particular, I declare that:

* I am independent from the institutional structure of the Programme
* I do not act as lead partner or as any of the project partners who have submitted an application to the Interreg South Baltic Programme 2021-2027 within the Programme Measure(s) specified in Announcement of the call for external assessors
* I am in no other way individually and/or financially involved (including acting as an expert or consultant subcontracted by the lead partner) in any of the project applications submitted in the 2nd Call within the Programme Meausre(s) specified in Announcement of the call for external assessors
* I will remain impartial during the entire assessment process
* I will maintain confidentiality on the received project-related information during and after the assessment. In particular, I declare that I will not communicate to any lead partner, project partner or any other person involved in the application any confidential information disclosed to me, or make public any recommendations for decisions until the assessment is completed, and the final decision on the project’s approval is made by the members of the Monitoring Committee. Furthermore, the received information shall be used only for the purpose directly related to my activities as the assessor
* I have familiarized myself with the information concerning the Programme available to date.
I further declare that I shall execute my responsibilities honestly and fairly
* I enjoy full public rights
* I enjoy the full capacity to perform acts in law
* I have not been convicted with a final judgment of an intentional crime or an intentional fiscal crime.

Should one of the pre-mentioned circumstances occur during the procedure of quality assessment, I will immediately notify the Head of the Joint Secretariat (JS). I accept that the Head of the JS, after consultation with the Managing Authority, may exclude me from the assessment of the respective project application.

I declare that should any other situations or circumstances occur which could in a justified way undermine my personal impartiality or independence, I will immediately cease to participate in the assessment of respective project application, during the consideration of issues related to it and I will immediately inform about it the Head of the JS.

I accept furthermore that, if I have neglected to give the necessary statement as mentioned above, the Head of the JS, after consultation with the chairperson of the Monitoring Committee, and the Managing Authority, has the right to demand my resignation from the assessment team immediately.

Finally, I am aware of the criminal liability for making false statements and I declare that all the information contained in this declaration is true and to the best to my knowledge.

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| **Signature** |  |
| **Place and date** |  |