

## Commission assessment EUCA seat selection – Spain (Málaga)

<p><b>'When selecting the location, the co-legislators have agreed that they will ensure that, given the nature of EUCA, the location enables the Authority to fully execute its tasks and powers, to recruit highly qualified and specialised staff and to offer adequate training opportunities.'</b></p>		
	<b>Member State answer</b>	<b>Commission assessment</b>
Description	<p>Málaga is a consolidated technological hub in southern Europe, anchored in the Málaga Valley ecosystem with hundreds of digital companies and reinforced by Málaga TechPark, which hosts 715 firms (including 72 foreign) and nearly 28,000 employees. This environment supports EUCA's data-intensive and security-critical mandate. The proposed EUCA building offers secure operational rooms, 24/7 crisis-response capacity, high-availability fibre connectivity and compliance with high international standards, ensuring operational resilience. Moreover, Málaga's multimodal connectivity-with one of Europe's most internationally connected airports (156 destinations), a major commercial port and high-speed rail links-guarantees rapid access to EU capitals and supports EUCA's coordination and crisis-management responsibilities.</p> <p>Málaga's internationalised labour market, high quality of life and strong technological sector attract specialised professionals. The city provides robust healthcare, extensive international schooling options and a safe, welcoming environment. Comprehensive soft-landing programmes assist foreign staff and families with administrative procedures, healthcare registration, schooling, housing and integration into local innovation networks. The recognised excellence of the Spanish Customs Administration-together with its firm commitment to the EU Customs Reform and the decisive leadership it exercised during the Spanish Presidency of the Council-further reinforces EUCA's ability to attract top customs specialists.</p> <p>Málaga's universities and research centres, together with AEAT's Customs Training School, provide specialised programmes aligned with EUCA's mission, ensuring continuous professional development.</p>	<p>The application indicates that Málaga is a technological hub in southern Europe, anchored in the Málaga Valley ecosystem with hundreds of digital companies. It also indicates the presence of the Málaga TechPark, which hosts 715 firms (including 72 foreign) with nearly 28 000 employees. The application indicates that Málaga's labour market is internationalised and that the technological sector attracts specialised professionals.</p> <p>The application indicates that Málaga's universities and research centres, together with AEAT's Customs Training School, provide specialised programmes aligned with EUCA's mission which could facilitate professional development of staff.</p>
Summary	<p><b>The application indicates that Málaga is a technological hub with the presence of the Málaga TechPark, hosting 715 firms with nearly 28 000 employees. It refers to Málaga's labour market as internationalised and to the technological sector as attractive for specialised professionals.</b></p> <p><b>It also provides information on Málaga's universities and research centres, which together with the AEAT's Customs Training School, provide specialised programmes.</b></p>	

<p><b>Criterion 1 – 'The date on which EUCA can become operational on site after the entry into force of the Regulation'</b></p>		
<b>Sub criteria</b>	<b>Member State answer</b>	<b>Commission assessment</b>
<b>Building 1</b>		
<b>Availability of the premises</b>		
1) Adress of the proposed premises (Building 1)	Calle Pacífico 24, Málaga	The application indicates that the address of building 1 is Calle Pacífico 24, Málaga.
2) General description of the proposed premises	<p>The building, named Ágora, possess a total leasable area of 9,186m<sup>2</sup>, distributed across 7 floors. It features two large terraces with sea views on the 2nd and 5th floors (total of 804m<sup>2</sup>), and a rooftop with panoramic views. Growth within the building is expected to be gradual, reflecting EUCA's progressive establishment in the city and subject to team hiring processes and evolving work models (hybrid, flexible, or on-site). EUCA is initially offered exclusive access to the first floor, comprising 1,241.94 sqm with capacity for 105 employees with additional space immediately available that would increase the total area to 3,461 sqm. Further availability will potentially provide a total of 6,000 sqm.</p> <p>The building features a continuous glass envelope maximizing natural lighting and views, with high-performance double glazing (solar control, low emissivity, high acoustic insulation). Fixed slats on most façades provide sunlight protection, with pre-installed conduits for motorised blinds. The building offers high connectivity and optical fibre to meet Widescore Gold certification.</p>	<p>The application indicates that the proposed premises (building 1) is named Ágora and consists of 9 186 m<sup>2</sup>, distributed across 7 floors. It also indicates the availability of two terraces on the 2nd and 5th floors (total surface of 804 m<sup>2</sup>), and a rooftop.</p> <p>The application indicates that EUCA will be initially offered access to the first floor (around 1 242 m<sup>2</sup> with capacity for 105 staff) with additional space immediately available bringing the total to 3 461 m<sup>2</sup>.</p> <p>It also indicates further future availability of office space to reach a potential total of 6 000 m<sup>2</sup>.</p> <p>The application further describes the characteristics of building 1 (e.g. materials, connectivity and fibre optics). It indicates the availability of 4 high-speed lifts (11-person capacity) for upper floors and 2 additional lifts (8-person capacity) for underground levels.</p>

	<p>The building has 4 high-speed lifts (11-person capacity) for upper floors and 2 additional lifts (8-person) for underground levels.</p> <p>Regarding parking spots, there are two underground parking floors, offering a total of 192 parking spots, out of which 26 will be available for EUCA. Out of these, 20 will be for electrical vehicles and 6 for employees with reduced mobility. These will be complemented with a bicycle parking area hosting up to 32 vehicles. In order to facilitate access to public ways, a wide access ramp will be installed at the back.</p> <p>In terms of security, the building will be equipped with a last generation access control IT system at the lobby. An anti-intrusion system will be implemented through the use of volumetric detectors and magnetic contacts. A CCTV surveillance system will be installed at all building entrances with fixed TV cameras, monitors, and digital video recorders. Lastly, vehicle access control to the parking lot will be available through barriers and card reading equipment.</p> <p>As expected, the building meets regular safety standards, with a last generation fire detection and extinction system. Fire extinguishers will also be available on every floor.</p>	<p>The application indicates the availability of 26 parking spaces (20 for electric cars and 6 for employees with reduced mobility). Access to the parking will be available through barriers and card reading equipment.</p> <p>The application further indicates the security features of building 1 (access control IT system, volumetric detectors, magnetic contacts and CCTV).</p> <p>Lastly, the application indicates the premises compliance with safety standards (fire detection, extinction system).</p>
3) Timeline of the availability of the premises (before fit-out and necessary adaptation works)	The building is ready for January 2026.	The application indicates that building 1 will be ready for January 2026.
4) Estimated time needed for fit-out and adaptation works (expressed in months)	6	The application indicates that 6 months is the estimated time needed for fit-out and adaptation works.
<b>Organisation of the premises</b>		
<i>The size of the EUCA's premises should be at least 6 000 m<sup>2</sup> gross floor area above ground. The Commission proposal provided for a EUCA staff of 250 Full Time Equivalents. The final number of staff will depend on the outcome of the negotiations and may increase.</i>		
1) Total surface of the premises (expressed in m <sup>2</sup> )	6000	The application indicates that the total surface of the premises is 6 000 m <sup>2</sup> .
2) Staff capacity (expressed in maximum number of staff)	507	The application indicates a maximum staff capacity of the premises of 507 staff.
3) Availability of a dedicated meeting room for the executive board (10-15 seats)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a dedicated meeting room for the executive board of 10-15 seats.
4) Availability of a dedicated Management Board room in the secure zone (60-70 seats + at least 30-40 seats in the back)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a dedicated Management Board room in the secure zone of 60-70 seats + at least 30-40 seats in the back.
5) Availability of 'secure room'	Yes	The application indicates that a 'secure room' will be set up and that it will have all the security features required for treating classified information according to EU standards. It indicates that the room will be in a secured area with a visibly defined and protected perimeter (entry/exit through access control systems). The application also indicates that the room will have acoustic shielding and protection against electromagnetic emanations to prevent eavesdropping, as well as an intrusion detection system.
5.1) Description of the security features of the 'secure room' (size and security measures applied)	<p>The secure room will have all the security features required for treating classified information according to EU standards. The room will be located in a secured area with a visibly defined and protected perimeter, where entry and exit are strictly controlled through access control systems. Only authorised individuals with the relevant security clearance will have unescorted access to the room, whilst visitors or non-cleared persons must be escorted at all times.</p> <p>Moreover, the room will have acoustic shielding and protection against electromagnetic emanations to prevent eavesdropping, as well as an intrusion detection system. It will remain locked when not in use and guarded when occupied. Any unapproved portable electronic device will remain outside the room. Security operating procedures will be documented, specifying the maximum classification level that may be handled and security, surveillance and protective measures.</p>	

6) Availability of a medium-sized room (30-35 seats)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a medium-sized room of 30-35 seats.
7) Availability of multiple small-sized rooms (10-15 seats)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of 3 small-sized rooms of 10-15 seats.
7.1) If yes, how many? (*)	3	
8) Availability of state-of-the-art meeting and videoconference facilities in the meeting rooms	Yes, in all of them	The application indicates the availability of state-of-the-art meeting and videoconference facilities in all the meeting rooms.
9) Availability of a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering.
<b>Specific technical requirements for Data Hub, data analysis, risk management and crisis management activities.</b>		
10) Availability of a dedicated, secured and restricted area for 'data management' task (for at least 115 staff)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a dedicated, secured and restricted area for 'data management' tasks for at least 115 staff.
11) Availability of a 24/7 crisis response cell (situation room with capacity for 30 persons)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a 24/7 crisis response cell.
12) Availability of at least two (and ideally three) operational facilities (secure and isolated operational rooms)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of 3 secure and isolated operational rooms serving as operational facilities.
12.1) If yes, how many operational analysis facilities are there? (*)	Three	
13) Availability of a call centre, incident management and service desk facilities in the secured and restricted area	Yes	The application indicates the availability of call centre, incident management and service desk facilities in the secured and restricted area.
14) Description of the availability and capacity of EU sovereign and highly available telecommunications and networking infrastructure with operational redundancy	<p>The availability and capacity of EU-sovereign, highly available telecommunications and networking infrastructure with operational redundancy in Málaga are supported by a mature, resilient, and rapidly expanding digital ecosystem. The region combines strong fibre connectivity, carrier-neutral environments, power redundancy, and proximity to major European and international network routes.</p> <p>" Site resiliency: Málaga hosts multiple operational data centres that demonstrate high site resiliency. Facilities such as Templus (TIER III), the Málaga Data Centre (Aire Group/OASIX), OASIX Rosalind Franklin, ODC, and DataRush provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Multiple and diverse fibre entry routes, ensuring physical path diversification.</li> <li>o Access to a broad ecosystem of Tier 1 and Tier 2 carriers (Aire, Lyntia, Orange, Vodafone, among others).</li> <li>o Power redundancy through N+1 or higher designs; for example, dual UPS (A+B) and 100% renewable power in the case of Templus.</li> <li>o 24/7 monitored environments with advanced security controls, DDoS mitigation, and redundant cooling and power systems.</li> </ul> <p>" Performance and bandwidth capacity: The region offers high-performance connectivity, low-latency links, and scalable bandwidth. Aire Group provides interconnection capabilities of up to <math>N \times 400</math> Gbps and access to major European IXPs (AMS-IX, LINX, DE-CIX, Equinix, ESPANIX). Local operators ensure redundant BGP routing and scalable uplinks (10 GigE and above). These characteristics enable low-latency access to major cloud providers and guarantee the ability to scale bandwidth as required by large-scale operations.</p> <p>" Proximity to Optical Fiber Highways: Málaga benefits from proximity to international optical fibre corridors through submarine cable infrastructure located in its province. The key asset is the MEDUSA Submarine Cable System, which includes a landing point in Manilva (Málaga). MEDUSA is one of the highest-capacity</p>	<p>The application indicates that Málaga provides a mature, resilient, and rapidly expanding digital ecosystem, that is enhanced by strong fibre connectivity, carrier-neutral environments, power redundancy, and proximity to major European and international network routes.</p> <p>Site resiliency: according to the application, the site hosts multiple operational data centres with high site resiliency, which provide diverse fibre entry routes and physical path diversification options, access to Tier 1 and Tier 2 carriers, and advanced security controls, DDoS mitigation, power redundancy (N+1 or higher design) and cooling redundancy.</p> <p>Performance and bandwidth capacity: the application indicates the available high-performance connectivity, scalable bandwidth, and low-latency access to cloud providers.</p> <p>Proximity to Optical Fiber Highways: the application indicates the site's proximity to international optical fibre corridors, such as the MEDUSA Submarine Cable System.</p> <p>Internet presence/proximity to IXPs: the application indicates that the region benefits from direct and redundant connectivity to major European and national Internet Exchange Points through the infrastructure operated by Aire Networks and its carrier-neutral OASIX data centre in Málaga.</p> <p>It also indicates that the region meets European reliability standards (TIER III-level designs), renewable energy integration, and ISO certifications.</p>

	<p>systems planned in the Mediterranean, with up to 24 fibre pairs and links across Southern Europe and North Africa, positioning Málaga close to a major emerging optical "highway." Additionally, Málaga appears in planning documents for projects such as FLAG Europe-Asia (FEA) as a potential point of passage, reflecting its geographic suitability for long-haul connectivity. Combined with terrestrial fibre networks from multiple national carriers, this proximity provides Málaga with scalable bandwidth, as well as potential and diverse long-distance connectivity options.</p> <p>" Internet presence/proximity to IXPs: The region benefits from direct and redundant connectivity to major European and national Internet Exchange Points through the infrastructure operated by Aire Networks and its carrier-neutral OASIX data centre in Málaga. Aire Networks provides established connections to leading IXPs-including AMS-IX, LINX, DE-CIX, Equinix, and ESPANIX-and maintains more than 1,000 national and international interconnection agreements, according to its network specifications. The presence of this infrastructure in Málaga enables access to a broad peering ecosystem, enhances route diversity, and improves the efficiency and resilience of traffic exchange, contributing to lower latency for communications with European destinations.</p> <p>Málaga also demonstrates strong adherence to European reliability standards across its operators with TIER III-level design, N+1 or higher redundancy, renewable energy integration and ISO certifications (9001, 14001, 22301, 27001, 27017, 27018), and scalable power solutions.</p> <p>Finally, Málaga benefits from geopolitical stability, favourable climate conditions, and minimal exposure to extreme natural hazards. Its rapidly growing tech ecosystem-supported by multinational companies such as Google, Vodafone, Globant, EY, and Dekra-ensures access to specialised technical talent and reinforces long-term sustainability for large-scale data operations.</p> <p>To sum up, Málaga provides a highly resilient, scalable, and sovereign EU telecommunications and networking environment with robust operational redundancy. Its combination of fibre diversity, high-capacity infrastructure, and consolidated digital ecosystem positions the region as a highly suitable location for the EUCA.</p>	
15) Description of the available cloud-based data storage network solutions	<p>Málaga stands out as a highly competitive location for hosting a European-scale Backup Data Centre, supported by an existing infrastructure and a consolidated technological ecosystem that has attracted key operators within the sector. Málaga has a solid ecosystem of operational data centres, managed by both national and international operators.</p> <p>Amongst others, Templus has invested 15M€ to triple its capacity of 3 MW, featuring a technical hall (CPD3) of 2,200 m<sup>2</sup>, 40 racks, and an average density of approximately 4.5 kW per rack. It operates at TIER III level and is powered by 100% renewable energy. In addition, a large-scale project is currently under development: Box2Bit, with an estimated investment of €279 million to build a data centre campus in the El Viso industrial area.</p> <p>The existence of this prior technical infrastructure demonstrates stable power supply capacity, high connectivity, redundancy and reliability, commitment to sustainability, scalability and market maturity.</p>	<p>The application indicates that Málaga can host a European-scale Backup Data Centre, thanks to the existing infrastructure and technological ecosystem. The application provides information on investments (e.g. by Templus) that underpin the robustness of the technical ecosystem featuring stable power supply capacity, high connectivity, redundancy and reliability, commitment to sustainability, scalability and market maturity.</p>

16) Internal archives capacity of the premises	Yes	The application indicates that the internal archives capacity of the premises is 120 m <sup>3</sup> .
16.1) Archives volume (expressed in m <sup>3</sup> ) (*)	120	
17) Number of parking spaces (inside and outside) - available for EUCA	26	The application indicates that there are 26 parking spaces and 32 bike parking spaces (inside and outside) available for EUCA.
18) Number of bike parking spaces (inside and outside) - available for EUCA	32	
19) Possibilities for extension of office space in its original premises or the nearby area	Yes	The application indicates the possibility for extension of office space in its original premises or the nearby area by 3 186 m <sup>2</sup> .
19.1) Surface for possible extensions (expressed in m <sup>2</sup> ) (*)	3186	
20) Are the premises EMAS verified?	Yes	The application indicates that the premises are EMAS verified.
21) Description of the premises' sustainability. If not EMAS certified, description of additional national/international sustainability certifications	<p>Overall, the building has been designed to follow the BREEAM standard.</p> <p>The building is equipped with high energy efficiency lighting, which uses low consumption LED technology, allowing for considerable economic savings. The DALI System will be implemented to digitally control LED lighting in the offices, whilst lighting in common areas is centralised. The building has also been designed to make the most out of natural lighting through its high ceilings and curtain walls.</p> <p>On the other hand, each office space has a secondary electrical dashboard which operates independently to the main one, allowing for energy savings. Moreover, the building has a photovoltaic panel installation, generating 40kW for common services.</p> <p>Additionally, the building has a high efficiency hybrid climatization system, which can be managed from the different control systems that will be implemented in common areas. This guarantees adequate comfort levels and a reduction in energy consumption.</p>	<p>The application indicates that building 1 has been designed to follow the BREEAM standard. The building is equipped with energy-efficiency lighting which uses low consumption LED technology. The application also indicates that each office space has a secondary electrical dashboard and the availability of a photovoltaic panel installation on the building. The application further provides information on the efficiency of the hybrid climatisation system.</p>
22) Description of the general compliance with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications of the premises including for environmental, security and safety standards as well as for accessibility for people with disabilities	<p>The premises comply with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications, as well as Spanish national and local legislation. Relevant frameworks include the Código Técnico de Edificación, the Regulation for Thermal Installations in Building, the Andalusian LISTA Law and the Málaga PGOU. These match EU legislations, addressing efficiency, health, safety, and environmental impacts.</p> <p>To start with environmental aspects, the building has a high environmental efficiency, being equipped with LED lighting through DALI, a glazed facade that maximises natural light, a high efficiency VRF HVAC system and a BMS for centralised control. On top of photovoltaic panels which generate 40kW, it has a low energy consumption and has been designed with sustainable materials, incorporating green roofs and walls with indigenous species.</p> <p>In terms of security, the premises are equipped with advanced security systems, including CCTV at access points, digital access control and anti-intrusion system. The building is not linked with neighbouring building and there are no external stairways. The security checkpoint is strategically located to ensure everyone proceeding from car parks to upper floors accesses through it. Lastly, publicly accessible access points are fitted with mechanical opening and closing devices.</p> <p>In reference to safety, fire detection systems and extinguishers have been installed on all floors. The building also has interior emergency staircases and emergency exits remain open in case they need to be used.</p> <p>Lastly, the building is fully accessible for people with disabilities and reduced</p>	<p>The application indicates that the premises comply with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications, as well as Spanish national and local legislation.</p> <p>It provides further information on environmental standards (energy efficiency, HVAC system, BMS, photovoltaic panels, green roofs and walls). It also indicates that the premises are equipped with security systems (CCTV at access points, digital access control and anti-intrusion system) and safety systems (fire detection, extinguishers and interior emergency staircase).</p> <p>Lastly, the application indicates that the premises are accessible for people with disabilities and reduced mobility (reserved parking spaces, elevators across all floors and an evacuation plan for people with reduced mobility).</p>

	<p>mobility, incorporating reserved parking spaces and elevators across all floors. There is at least one automated parking access door, and an access route and corridors with no obstacles that could result problematic for people with impaired vision. Accessible toilets and refuge areas are available on every floor, and the building has an evacuation plan for people with reduced mobility.</p>	
<p>23) Description of the digital security and connectivity features with regard to physical and digital infrastructure, in particular those allowing EUCA to comply with relevant cybersecurity standards and legislation and for all core facilities to implement certified protocols for end-to-end encryption of data, enforce access controls and deploy advanced systems for continuous issue detection, timely reporting and affective response</p>	<p>Málaga has consolidated its position as a technological and innovation hub of reference, and digital security and cybersecurity are fundamental pillars of its city strategy. This approach covers both the protection of public infrastructure and the promotion of a robust business and educational ecosystem in the sector.</p> <p>Málaga's City Council has defined the Málaga City Cybersecurity Strategy as a key roadmap to promote the secure digitalisation of public services. It contemplates challenges and lines of action focused on innovation and data protection.</p> <p>End-to-end data encryption between infrastructures, as well as access controls, are defined particularly each time a new interconnection is required.</p> <p>For municipal services, the detection, notification, and response to cyber incidents is beginning to be provided through the Andalusia Cybersecurity Centre (CIAN), which depends on the Digital Agency of Andalusia (ADA).</p> <p>Málaga not only consumes security, but generates it, thanks to a strong ecosystem of companies, research centres, and training:</p> <p>" Reference Centres:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Andalusia Cybersecurity Centre (CIAN): Located in Málaga, it acts as a meeting point and support for digital security at an autonomous community level and for other public entities subscribed to its SOC services, such as Málaga's City Council.</li> <li>o Google Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC): The presence of Google's cybersecurity centre reinforces Málaga's position as a strategic global node in this area.</li> </ul> <p>" High-Level Training: The University of Málaga (UMA) actively contributes to the creation of qualified talent with a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Degree in Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence: A program that combines training in computer science, AI, and cybersecurity.</li> <li>o University Master's Degree in Cybersecurity: Focused on advanced mechanisms for acquiring cyber intelligence and defending critical infrastructures.</li> </ul> <p>" Business Ecosystem: Numerous local and multinational cybersecurity companies have established their operations in the city, offering specialised solutions in areas such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Security of devices and communications.</li> <li>o Real-time monitoring and incident response.</li> <li>o Security of applications and web/mobile services.</li> </ul> <p>Málaga is making a determined investment to make digital security not just a necessity, but a competitive advantage for its Málaga TechPark and its smart city ecosystem. The combination of a strong public strategy, the presence of international reference centres, and a pipeline of trained talent places it in a leadership position in the Spanish and European cybersecurity landscape.</p>	<p>The application presents Málaga as a technological and innovation hub, where digital security and cybersecurity are pillars of the city strategy, underpinned by the Málaga City Cybersecurity Strategy. The strategy's main features are referenced in the application (e.g. end-to-end data encryption, detection, notification, and response to cyber incidents). The application lists reference centres of local and multinational cybersecurity companies, research centres (Andalusia Cybersecurity Centre and Google Safety Engineering Centre), and refers to the University of Málaga which provides advanced training on computer science, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence.</p>
<p>24) Other</p>	<p>The building is located in the Tabacalera neighbourhood, a growing area in the city. It has a privileged position in the seafront, next to the maritime walk, promoting</p>	<p>The application provides additional information on the premises' location (Tabacalera neighbourhood) and nearby seaside, port, train station, and airport. It also further</p>

	<p>sustainable mobility and with great connections to the airport and high-speed train station. The building is 7 minutes away from the port and the high-speed train station, and 13 minutes away from the airport.</p> <p>The building is characterised by its eminent horizontal design, composed of a succession of three overlaid volumes, creating numerous panoramic terraces. This disposition not only optimises natural lighting, but also adds dynamism to the urban environment, in sync with the building's modern aesthetic.</p> <p>Working spaces have been cautiously designed to offer a healthy work environment which promotes employees' wellbeing. Having wide diaphanous spaces full of natural light and sea views, every corner welcomes inspiration and tranquillity. The continuity between interior spaces and terraces create an open and flowing atmosphere, allowing employees to enjoy outdoor spaces without leaving their work environment. The integration of light, wideness and nature not only improves productivity but also promotes a healthy and balanced work atmosphere.</p> <p>The building represents a perfect combination between sustainability, wellbeing and technology, offering an exceptional work environment by the sea. Its goal is to promote workers' health and wellbeing. It integrates generous exterior spaces, a biophilic design to reduce stress, high quality interior ventilation and a privileged location on the seafront.</p> <p>The building meets the requirements to obtain three certificates: BREEAM Excellent, WELL Gold and WIREDSCORE Gold. This portrays its commitment to the environment's protection, and biodiversity's improvement.</p> <p>Location of the EUCA in Malaga would allow for synergies between:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the EUCA and the Joint Research Center (JRC) in Sevilla on the use of AI regarding the Customs Data Hub and, where appropriate, on the management of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)</li> <li>2. the EUCA and the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), hosted by the EUIPO (EU Intellectual Property Office) in Alicante, regarding customs enforcement of IPR.</li> </ol> <p>In terms of connectivity and strategic positioning, Málaga is located just 140 km away from the Port of the Bay of Algeciras, currently the fourth-largest port in Europe by traffic volume (104.2 million tonnes), and ranked by the World Bank as the most efficient port in the entire continent. This proximity further strengthens the region's access to one of Europe's foremost maritime and logistics gateways.</p>	<p>elaborates on the building characteristics and working spaces.</p> <p>It indicates that the building meets the requirements to obtain three certificates: BREEAM Excellent, WELL Gold and WIREDSCORE Gold.</p> <p>The application also indicates that the location of the EUCA in Málaga would allow for synergies with the Joint Research Centre in Sevilla and the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights, hosted by the EU Intellectual Property Office in Alicante.</p> <p>It also indicates Málaga's proximity (140 km) to the Port of the Bay of Algeciras.</p>
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Financial terms		
1) Description of the financial terms	<p>The Regional Government of Andalusia and the City of Málaga will provide a €12 million subsidy (€2 million/year), paid over six years, to cover rental, refurbishment, maintenance, and other related costs.</p> <p>The lease duration is of ten years, out of which 5 are of mandatory compliance and 5 are optional for the tenant.</p> <p>A proposal has been made to lease the first floor of the building, totalling 1,241.94 m<sup>2</sup> and offering capacity for 105 employees. The cost is €23 per m<sup>2</sup> per month,</p>	<p>The application indicates that the Regional Government of Andalusia and the City of Málaga will provide a subsidy of EUR 12 million (EUR 2 million/year), paid over 6 years, to cover rental, refurbishment, maintenance, and other related costs.</p> <p>The application also indicates that the duration of the lease is 10 years (5 by law + 5 optional).</p> <p>The application indicates that a proposal has been made to lease the first floor of the building (around 1 241 m<sup>2</sup> with capacity for 105 staff). The monthly cost is EUR</p>

	<p>amounting to €28,564.62. In addition, up to 26 parking spaces will be available 24/7 at a cost of €120 per space per month, for a total of €3,120. Altogether, the monthly rental cost of the building amounts to €31,684.62.</p> <p>Further 2,220 m<sup>2</sup> (with prices in line with the original €23 per m<sup>2</sup> per month) can be leased on the floors occupied by the flexible workspace operator. This would increase the total area available for EUCA to 3,461 m<sup>2</sup>, with a total €79.603 per month.</p> <p>Additional space is expected to become available from year three, subject to early lease terminations by current tenants, and from year five as leases reach expiry, potentially bringing the total area available to 6,000 m<sup>2</sup> again with prices in align with market rates at that time. Altogether, the monthly rental cost of the building amounts to €138.000. Adding the parking fee of €3,120, the final amount would be €141,120</p>	<p>23/m<sup>2</sup> (total of around EUR 28 564). 26 parking spaces will be available 24/7 at a monthly cost of EUR 120 per space (total of EUR 3 120). The total cost of the building and the parking is of around EUR 31 684.</p> <p>It also indicates that a further 2 220 m<sup>2</sup> (monthly cost of EUR 23/m<sup>2</sup>) can be leased on other floors. The total area available for EUCA would increase to 3 461 m<sup>2</sup>, with a total monthly cost of the building and parking of EUR 79 603.</p> <p>The application indicates that additional space is expected to become available from year 3, subject to some conditions (early lease terminations by current tenants). From year 5 (as leases reach expiry), this would potentially bring the total area available to 6 000 m<sup>2</sup> (monthly cost of EUR 23/ m<sup>2</sup>) with a total monthly cost of the building + parking of EUR 138 000.</p>
2) Monthly rental cost (expressed in EUR)	141120	The application indicates that the monthly rental cost is EUR 141 120 and that Spain intends to cover the rent for 6 years.
3) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the rent?	Yes	
3.1) Will the applicant Member State cover the rent? (*)	For a given period of time	
3.2) If for a given period of time, for how many years? (*)	6	
4) Monthly maintenance costs (expressed in EUR/m <sup>2</sup> )	4	The application indicates that the monthly maintenance costs are EUR 4/m <sup>2</sup> and that Spain intends to cover the maintenance costs for 6 years.
5) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the maintenance costs?	Yes	
5.1) Will the applicant Member State cover the maintenance costs? (*)	For a given period of time	
5.2) If for a given period of time, for how many years? (*)	6	
6) Fit-out costs (expressed in EUR/m <sup>2</sup> )	800	The application indicates that the fit-out costs are EUR 800/m <sup>2</sup> and that Spain intends to cover the fit-out costs.
7) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the fit-out costs?	Yes	
8) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the cost of future upgrade and extension?	Yes	The application indicates that Spain intends to cover the future upgrade and extension.
8.1) Financial conditions of future upgrades and extensions	<p>The evolution of EUCA's mandate and staffing needs will be fully accommodated. For this matter:</p> <p>1. In the case that EUCA desires to build its own premises, the City of Málaga offers (free of cost) a prime 2,680 m<sup>2</sup> plot of land for EUCA to develop a purpose-built headquarters, with a buildable area of up to 8,819 m<sup>2</sup>. This exceeds EUCA's requirements and ensures ample room to design a facility fully tailored to its needs. The plot is completely flat, significantly simplifying and accelerating construction.</p> <p>2. At the same time, for security and independence reasons, if the EU deems it necessary to have a dedicated building, the city of Málaga is also willing to assist in negotiating the purchase of any of the three proposed buildings, and to occupy any space not used by EUCA in order to guarantee the building's security.</p> <p>It is important to note that the financial costs of any upgrades or extensions will be covered, provided they take place within the first six years of the lease and remain within the allocated €12 million budget.</p>	<p>The application indicates the availability for EUCA of a cost-free plot of land of 2 680 m<sup>2</sup> with a buildable area of up to 8 819 m<sup>2</sup>. It also indicates the city of Málaga's willingness to assist EUCA in negotiating the purchase of any of the three proposed buildings, and to occupy any space not used by EUCA. It also refers to the fact that the financial costs of any upgrades or extensions will be covered, provided they take place within the first six years of the lease and remain within the allocated EUR 12 million subsidy.</p>
9) Duration of the lease (expressed in years)	10	The application indicates that the duration of the lease is 10 years.
10) Financial conditions of termination before the end of the lease	If such termination occurs before the completion of the initial mandatory period (5 years), the tenant shall be obliged to pay the land lord the rent due for the remaining period until the initial mandatory period is completed.	The application indicates that the lease contract, if terminated before the 5 mandatory years, will have to be paid by the tenant until the end of this period.

11) Other	<p>In reference to the area available once the lease agreement has come into effect, which must be within one month since the communication of the availability of the premises, the tenant will pay the higher rent of the following two alternatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>" The rent that the previous tenant was paying as of the contract termination date, added to the CPI corresponding to the previous 12 months.</li> <li>" 23€ per m<sup>2</sup> per month, added to the accumulated CPI from the date on which the contract was signed.</li> </ul>	The application provides additional information on rent (additional costs).
Summary criterion 1	<p><b>The application indicates the availability of 'Ágora', located in Calle Pacífico 24, Málaga, as premises 1, which offers 6 000 m<sup>2</sup> that can host 507 people. The application indicates that parts of the premises (around 1 242 m<sup>2</sup> with capacity for 105 staff) are available from January 2026 with an estimated time for fit-out works of 6 months.</b></p> <p><b>The application indicates the availability of a dedicated meeting room for the executive board of 10-15 seats, a dedicated Management Board room in the secure zone of 60-70 seats + at least 30-40 seats in the back, a medium-sized room of 30-35 seats, 3 small-sized rooms of 10-15 seats. It indicates that state-of-the-art meeting and videoconference facilities are available in all of the meeting rooms. A lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering is available as well as a dedicated, secured and restricted area for 'data management task' for at least 115 staff, a 24/7 crisis response cell, 3 secure and isolated operational rooms serving as operational facilities, a call centre, incident management and service desk facilities in the secured and restricted area. It indicates the availability of 120 m<sup>3</sup> of internal archives capacity, 26 parking spaces and 32 bike parking spaces (inside and outside) available for EUCA. It also indicates the possibility for extension of office space by 3 186 m<sup>2</sup>. The applications indicates that the premises are EMAS verified and that they comply with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications.</b></p> <p><b>The application indicates that a 'secure room' will be set up with all security features (protected perimeter, access control systems, acoustic shielding, protection against electromagnetic emanations, and an intrusion detection system) required for treating classified information according to EU standards. It indicates that Málaga provides a mature and resilient digital ecosystem, supported by strong fibre connectivity, carrier-neutral environments, power redundancy, and proximity to major European and international network routes. According to the application, the site hosts multiple operational data centres with high resiliency, diverse fibre routes, access to Tier 1 and Tier 2 carriers, advanced security controls, DDoS mitigation, power and cooling redundancy. It also offers high-performance, scalable, low-latency connectivity, proximity to international fibre corridors and major Internet Exchange Points, and meets European reliability standards and ISO certifications. Lastly, it indicates that Málaga can host a European-scale Backup Data Centre.</b></p> <p><b>The application indicates that the monthly rental cost is EUR 23/m<sup>2</sup> for the office areas, and EUR 120/unit for the parking spaces. The monthly maintenance costs are EUR 4/m<sup>2</sup> and the fit-out costs are EUR 800/m<sup>2</sup>. The total monthly rental cost for the premises is EUR 141 120. It indicates that the Regional Government of Andalusia and the City of Málaga will provide a subsidy of EUR 12 million (EUR 2 million/year), paid over 6 years, to cover rental, refurbishment, maintenance, and other related costs. The application indicates that the duration of the lease is 5 (mandatory) + 5 (optional) years. The application also indicates the availability of a cost-free plot of land for possible future upgrades.</b></p>	

Criterion 2 – 'Accessibility of the location'		
Sub criteria	Member State answer	Commission assessment
<b>Public transportation</b>	<p>1) Description of the access to air and rail transport linking the location with European capitals</p> <p>Málaga-Costa del Sol Airport is one of the leading air transport hubs in southern Spain, linking Europe with the Mediterranean basin, Africa and the rest of the world. In 2024, the airport operated 275 routes, of which 240 were international, reaching 156 destinations across 38 countries. This vast connectivity offers seamless access to key European capitals and major intercontinental hubs, consolidating Málaga's position as one of the most globally connected cities in Europe.</p> <p>The airport offers reduced travel times and direct connections to 25 EU capitals. Across these capitals, the airport operates 69 routes with an average of 24 weekly flights. The top 6 EU capitals with the highest flight frequency are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>" Amsterdam: 77 weekly flights, 3h 05min.</li> <li>" Paris: 70 weekly flights, 2h 35min.</li> <li>" Dublin: 57 weekly flights, 3h 05min.</li> <li>" Brussels: 47 weekly flights, 2h 40min.</li> </ul>	<p>The application indicates that Málaga-Costa del Sol Airport is an air transport hub in southern Spain, linking Europe with the Mediterranean basin, Africa and the rest of the world. In 2024, the airport operated 275 routes, of which 240 were international, reaching 156 destinations across 38 countries. It also indicates that this connectivity offers access to 25 EU capitals such as Amsterdam (3h05), Paris (2h35), Dublin (3h05), Brussels (2h40), Copenhagen (3h35) and Rome (2h35).</p> <p>The application also provides information on Spain's high-speed rail network. It indicates that Málaga María Zambrano Station is located in the city centre and that it is less than 3h away from Madrid with over 10 daily services. It also refers to connections to other Spanish cities (Barcelona, Valencia, and Seville) as well as EU capitals (Paris and Lisbon).</p>

	<p>" Copenhagen: 34 weekly flights, 3h 35min. " Rome: 30 weekly flights, 2h 35min.</p> <p>In addition, Spain has the 2nd largest high-speed rail network in the world, and the 1st in the EU. Thus, Málaga offers excellent high-speed mobility through the Málaga María Zambrano Station, located in the city centre. It is less than 3h away from Madrid by train and has over 10 daily services. It is also well-connected with other Spanish cities such as Barcelona, Valencia or Seville. Moreover, travellers from cities such as Paris or Lisbon can reach Spain by high-speed train, via Barcelona or Madrid, and continue their journey smoothly to Málaga on the AVE network.</p> <p>Building upon these national connections, Málaga also benefits from its strategic position in the Mediterranean Corridor - a major infrastructure project running along Spain's Mediterranean coastline. Currently under development, the Mediterranean Corridor will be a double-track, high-speed line with international gauge, linking Algeciras (near Málaga) to the wider European rail network.</p>	<p>Finally, it refers to the Mediterranean Corridor, an infrastructure project under development which is to run along Spain's Mediterranean coastline and link Algeciras (near Málaga) to the wider European rail network.</p>
2) Availability and types of public transport connections from the closest international airport to the premises	Train, Bus	The application indicates the availability of train and bus connections from the closest international airport to the premises.
Frequency of train connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	20	The application indicates that the frequency of train connections is 20 minutes, and the duration is 12 minutes.
Duration of train connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	12	
Frequency of bus connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	25	The application indicates that the frequency of bus connections is 25 minutes, and the duration is 25 minutes.
Duration of bus connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	25	
3) Availability and types of public transport connections from the closest international/national train station or other transport hub to the premises	Metro, Bus	The application indicates the availability of metro and bus connections from the closest international/national train station or other transport hub to the premises.
Frequency of metro connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	20	The application indicates that the frequency of metro connections is 20 minutes, and the duration is 5 minutes.
Duration of metro connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	5	
Frequency of bus connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	10	The application indicates that the frequency of bus connections is 10 minutes, and the duration is 20 minutes.
Duration of bus connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	20	
4) Other	<p>Málaga exhibits a high level of overall accessibility, derived from its strategic position along the Mediterranean corridor and its direct integration within the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T). The city's road access system is organised around a hierarchical network of corridors that ensure efficient regional and metropolitan connectivity. Average travel times by road from the metropolitan belt (10-25 km radius) range between 15 and 30 minutes, depending on time and traffic density.</p> <p>Moreover, Málaga demonstrates a strong and ongoing commitment to sustainable mobility, reflected in the implementation of its Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. Key milestones achieved so far include the extension of the metro network to the historic centre, the creation of more than 40 km of cycling lanes, the introduction of electric and hybrid buses within the EMT fleet, and the progressive implementation of a Low Emission Zone in the city centre.</p> <p>The Málaga Metro is a central component of the city's sustainable urban mobility framework. Comprising two lines (L1 and L2) and approximately 15 km of track, the metro network links key residential areas, the city centre, the university, and major transport hubs such as María Zambrano station.</p>	<p>The application refers to the Mediterranean corridor (see above question 1) and to the Trans-European Transport Network. It also provides information on the average travel times (15 to 30 minutes) by road from the metropolitan belt (10-25 km radius).</p> <p>It also refers to sustainable mobility (reflected in the implementation of the Málaga Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan): extension of the metro network, cycling lanes, electric and hybrid buses and a progressive implementation of a Low Emission Zone in the city centre. It indicates that the metro network and the cycling lanes connect residential areas, the city centre, the university and the station.</p>

	Alternatively, Málaga's cycling network connects the city centre with residential districts, university campuses, and business areas, integrating the city within the metropolitan corridor.	
<b>Accommodation facilities in the vicinity of the premises (within 3 km)</b>		
1) Number of 3 star hotels in the vicinity of the premises	14	The application indicates the presence of 14 three-star hotels in the vicinity of the premises.
2) Number of 4 star hotels in the vicinity of the premises	24	The application indicates the presence of 24 four-star hotels in the vicinity of the premises.
3) Number of 5 star hotels in the vicinity of the premises	2	The application indicates the presence of 2 five-star hotels in the vicinity of the premises.
4) Description of available facilities for events and conferences outside EUCA premises	<p>Málaga has firmly consolidated its position as a premier city for international meetings and events. The Trade Fair and Congress Centre of Málaga (FYCMA) is the city's flagship venue. With a capacity of 20,000 people, it offers versatile and fully equipped spaces that meet the highest standards of quality and functionality. Its flexible infrastructure allows organizers to tailor each venue to their specific requirements, positioning Málaga as a central hub for professional gatherings in Southern Europe. Its facilities include 2 auditoriums, 2 conference rooms, 17 multipurpose rooms and 2 exhibition halls. In addition, FYCMA offers a comprehensive range of services designed to ensure the success of every event, including stands, catering, advertising media, host team, communication and audiovisuals.</p> <p>Some other available premises are the Picasso Museum of Málaga, the Museum of Automobiles and Fashion, Limonero House, Victoria Place, La Panorámica, and diverse hotel venues.</p>	<p>The application refers to Málaga as a city for international meetings and events. It indicates the availability of the Trade Fair and Congress Centre with a capacity of 20 000 people and whose facilities include 2 auditoriums, 2 conference rooms, 17 multipurpose rooms and 2 exhibition halls. It also provides additional information on a range of services that could be provided (stands, catering, advertising media, host team, communication and audiovisuals).</p> <p>In addition, the application refers to other available venues: the Picasso Museum of Málaga, the Museum of Automobiles and Fashion, Limonero House, Victoria Place and La Panorámica.</p>
5) Other	Alongside its physical infrastructure, Málaga has developed a resilient digital ecosystem, supported by next-generation data centres, high-speed broadband and sustainable communication networks. Its infrastructure combines an extensive fibre-optic backbone with widespread Fibre-to-the-Home deployment. Additionally, Málaga's mobile network comprises 452 base stations across the municipality, ensuring strong 4G coverage and a fast-expanding 5G rollout, reinforced with over 3,300 antennas.	The application refers to Málaga resilient digital ecosystem, supported by data centres, high-speed broadband and sustainable communication networks. It also provides information on fibre-optic and 5G.
<b>Summary criterion 2</b>	<p><b>The application indicates the availability of train connections (20 min frequency and 12 min duration) and of bus connections (25 min frequency and 25 min duration) from the closest international airport to the premises and the availability of metro connections (20 min frequency and 5 min duration) and of bus connections (10 min frequency and 20 min duration) from the closest train station. It indicates that Málaga's airport operates direct flights to 25 EU capitals and that it is connected by direct train to Madrid (under 3 h), other Spanish cities (Barcelona, Valencia, Seville) and EU capitals (Paris, Lisbon). It also provides information on road connections and sustainable mobility (metro and bike lanes).</b></p> <p><b>The application indicates in the vicinity of the premises the presence of 14 three-star hotels, 24 four-star hotels and 2 five-star hotels. It provides information on the presence of the Trade Fair and Congress Centre that can accommodate up to 20 000 people, and of cultural venues, which can also accommodate meetings and events.</b></p>	

<b>Criterion 3 – ‘Existence of adequate education facilities for the children of EUCA’s staff’</b>		
<b>Sub criteria</b>	<b>Member State answer</b>	<b>Commission assessment</b>
1) Number of nurseries	429	The application indicates the presence of 429 nurseries.
2) Language options offered by nurseries	French, German, Spanish, English	The application indicates that English, French, German and Spanish are the languages offered by the nurseries.

<p>3) Additional information concerning nurseries (names, location, capacity, language options offered, etc.)</p>	<p>Out of the 429 nurseries in the province, 421 offer bilingual or multilingual care, incorporating curricula in English, French, German and Chinese. Bilingual nurseries are spread across Málaga's province and vary in size, ranging from smaller schools accommodating around 35 students to larger institutions with capacity for nearly 650 children.</p> <p>In the city alone, there are 164 nurseries, out of which 161 have bilingual programmes in English and 2 offer multilingual options. Some of these include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>" Escuela Infantil Olivitos de San Agustín: multilingual programme (Spanish, English and French), it also offers preschool education.</li> <li>" Escuela Infantil El Osito Carlos: multilingual programme (Spanish, English and French), it also offers preschool education.</li> <li>" Escuela Infantil Santa María Goretti: bilingual programme (Spanish and English).</li> <li>" Escuela Infantil La Mariquita: bilingual programme (Spanish and English).</li> <li>" Escuela Infantil Don Pablito: bilingual programme (Spanish and English).</li> <li>" Escuela Infantil San Juan de Ávila: bilingual programme (Spanish and English).</li> <li>" Escuela Infantil La Casita de Peque: bilingual programme (Spanish and English), it also offers preschool education.</li> <li>" Escuela Infantil Wake-Up Nursery: bilingual programme (Spanish and English), it also offers preschool education.</li> <li>" Escuela Infantil Lili &amp; Lala: bilingual programme (Spanish and English).</li> <li>" Escuela Infantil Green Tree English Nursery: bilingual programme (Spanish and English), it also offers preschool education.</li> </ul> <p>Additionally, there exist numerous alternatives dispersed throughout the province. Most particularly, it is worth noting that Escuela Infantil Salliver, which is located in Fuengirola, offers a multilingual programme integrating Spanish, English, German and Chinese. This institution provides preschool as well as nursery education and has capacity for over 625 students.</p>	<p>The application indicates that 421 nurseries (164 in the city) offer bilingual or multilingual care in English, French, German and Chinese. It also adds that bilingual nurseries are spread across Málaga's province and vary in size (from 35 to 650 children). The application provides further information on some of these schools: names and language option offered.</p>
<p>4.1) Availability and number of multilingual, European-oriented schooling (including European, European accredited and international schools)</p>	<p>Málaga's educational opportunities are adapted to provide a diverse environment, welcoming nationalities from all around the world. The province has 113 international schools that follow international curricula, offering a broad range of possibilities in terms of degree options. In these institutions, lessons are taught in a foreign language, and students obtain a diploma from their national system of choice. Some of these schools are also sponsored by foreign governments, although not having this association is no impediment to follow foreign curricula. International schools are open to students from all nationalities.</p> <p>Málaga's international schools provide students with access to different recognitions, depending on the international institution they attend. These include Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), International Primary Curriculum (IPC), the US Student Plan or the UK Student Plan (including IGCSEs and A-Levels), among many other options. In addition, classes are taught in French, English, German, Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish, and Russian.</p> <p>Overall, up to nine different curricula are offered by international schools in seven different languages of instruction. Satisfaction rates are notably high, with an average satisfaction rating of 4.98/5 for the top five international schools in the province.</p> <p>On the other hand, Málaga also has 232 bilingual and multilingual schools, reflecting the importance of languages in the Spanish education system. These institutions</p>	<p>The application indicates that the province of Málaga has 113 international schools (9 international curricula with a range of degree options) which are open to students from all nationalities. It provides further information on the schools' recognitions: Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), International Primary Curriculum (IPC) and the US Student Plan or the UK Student Plan (including IGCSEs and A-Levels).</p> <p>The application also indicates the availability of 232 bilingual (Spanish + English, French or German), and multilingual schools in Málaga.</p>

	follow the official Spanish curriculum but ensure that at least 50% of subjects are taught in a foreign language (English, French or German), combining language with content learning. Bilingual schools can also enable students to obtain a curriculum or language proficiency certificates of the language studied alongside Spanish.	
4.2) Language options offered by the European, European accredited and international schools (*)	Finnish, French, German, Spanish, English, Swedish	The application indicates that English, Finnish, French, German, Spanish, and Swedish are the languages offered by the international schools.
4.3) Additional information concerning European, European accredited and international schools (names, location, capacity, language options offered, etc.) (*)	<p>24 International schools to host more than 11000 students. Some of the most relevant international schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>" Lycée Français International Málaga:</li> <li>" The British School of Málaga:</li> <li>" Yago School Málaga:</li> <li>" Novaschool Añoreta:</li> <li>" Torrequebrada International College</li> <li>" The Benalmádena International College:</li> <li>" Den Norske Skolen Málaga:</li> <li>" Aurinkorannikon Suomalainen Koulu</li> <li>" Aloha College Marbella:</li> <li>" Svenska Skolan Marbella:</li> <li>" Brave Generation Academy:</li> <li>" The English International College</li> <li>" The British International School of Marbella</li> <li>" Swans International School</li> <li>" École Français Internationale Marbella</li> <li>" Laude San Pedro International College.</li> <li>" Deutsche Schule Málaga</li> <li>" The American College in Spain</li> <li>" Calpe School.</li> <li>" The International School of Estepona.</li> <li>" Atlas American School</li> <li>" Sotogrande International School</li> <li>" Eureka Russian School Marbella: it follows the Russian curriculum.</li> </ul> <p>12 Bilingual and Plurilingual Schools. Some examples include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>" Instituto de Educación Secundaria Cánovas del Castillo</li> <li>" Instituto de Educación Secundaria Christine Picasso:</li> <li>" Instituto de Educación Secundaria Litoral:</li> <li>" Centro Internacional María Montessori:</li> <li>" Colegio Sierra Blanca-El Romeral:</li> <li>" International Montessori School Caracoliris (IMSC):</li> <li>" Colegio de Educación Infantil y Primaria San Sebastián:</li> <li>" Colegio de Educación Infantil y Primaria Flor de Azahar:</li> <li>" Colegio de Educación Infantil y Primaria Atenea:</li> <li>" Instituto de Educación Secundaria Jorge Guillén</li> <li>" Colegio de Educación Infantil y Primaria Narixa School</li> <li>" Instituto de Educación Secundaria Mediterráneo</li> </ul>	The application indicates the availability of 24 international schools which can host more than 11 000 students. It also indicates the availability of 12 bilingual and plurilingual schools. The application provides further information on some of these schools, including names and language options offered.
5) Number of higher education facilities (university level or equal)	11	The application indicates the presence of 11 higher education facilities of university level or equal.
6) Language options offered by the higher education facilities	Spanish, English	The application indicates that English and Spanish are the languages offered by the higher education facilities.
7) Description of higher education facilities (Universities and academic disciplines)	Málaga's universities offer a diverse, complementary and competitive degree range, together with study abroad opportunities through international partnerships. The province has 5 world class universities: 1 state-led, 3 private, and 1 international.	The application provides information on 5 of Málaga's universities: 1 state-led, 3 private, and 1 international.

	<p>These provide a great range of on-campus facilities, including innovation and tech hubs, medical research labs, linguistic services and sport facilities. Moreover, all degrees taught in Málaga's universities follow the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).</p> <p>The University of Málaga is the leading state university in the city, hosting 35,820 students. Being best known for healthcare and STEM degrees, it has 17 faculties, and offers 77 undergraduate degrees, 78 master degrees, and 22 doctorate degrees.</p> <p>On the other hand, private universities altogether have an aggregation of 11 faculties, and offer 50 undergraduate degrees, 37 master degrees and 2 doctorate degrees. Alfonso X the Wise University (UAX) - Mare Nostrum is best known for technology and business, as well as healthcare and life sciences. It ranks first in Spain for graduate employability and is among the top 10 worldwide for graduates working in their field. The European University of Andalusia (UEA) is best known for its education, design and creativity programmes. Its student body is composed of 110 nationalities, and it has an employability rate of 93.5%. The Atlantic Mediterranean Technological University (UTAMED), which is located in the Málaga TechPark, offers a full online programme, with the purpose of closing the breach between higher education and the real-working world's demands.</p> <p>Lastly, the Marbella International University Centre is a global academic institution which enjoys an exclusive partnership with the University of West London, through which students can acquire a UK degree. It provides a learning experience based on a career-oriented curriculum and dynamic programmes, all of which are exclusively taught in English.</p>	<p>It provides further information on the University of Málaga which can host 35 820 students and has 17 faculties with 77 undergraduate degrees, 78 master's degrees, and 22 doctorate degrees. All these degrees follow the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).</p> <p>It indicates that private universities altogether have 11 faculties, and offer 50 undergraduate degrees, 37 master's degrees and 2 doctorate degrees. The application provides further information on the private universities as names and subjects' specialisations.</p> <p>Lastly, the application refers to the Marbella International University Centre which has a partnership with the University of West London, through which students can acquire a UK degree taught in English.</p>
8) Other	<p>Complementary to universities' offerings, Málaga is home to six of the most globally renowned business schools, offering a wide scope of programmes (ranging from MBA to cutting-edge training for the corporate world).</p> <p>" San Telmo Business School: top 1 in the world for the food sector.  " ESSCA Málaga: part of the exclusive 1% Triple Crown business schools in the world.  " Les Roches Marbella: top 2 in the QS World University ranking by subject in Hospitality and Leisure Management.</p>	<p>The application indicates the availability of business schools, offering MBA programmes and trainings for the corporate world.</p>
<b>Summary criterion 3</b>	<p><b>The application indicates the presence of 421 nurseries providing education in English, French, German and Spanish. It also indicates the availability of 113 international schools providing education in English, Finnish, French, German, Spanish, and Swedish. The application indicates the presence of 11 higher education facilities which provide education in English and Spanish.</b></p>	

<b>Criterion 4 – 'Appropriate access to the labour market, social security and medical care for both children and spouses'</b>		
<b>Sub criteria</b>	<b>Member State answer</b>	<b>Commission assessment</b>
1) Number of hospitals available in the vicinity of the premises	32	The application indicates the presence of 32 hospitals in the vicinity of the premises.
2) Description of access to medical care (access to hospitals and other medical facilities, doctors, spoken languages, etc.)	<p>The Spanish National Health System provides universal, high-quality, and free healthcare services for EUCA employees and their families. To access the Spanish health system, every resident must apply and obtain the Spanish Health Insurance card, which gives the card holder access to the entire universal and free Spanish healthcare network.</p> <p>The system is structured in four main care units: primary, specialised, hospital and urgent care. Primary care serves as the entry point, offering general medicine,</p>	<p>The application indicates that the Spanish National Health System will provide universal and free healthcare services for EUCA employees and their families as long as they are registered as residents in Spain. It further indicates the need for EUCA staff to request a Spanish Health Insurance card, which gives the card holder access to the entire universal and free Spanish healthcare network. The application further details the Spanish healthcare system which is structured in four main care units: primary, specialised, hospital and urgent care. It also indicates that every citizen is assigned to a General Practitioner in their local Health Centre.</p>

	<p>paediatrics and nursing services, among others. Each citizen is assigned to a General Practitioner in their local Health Centre, ensuring personalized attention. In the city of Málaga alone, there are 30 Primary Care Centres.</p> <p>Specialised care covers advanced diagnosis, therapeutic procedures and surgical services that require the intervention of medical specialists. Patients are referred by primary care professionals as needed, and these services are delivered in Specialist Centres and hospitals. Málaga has 32 hospitals, both public and private, covering all medical and surgical specialisations. In Málaga, there are 5.27 doctors per 1,000 residents above the EU's average of 4.06.</p> <p>Emergency and urgent care services are available 24 hours a day, both in Primary Care Centres (Urgent Care Units) and public hospitals. This structure ensures immediate response to medical emergencies, supported by ambulance networks and specialised emergency departments.</p> <p>The Andalusian Healthcare Service provides the <i>Salud Responde</i> initiative, which offers 24/7 remote translation in 46 languages. This service is available year-round to both professionals and users at all primary care centres and public hospitals across Málaga.</p> <p>In addition to this initiative, Málaga's private hospitals and clinics offer multilingual support, with doctors available who, besides Spanish, also speak languages like English, French, Arabic, Italian or Portuguese, among other languages.</p>	<p>The application indicates that Málaga's 32 hospitals are both public and private and that there are 5.27 doctors per 1 000 residents.</p> <p>It also indicates that the Andalusian Healthcare Service provides the <i>Salud Responde</i> initiative, which offers 24/7 remote translation in 46 languages.</p> <p>The application finally indicates that Málaga's private hospitals and clinics offer multilingual support, with doctors speaking English, French, Italian or Portuguese, and Arabic in addition to Spanish.</p>
3) Description of access to medical care and social security for EUCA children and spouses not covered by the EU Staff Regulations (benefits, conditions, assistance, etc.)	<p>Any European resident in Málaga can benefit from full and unlimited treatment in the Spanish health system. This means that the children and spouses of EUCA's staff can have free access to medical care and social security as long as they are registered as residents. To do so, they must apply and obtain the Spanish Health Insurance card, which can be acquired at any primary care centre in Andalusia.</p> <p>In addition to universal healthcare, Spain provides a broad range of social services available to all residents, along with targeted monetary benefits for specific groups depending on their circumstances:</p> <p>" Maternity and paternity benefits: after childbirth or adoption, each parent is entitled to a legally established parental leave period of 19 weeks. In addition, they receive a financial benefit to compensate for the loss of income resulting from this interruption of work.</p> <p>" Elderly and dependent care services: some services include remote assistance, ensuring safety and comfort 24 hours a day, with at-home or in-centre care available both day and night, travel support or specific discounts for transport and other activities.</p> <p>" Social services for people with disabilities: a wide range of services are available for people with disabilities, including specialised transport, employment, inclusion programmes, healthcare services and initiatives to promote personal autonomy. This group of people may also obtain an official disability recognition certificate, which provides access to dedicated resources.</p> <p>" Support for large and single-parent families: financial assistance is available for university education and extracurricular activities in the public sector, as well as</p>	<p>The application provides information on Spain's range of social services available to all residents and targeted monetary benefits for specific groups. Information is provided on: maternity and paternity benefits (parental leave period of 19 weeks), elderly and dependent care services, social services for people with disabilities and support for large and single-parent families.</p>

	<p>discounts and reductions on housing cost and public services (water, electricity, etc.), public transport and cultural visits, such as museums.</p> <p>All in all, Málaga's social services are structured to support individuals, families, and communities facing difficult personal or social circumstances.</p>	
4) Situation of the national labour market and its capacity to offer international job opportunities (number and capacity of international companies acting in the region) for children and spouses of EUCA staff	<p>Spain is home to over 18,300 foreign-owned companies, which play a key role in driving economic growth, creating jobs and fostering the transfer of international expertise and best practices. According to Forbes, 70% of the world's top 100 companies have a presence in Spain. Out of the total number of foreign companies, Andalusia hosts over 3,171 of them, originating from 80 countries. Málaga region stands out as the main destination for these foreign investments, hosting more than half of these firms. The city alone hosts 111 international companies from 28 countries, which generated 8,000 new jobs from 2019 to 2024. Overall, the province attracted 383.4M€ in foreign investment last year, representing 42% of Andalusia's total FDI, whilst the city attracted 134M€ in 2023, marking a growth of 37% compared to the previous year. In addition, there are another 1,282 foreign-owned companies, headquartered in other Spanish regions, but which operate branches in Andalusia.</p> <p>In particular, Málaga has become a major economic and technological hub in southern Europe, thanks largely to the Málaga Valley innovation ecosystem. Málaga Valley brings together over 180 digital companies, startups, and innovation centres across various sectors, reinforcing the city's position as a leading centre for entrepreneurship and creative industries.</p> <p>Notably, this ecosystem includes leading international firms in cybersecurity, microelectronics, and artificial intelligence, as well as innovative local businesses and the Málaga TechPark.</p> <p>Málaga TechPark further enhances the city's reputation in technology and innovation. It stands out as a model of successful collaboration between public, private, and academic sectors. The park hosts 715 companies—including 72 foreign firms—and employs nearly 28,000 people, with an annual turnover of over €4.1 billion, underlining Málaga's leading role in technological development in Europe.</p>	<p>The application indicates that in Spain there are over 18 300 foreign-owned companies. It refers to the presence of over 180 digital companies, startups, and innovation centres across various sectors like cybersecurity, microelectronics, and artificial intelligence. The application also provides information on the Málaga TechPark which hosts 715 companies—including 72 foreign firms—and employs nearly 28 000 people. The application indicates that Málaga hosts 111 international companies from 28 countries, which generated 8 000 new jobs from 2019 to 2024. In addition, there are another 1 282 foreign-owned companies, headquartered in other Spanish regions, but which operate branches in Andalusia.</p>
5) Availability of services assisting expatriates and foreign nationals in seeking jobs	<p>Málaga has developed support platforms that reinforce its attractiveness for remote professionals and provide services assisting expatriates and foreign nationals in job seeking. This facilitates their integration into the local economy and professional community. Among them is Málaga WorkBay, a pioneering initiative created to facilitate the arrival and integration of digital nomads and international workers. The Málaga WorkBay offers practical information on the city's housing, administrative procedures, workspaces, social life or technological companies' network. This platform works as an active community, connecting entrepreneurs, startups and local companies, and generating synergies and opportunities for collaboration in an open and innovative environment.</p> <p>On the other hand, a soft-landing service will be available for EUCA's employees, with the purpose of ensuring a smooth arrival. This service is divided in three stages: pre-landing, landing and integration.</p> <p>The pre-landing stage starts following the announcement of EUCA's location and includes a Welcome Desk service, as well as personal interviews with each employee. This stage produces a welcome pack with a customised and personalised plan and</p>	<p>The application provides information on Málaga's support platforms (e.g. Málaga WorkBay) to reinforce its attractiveness for remote professionals and provide services assisting expatriates and foreign nationals in their job search. It indicates that these platforms also offer practical information on the city's housing, administrative procedures, workspaces, social life or tech-jobs network.</p> <p>It also indicates that a soft-landing service will be available for EUCA's employees, divided in three stages (pre-landing, landing and integration). It further elaborates on the services (e.g. welcome desk and housing support) that would be provided. The application lastly indicates that EUCA's staff will receive assistance for the first year following their landing.</p>

	<p>itinerary, and bundles and benefits such as personal tickets for public transport. The second stage (landing) provides housing support service, management of educational options, and most importantly, a labour market profiling service for EUCA's employees' partners. It also helps process all administrative procedures such as residence and work permits and offers informational sessions on relevant aspects of the city.</p> <p>Lastly, EUCA's staff will receive assistance for the first year following their landing to guarantee a smooth adaptation. During this Integration phase, employees will have volunteers at their disposal, who will assist them and show them Málaga through the eyes of a local.</p>	
6) Other	<p>Málaga has been recognised by Great Place to Work with a dedicated ranking for its companies, a unique distinction that highlights the strengths of the local work ecosystem. It has become one of the world's most attractive destinations for remote work and digital nomads, due to its dynamic lifestyle, strong technological infrastructure, and its supportive environment for professionals. Málaga is ranked as the third best city in the world for remote work in 2025 by Savills Executive Nomad Index.</p>	<p>The application provides further information on Málaga's work attractiveness, notably for remote professionals.</p>
Summary criterion 4	<p><b>The application indicates the presence of 32 public and private hospitals in the vicinity of the premises. It also indicates that EUCA employees and their families, registered as residents in Spain, will receive universal and free healthcare through the Spanish National Health System upon obtaining a Spanish Health Insurance card. It provides information on the system, which is structured into four main care units, and indicates that each patient is assigned a General Practitioner. It indicates that the Andalusian Healthcare Service offers a 24/7 remote translation service in 46 languages. It also indicates that Spain provides a range of social services for residents, including 19 weeks of maternity/paternity leave, and support for the elderly, disabled, and specific family types.</b></p> <p><b>The application indicates that Spain hosts over 18 300 foreign-owned companies. It provides information on Málaga's attraction of foreign investment as well as on the Málaga TechPark employing nearly 28 000 people. It also indicates that Málaga offers support platforms (e.g., Málaga WorkBay) to assist expatriates and remote professionals with job seeking, housing, and administrative procedures. It indicates that a soft-landing service will be available for EUCA staff for their first year to ensure a smooth arrival and integration.</b></p>	

<b>'Geographical balance'</b>		
	<b>Member State answer</b>	<b>Commission assessment</b>
Description	<p>The Common Approach annexed to the European Parliament, Council and Commission Joint Statement of 19 July 2012, recalls Member States' agreement on the 'desirability for the geographical spread' of agencies. Yet most agencies remain concentrated in Northern and Central Europe, leaving the South-Western region underrepresented.</p> <p>The geographical distribution of European institutions and their agencies results in the majority being concentrated in Central European countries, linked by the France-Germany-BENELUX axis. Only 6 out of 35 (17%) EU decentralised agencies are located on, or nearby, the entire European Mediterranean coast, whilst 11 out of 35 (31%) EU decentralised agencies are located within a 350-kilometer radius of Brussels. In particular, although Spain is the 4th economy in the Eurozone, it hosts none EU institutions seats on its territory.</p> <p>Spain offers efficient administration, political stability, and high-quality public services that ensure all operational and logistical needs are fully met from day one. Location of the EUCA in Malaga would allow for synergies with the Joint Research Center and EUIPO.</p> <p>Málaga-a city with no existing EU agencies-offers a strategic, well-connected, and</p>	<p>The application refers to the Common Approach annexed to the European Parliament, Council and Commission Joint Statement of 19 July 2012, which recalls Member States' agreement on the 'desirability for the geographical spread' of agencies.</p> <p>The application also indicates that most EU decentralised agencies remain concentrated in Northern and Central Europe, leaving the South-Western region underrepresented. It indicates that 6 out of 35 EU decentralised agencies are located on, or nearby, the European Mediterranean coast, whilst 11 out of 35 EU decentralised agencies are located within a 350-kilometer radius of Brussels.</p> <p>It also indicates that Spain does not host any seat of an EU institution and that Málaga does not host an agency. It finally indicates that the presence of the EUCA would allow for synergies with the Joint Research Centre in Seville and the EUIPO in Alicante.</p>

	<p>innovation-driven location for a new EU body. As a growing hub for global trade and technology, Málaga provides ideal conditions to attract talent and support modern customs operations. In terms of connectivity and strategic positioning, Málaga is located just 140 km away from the Port of the Bay of Algeciras.</p> <p>Assigning the city of Málaga to host a new agency would respond to the Member States' agreement on the 'desirability for the geographical spread' of agencies and send the message that the EU, in the pursuit of a balanced distribution, gives greater prominence in this field to Southern EU countries.</p>	
<b>Summary</b>	<p><b>The application refers to the Common Approach, which recalls Member States' agreement on the 'desirability for the geographical spread' of agencies. It indicates that Spain does not host any seat of an EU institution and that Málaga does not host an agency. It also refers to EUCA's possible synergies with the Joint Research Centre in Seville and the EUIPO in Alicante.</b></p>	

<b>Any benefits granted in addition to Protocol 7</b>		
	<b>Member State answer</b>	<b>Commission assessment</b>
1) Does the applicant Member State offer additional privileges?	Yes	The application indicates that Spain would offer additional privileges to EUCA staff, in particular Spain will grant the Executive Director of EUCA full diplomatic immunity, as enjoyed by the directors of diplomatic representations in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations signed on April 18th, 1961.
1.1) If yes, which ones? (*)	<p>By submitting this application for the city of Málaga to host EUCA, the Spanish government commits to concluding a headquarters agreement with EUCA, incorporating the offers outlined in this dossier. The agreement between the Spanish government and the Joint Research Centre (JRC) in Seville, which concluded on June 30th, 2025, can serve as a basis for the agreement to be concluded with EUCA. It will grant the Executive Director of EUCA full diplomatic immunity, as enjoyed by the directors of diplomatic representations in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations signed on April 18th, 1961.</p> <p>Further privileges, like those provided for in the JRC Agreement, will include appropriate measures to remit or refund the amount of certain indirect taxes or sales taxes. In sum, all provisions contained in the JRC Agreement can be applied to the headquarters agreement with EUCA.</p>	<p>In addition, the application indicates the possibility to use the JRC agreement, in which measures to remit or refund the amount of certain indirect taxes or sales taxes are contained, as a basis for the EUCA headquarters agreement.</p>

<b>Headquarters Agreement</b>		
Applicant Member State's commitment to confirming the conditions included in the application in a future headquarters agreement with EUCA	Member State answer	Commission assessment
Yes		The application indicates that Spain commits to confirm the conditions included in the application in a future headquarters agreement with EUCA.

<b>Do you propose other premises (2)?</b>		
Do you propose other premises (2)?	Member State answer	Commission assessment
<b>Criterion 1 – 'The date on which EUCA can become operational on site after the entry into force of the Regulation'</b>		
Sub criteria	Member State answer	Commission assessment
<b>Building 2</b>		
<b>Availability of the premises</b>		
1) Adress of the proposed premises (Building 2)	Paseo Martiricos 32	The application indicates that the address for building 2 is Paseo Martiricos 32.
2) General description of the proposed premises	The building, named NOA, will have a total surface of 9,805m <sup>2</sup> , distributed across 7 floors. It will feature terraces on every floor, totalling up to 3,666m <sup>2</sup> in outdoor terraces, and a rooftop of 1,077m <sup>2</sup> . Out of these, 4 floors will be destined for EUCA.	The application indicates the availability of building 2, named NOA. The building has a total surface of 9 805 m <sup>2</sup> , distributed across 7 floors, including terraces on every floor and a rooftop. Out of these, 4 floors will be destined for EUCA.

	<p>More specifically, the building has been designed with a continuous glass envelope, maximising natural lighting and views. The modular façade will be composed of 3-4m by 1.5m modules. Its double glazing will be made up of an 8mm tempered safety glass on the exterior, with a selective magnetronic coating for solar control, low emissivity, and a laminated safety glass classified as 1B1, 5+5.1 on the interior glass, separated by a 16mm argon-filled cavity at 90%. The glass will have a high acoustic performance, providing significant airborne noise attenuation. The building will be sun-protected with its large terraces acting as a brise-soleil, and will have a pre-installation of conduits for motorised blinds. It will offer a 3m height in viewing areas on office floors.</p> <p>The building will have access to high connectivity capabilities and optical fibres, ensuring its compliance with the Widescore Gold certification.</p> <p>The building will be equipped with 6 high-speed elevators, out of which 2 have a bigger capacity for emergencies. All elevators will cover all floors, including parking areas. There will also be one exterior elevator with access to the parking area.</p> <p>Regarding parking spots, there will be two underground parking floors, offering a total of 327 parking slots, with 200 being available for EUCA. Out of these, 33 will be for electrical vehicles and 12 for employees with reduced mobility. These will be complemented with a bicycle parking area, with a capacity for 32 vehicles. In line with the LEED Gold standard, 4 of these will be reserved for guests.</p> <p>In terms of security, the building will be equipped with a last generation access control IT system at the lobby. An anti-intrusion system will be implemented using volumetric detectors and magnetic contacts. A CCTV surveillance system will be installed at all building entrances with fixed TV cameras, monitors, and digital video recorders. Lastly, vehicle access control to the parking lot will be available through barriers and card reading equipment.</p> <p>As expected, the building will meet regular safety standards, with a last generation fire detection and extinction system. Fire extinguishers will also be available on every floor.</p>	<p>The application provides additional information on the building characteristics (materials, connectivity and certifications).</p> <p>It indicates that the building will be equipped with 6 high-speed elevators, out of which 2 have a bigger capacity for emergencies and one exterior elevator with access to the parking area.</p> <p>The application refers to the 200 parking spaces available for EUCA. Out of these, 33 will be for electrical vehicles and 12 for employees with reduced mobility. In addition, 32 bike spaces will be available.</p> <p>The application provides information on security (access control, volumetric detector and magnetic contacts and a CCTV) and safety (fire detection and extinction system).</p>
3) Timeline of the availability of the premises (before fit-out and necessary adaptation works)	The completion of the building and the handover of the offices to the tenants is scheduled for Q4 2026. The degree of interior finishing of the offices for delivery and rent calculation purposes includes a raised floor without covering, false ceilings, air conditioning, LED lighting, and an electrical panel ready for connection. Any additional interior adaptation and fit-out work are the responsibility of the tenant.	The application indicates that the timeline of the availability of the building is scheduled for Q4 2026.
4) Estimated time needed for fit-out and adaptation works (expressed in months)	6	The application indicates that 6 months is the estimated time needed for fit-out and adaptation works.
<b>Organisation of the premises</b>		
<i>The size of the EUCA's premises should be at least 6 000 m<sup>2</sup> gross floor area above ground. The Commission proposal provided for a EUCA staff of 250 Full Time Equivalents. The final number of staff will depend on the outcome of the negotiations and may increase.</i>		
1) Total surface of the premises (expressed in m <sup>2</sup> )	6000	The application indicates that the total surface of the premises is 6 000 m <sup>2</sup> .
2) Staff capacity (expressed in maximum number of staff)	520	The application indicates a maximum staff capacity of the premises of 520 staff.
3) Availability of a dedicated meeting room for the executive board (10-15 seats)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a dedicated meeting room for the executive board of 10-15 seats.
4) Availability of a dedicated Management Board room in the secure zone (60-70 seats + at least 30-40 seats in the back)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a dedicated Management Board room in the secure zone of 60-70 seats + at least 30-40 seats in the back.

5) Availability of 'secure room'	Yes	See above for building 1.
5.1) Description of the security features of the 'secure room' (size and security measures applied)	<p>The secure room will have all the security features required for treating classified information according to EU standards. The room will be located in a secured area with a visibly defined and protected perimeter, where entry and exit are strictly controlled through access control systems. Only authorised individuals with the relevant security clearance will have unescorted access to the room, whilst visitors or non-cleared persons must be escorted at all times.</p> <p>Moreover, the room will have acoustic shielding and protection against electromagnetic emanations to prevent eavesdropping, as well as an intrusion detection system. It will remain locked when not in use and guarded when occupied. Any unapproved portable electronic device will remain outside the room. Security operating procedures will be documented, specifying the maximum classification level that may be handled and security, surveillance and protective measures.</p>	
6) Availability of a medium-sized room (30-35 seats)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a medium-sized room of 30-35 seats.
7) Availability of multiple small-sized rooms (10-15 seats)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of 3 small-sized rooms of 10-15 seats.
7.1) If yes, how many? (*)	3	
8) Availability of state-of-the-art meeting and videoconference facilities in the meeting rooms	Yes, in all of them	The application indicates that state-of-the-art meeting and videoconference facilities are available in all of the meeting rooms.
9) Availability of a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering.
<b><i>Specific technical requirements for Data Hub, data analysis, risk management and crisis management activities.</i></b>		
10) Availability of a dedicated, secured and restricted area for 'data management' task (for at least 115 staff)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a dedicated, secured and restricted area for 'data management task' for at least 115 staff.
11) Availability of a 24/7 crisis response cell (situation room with capacity for 30 persons)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a 24/7 crisis response cell.
12) Availability of at least two (and ideally three) operational facilities (secure and isolated operational rooms)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of 3 secure and isolated operational rooms serving as operational facilities.
12.1) If yes, how many operational analysis facilities are there? (*)	Three	
13) Availability of a call centre, incident management and service desk facilities in the secured and restricted area	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a call centre, incident management and service desk facilities in the secured and restricted area.
14) Description of the availability and capacity of EU sovereign and highly available telecommunications and networking infrastructure with operational redundancy	<p>The availability and capacity of EU-sovereign, highly available telecommunications and networking infrastructure with operational redundancy in Málaga are supported by a mature, resilient, and rapidly expanding digital ecosystem. The region combines strong fibre connectivity, carrier-neutral environments, power redundancy, and proximity to major European and international network routes.</p> <p>" Site resiliency: Málaga hosts multiple operational data centres that demonstrate high site resiliency. Facilities such as Templus (TIER III), the Málaga Data Centre (Aire Group/OASIX), OASIX Rosalind Franklin, ODC, and DataRush provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Multiple and diverse fibre entry routes, ensuring physical path diversification.</li> <li>o Access to a broad ecosystem of Tier 1 and Tier 2 carriers (Aire, Lyntia, Orange, Vodafone, among others).</li> <li>o Power redundancy through N+1 or higher designs; for example, dual UPS (A+B) and 100% renewable power in the case of Templus.</li> </ul>	See above for building 1.

o 24/7 monitored environments with advanced security controls, DDoS mitigation, and redundant cooling and power systems.

" Performance and bandwidth capacity: The region offers high-performance connectivity, low-latency links, and scalable bandwidth. Aire Group provides interconnection capabilities of up to  $N \times 400$  Gbps and access to major European IXPs (AMS-IX, LINX, DE-CIX, Equinix, ESPANIX). Local operators ensure redundant BGP routing and scalable uplinks (10 GigE and above). These characteristics enable low-latency access to major cloud providers and guarantee the ability to scale bandwidth as required by large-scale operations.

" Proximity to Optical Fiber Highways: Málaga benefits from proximity to international optical fibre corridors through submarine cable infrastructure located in its province. The key asset is the MEDUSA Submarine Cable System, which includes a landing point in Manilva (Málaga). MEDUSA is one of the highest-capacity systems planned in the Mediterranean, with up to 24 fibre pairs and links across Southern Europe and North Africa, positioning Málaga close to a major emerging optical "highway." Additionally, Málaga appears in planning documents for projects such as FLAG Europe-Asia (FEA) as a potential point of passage, reflecting its geographic suitability for long-haul connectivity, even though FEA is not an operational system. Combined with terrestrial fibre networks from multiple national carriers, this proximity provides Málaga with scalable bandwidth, as well as potential and diverse long-distance connectivity options.

" Internet presence/proximity to IXPs: The region benefits from direct and redundant connectivity to major European and national Internet Exchange Points through the infrastructure operated by Aire Networks and its carrier-neutral OASIX data centre in Málaga. Aire Networks provides established connections to leading IXPs-including AMS-IX, LINX, DE-CIX, Equinix, and ESPANIX-and maintains more than 1,000 national and international interconnection agreements, according to its network specifications. The presence of this infrastructure in Málaga enables access to a broad peering ecosystem, enhances route diversity, and improves the efficiency and resilience of traffic exchange, contributing to lower latency for communications with European destinations.

Málaga also demonstrates strong adherence to European reliability standards across its operators with TIER III-level design, N+1 or higher redundancy, renewable energy integration and ISO certifications (9001, 14001, 22301, 27001, 27017, 27018), and scalable power solutions.

Finally, Málaga benefits from geopolitical stability, favourable climate conditions, and minimal exposure to extreme natural hazards. Its rapidly growing tech ecosystem-supported by multinational companies such as Google, Vodafone, Globant, EY, and Dekra-ensures access to specialised technical talent and reinforces long-term sustainability for large-scale data operations.

To sum up, Málaga provides a highly resilient, scalable, and sovereign EU telecommunications and networking environment with robust operational redundancy. Its combination of fibre diversity, high-capacity infrastructure, and consolidated digital ecosystem positions the region as a highly suitable location for the EUCA.

15) Description of the available cloud-based data storage network solutions	<p>Málaga stands out as a highly competitive location for hosting a European-scale Backup Data Centre, supported by an existing infrastructure and a consolidated technological ecosystem that has attracted key operators within the sector. Málaga has a solid ecosystem of operational data centres, managed by both national and international operators.</p> <p>Amongst others, Templus has invested 15M€ to triple its capacity of 3 MW, featuring a technical hall (CPD3) of 2,200 m<sup>2</sup>, 40 racks, and an average density of approximately 4.5 kW per rack. It operates at TIER III level and is powered by 100% renewable energy. In addition, a large-scale project is currently under development: Box2Bit, with an estimated investment of €279 million to build a data centre campus in the El Viso industrial area.</p> <p>The existence of this prior technical infrastructure demonstrates stable power supply capacity, high connectivity, redundancy and reliability, commitment to sustainability, scalability and market maturity.</p>	See above for building 1.
16) Internal archives capacity of the premises	Yes	The application indicates that the internal archives capacity of the premises is 120 m <sup>3</sup> .
16.1) Archives volume (expressed in m <sup>3</sup> ) (*)	120	
17) Number of parking spaces (inside and outside) - available for EUCA	200	The application indicates that there are 200 parking spaces and 32 bike parking spaces (inside and outside) available for EUCA.
18) Number of bike parking spaces (inside and outside) - available for EUCA	32	
19) Possibilities for extension of office space in its original premises or the nearby area	Yes	The application indicates the possibility for extension of office space in its original premises or the nearby area by 3 805 m <sup>2</sup> .
19.1) Surface for possible extensions (expressed in m <sup>2</sup> ) (*)	3805	
20) Are the premises EMAS verified?	Yes	The application indicates that the premises are EMAS verified.
21) Description of the premises' sustainability. If not EMAS certified, description of additional national/international sustainability certifications	<p>Overall, the building has been designed to follow LEED Gold certification levels.</p> <p>The building will be equipped with high energy efficiency lighting, which uses low consumption LED technology, allowing for considerable economic savings. The DALI System will be implemented to digitally control LED lighting in the offices, whilst lighting in common areas will be centralised. The building has also been designed to make the most out of natural lighting through its high ceilings and curtain walls.</p> <p>On the other hand, each office space has a secondary electrical dashboard which operates independently to the main one, allowing for energy savings. Moreover, the building will have a photovoltaic panel installation, generating 15kW.</p> <p>Additionally, the building will have a high efficiency hybrid climatization system, which can be managed from the different control systems that will be implemented in common areas. This guarantees adequate comfort levels and a reduction in energy consumption.</p>	The application indicates that building 1 has been designed to follow the BREEAM standard. The building is equipped with energy-efficiency lighting which uses low consumption LED technology. The application also indicates that each office space has a secondary electrical dashboard and the availability of a photovoltaic panel installation on the building. The application further provides information on the efficiency of the hybrid climatisation system.
22) Description of the general compliance with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications of the premises including for environmental, security and safety standards as well as for accessibility for people with disabilities	<p>The premises comply with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications, and Spanish national and local law. Relevant frameworks include the Código Técnico de Edificación, the Regulation for Thermal Installations in Building, the Andalusian LISTA Law and the Málaga PGOU. These generally match EU legislations, addressing efficiency, health, safety, and environmental impacts.</p> <p>To start with environmental aspects, the building has a high environmental efficiency, being equipped with LED lighting, photovoltaic panels, an R32-water hybrid climatization system and a BMS for centralised control. It has a low energy consumption, and its waste management plan will further minimise waste generation.</p>	See above for building 1.

	<p>Designed with sustainable materials, it incorporates green roofs and walls with indigenous species.</p> <p>In terms of security, the premises are equipped with advanced security systems, including CCTV and access control. The building is fully available for EUCA and is not linked with neighbouring buildings. There are no external stairways, and light sources have been placed to avoid dark spaces. The security checkpoint is strategically located to ensure everyone proceeding from car parks to upper floors accesses through it. Lastly, publicly accessible access points are fitted with mechanical opening and closing devices and at least one entrance door has a key-operated lock.</p> <p>In reference to safety, fire detection systems and extinguishers have been installed on all floors. The building also has interior emergency staircases and emergency exits remain open in case they need to be used.</p> <p>The building is fully accessible for people with disabilities and reduced mobility, incorporating reserved parking spaces and elevators across all floors. There is one automated parking access door, and corridors offer a freeway for people with impaired vision. Accessible toilets and refuge areas are available on every floor, and the building has an evacuation plan for people with reduced mobility.</p>	
<p>23) Description of the digital security and connectivity features with regard to physical and digital infrastructure, in particular those allowing EUCA to comply with relevant cybersecurity standards and legislation and for all core facilities to implement certified protocols for end-to-end encryption of data, enforce access controls and deploy advanced systems for continuous issue detection, timely reporting and affective response</p>	<p>Málaga has consolidated its position as a technological and innovation hub of reference, and digital security and cybersecurity are fundamental pillars of its city strategy. This approach covers both the protection of public infrastructure and the promotion of a robust business and educational ecosystem in the sector.</p> <p>Málaga's City Council has defined the Málaga City Cybersecurity Strategy as a key roadmap to promote the secure digitalisation of public services. It contemplates challenges and lines of action focused on innovation and data protection.</p> <p>End-to-end data encryption between infrastructures, as well as access controls, are defined particularly each time a new interconnection is required.</p> <p>For municipal services, the detection, notification, and response to cyber incidents is beginning to be provided through the Andalusia Cybersecurity Centre (CIAN), which depends on the Digital Agency of Andalusia (ADA).</p> <p>Málaga not only consumes security, but generates it, thanks to a strong ecosystem of companies, research centres, and training:</p> <p>" Reference Centers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Andalusia Cybersecurity Centre (CIAN): Located in Málaga, it acts as a meeting point and support for digital security at an autonomous community level and for other public entities subscribed to its SOC services, such as Málaga's City Council.</li> <li>o Google Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC): The presence of Google's cybersecurity centre reinforces Málaga's position as a strategic global node in this area.</li> </ul> <p>" High-Level Training: The University of Málaga (UMA) actively contributes to the creation of qualified talent with a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Degree in Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence: A program that combines training in computer science, AI, and cybersecurity.</li> <li>o University Master's Degree in Cybersecurity: Focused on advanced mechanisms for</li> </ul>	<p>See above for building 1.</p>

	<p>acquiring cyber intelligence and defending critical infrastructures.</p> <p>" Business Ecosystem: Numerous local and multinational cybersecurity companies have established their operations in the city, offering specialised solutions in areas such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Security of devices and communications.</li> <li>o Real-time monitoring and incident response.</li> <li>o Security of applications and web/mobile services.</li> </ul> <p>Málaga is making a determined investment to make digital security not just a necessity, but a competitive advantage for its Málaga TechPark and its smart city ecosystem. The combination of a strong public strategy, the presence of international reference centres, and a pipeline of trained talent places it in a leadership position in the Spanish and European cybersecurity landscape.</p>	
24) Other	<p>The building will be strategically located in the renovated neighbourhood of Martiricos, combining accessibility, proximity to central Málaga and a growth environment driven by multinational and technological companies. Surrounded by parks, the riverwalk and river views, it will offer an ideal location close to important activity hubs. It will only be 10 minutes away from the high-speed train station, 11 minutes from the port and 15 minutes from the airport by car.</p> <p>The building has been designed as a new office concept, optimising its sustainability, quality and employee wellbeing. Its hall will be wide and luminous, making the most out of natural light. Its materials and calid finishing will create a unique and welcoming atmosphere, guaranteeing a memorable first impression for visitors. Moreover, it will be a modern and singular building that shines for its uniform design through its terraces and luminosity.</p> <p>Amongst its facilities, there is a coffee area located on the lower ground. This is the perfect meeting point for relaxing, socialising, having an informal meeting, or simply enjoying a lunch break. The building will also have a wide restaurant and services offering where users will be able to have a coffee, have lunch, or take some rest during working hours without needing to exit. On the lower ground, one can also find an ideal coworking space for idea interchange or the development of collaborative and personal projects. The space will be versatile and flexible, allowing for its conditioning to different needs, such as teamwork, private offices, meeting rooms or physiotherapy rooms amongst others.</p> <p>Despite being under construction, the building is working towards meeting three sustainability certifications: LEED Gold, WELL Gold and WIREDSCORE Gold. This portrays its commitment to sustainability and employee's wellbeing.</p> <p>Location of the EUCA in Málaga would allow for synergies between the EUCA and the Joint Research Center (JRC) in Sevilla on the use of AI regarding the Customs Data Hub and, where appropriate, on the management of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), and between the EUCA and the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), hosted by the EUIPO (EU Intellectual Property Office) in Alicante, regarding customs enforcement of IPR.</p> <p>Moreover, in terms of connectivity and strategic positioning, Málaga is located just 140 km from the Port of the Bay of Algeciras, currently the fourth-largest port in</p>	<p>The application provides additional information on the Martiricos neighbourhood in which building 2 is located (accessibility and surroundings).</p> <p>It also further elaborates on the building characteristics and working spaces. It indicates that the building is working towards meeting three sustainability certifications: LEED Gold, WELL Gold and WIREDSCORE Gold.</p> <p>The application also indicates that the location of the EUCA in Málaga would allow for synergies with the Joint Research Centre in Seville, the EU Intellectual Property Office in Alicante and its European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights.</p> <p>It also indicates Málaga's proximity (140 km) to the Port of the Bay of Algeciras.</p>

	<p>Europe by traffic volume (104.2 million tonnes) and ranked by the World Bank as the most efficient port in the entire continent.</p> <p>This proximity further strengthens the region's access to one of Europe's foremost maritime and logistics gateways.</p>	
<b>Financial terms</b>		
1) Description of the financial terms	<p>The Regional Government of Andalusia and the City of Málaga will provide a €12 million subsidy (€2 million/year), paid over six years, to cover rental, refurbishment, maintenance, and other related costs.</p> <p>The monthly cost for the rental of this building is of 180,000€. This is disaggregated in 156,000€ in office costs and 24,000€ in parking spaces. Office costs have been calculated assuming a lease of 6,000m<sup>2</sup> per month, at 26€ per m<sup>2</sup>. Parking spots costs have been calculated at a rate of 120€ per parking space per month, for a total of 200 parking spaces.</p> <p>The lease duration is of 10 years, out of which 5 are of mandatory compliance and 5 are optional for the tenant. Rental updates will be performed on the annual review with the CPI, with an extraordinary review on year 6 (CPI + 3%). Lastly, estimated common expenses for the office are of 3.5€ per m<sup>2</sup> per month. These include access control that ensures full time access and security to the building but does not include concierge or on-site security during nighttime.</p>	<p>The application indicates that the Regional Government of Andalusia and the City of Málaga will provide a subsidy of EUR 12 million (EUR 2 million/year), paid over 6 years, to cover rental, refurbishment, maintenance, and other related costs.</p> <p>It indicates that the monthly cost for the rental of the building is EUR 180 000 (EUR 156 000 for office costs and EUR 24 000 for 120 parking spaces). It indicates that the costs assume a lease for 6 000 m<sup>2</sup> of EUR 26 per m<sup>2</sup>/month and the parking spot costs of EUR 120/month per parking space.</p> <p>The application also indicates that the duration of the lease is 10 years (5 and 5 optional). It also refers to estimated common expenses (access and security to the building) of EUR 3.5/m<sup>2</sup> per month.</p>
2) Monthly rental cost (expressed in EUR)	180000	The application indicates that the monthly rental cost is EUR 180 000 and that Spain intends to cover the rent for 6 years.
3) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the rent?	Yes	
3.1) Will the applicant Member State cover the rent? (*)	For a given period of time	
3.2) If for a given period of time, for how many years? (*)	6	
4) Monthly maintenance costs (expressed in EUR/m <sup>2</sup> )	4	The application indicates that the monthly maintenance costs are EUR 4/m <sup>2</sup> and that Spain intends to cover the maintenance costs for 6 years.
5) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the maintenance costs?	Yes	
5.1) Will the applicant Member State cover the maintenance costs? (*)	For a given period of time	
5.2) If for a given period of time, for how many years? (*)	6	
6) Fit-out costs (expressed in EUR/m <sup>2</sup> )	800	The application indicates that the fit-out costs are EUR 800/m <sup>2</sup> and that Spain intends to cover the fit-out costs.
7) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the fit-out costs?	Yes	
8) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the cost of future upgrade and extension?	Yes	The application indicates that Spain intends to cover the future upgrade and extension.
8.1) Financial conditions of future upgrades and extensions	<p>The evolution of EUCA's mandate and staffing needs will be fully accommodated. For this matter:</p> <p>" In the case that EUCA desires to build its own premises, the City of Málaga offers (free of cost) a prime 2,680 m<sup>2</sup> plot of land for EUCA to develop a purpose-built headquarters, with a buildable area of up to 8,819 m<sup>2</sup>. This exceeds EUCA's requirements and ensures ample room to design a facility fully tailored to its needs. The plot is completely flat, significantly simplifying and accelerating construction.</p> <p>" At the same time, for security and independence reasons, if the EU deems it necessary to have a dedicated building, the city of Málaga is also willing to assist in negotiating the purchase of any of the three proposed buildings, and to occupy any</p>	See above for building 1.

	<p>space not used by EUCA in order to guarantee the building's security.</p> <p>It is important to note that the financial costs of any upgrades or extensions will be covered, provided they take place within the first six years of the lease and remain within the allocated €12 million budget.</p>	
9) Duration of the lease (expressed in years)	10	The application indicates that the duration of the lease is 10 years.
10) Financial conditions of termination before the end of the lease	If such termination occurs before the completion of the initial mandatory period (5 years), the tenant shall be obliged to pay the landlord the rent due for the remaining period until the initial mandatory period is completed.	The application indicates that the lease contract, if terminated before the 5 mandatory years, will have to be paid by the tenant until the end of such period.
11) Other		The application does not provide information on this point.
<b>Summary criterion 1</b>	<p><b>The application indicates the availability of the 'Noa' building, located in the (Paseo Martiricos 32), as premises 2, which offers 6 000 m<sup>2</sup> (distributed over 4 floors) that can host 520 people. The application indicates that the premises are available for Q4 2026 with an estimated 6 months for fit-out works.</b></p> <p><b>The application indicates the availability of a dedicated meeting room for the executive board of 10-15 seats, a dedicated Management Board room in the secure zone of 60-70 seats + at least 30-40 seats in the back, a medium-sized room of 30-35 seats, 3 small-sized rooms of 10-15 seats. It indicates that state-of-the-art meeting and videoconference facilities are available in all of the meeting rooms. A lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering is available as well as a dedicated, secured and restricted area for 'data management task' for at least 115 staff, a 24/7 crisis response cell, 3 secure and isolated operational rooms serving as operational facilities, call centre, incident management and service desk facilities in the secured and restricted area. It indicates the availability of 120 m<sup>3</sup> of internal archives capacity, 200 parking spaces and 32 bike parking spaces (inside and outside) available for EUCA. It also indicates the possibility for extension of office space by 3 805 m<sup>2</sup>. The application indicates that the premises are EMAS verified and that they comply with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications.</b></p> <p><b>The application indicates that a 'secure room' will be set up with all security features (protected perimeter, access control systems, acoustic shielding, protection against electromagnetic emanations, and an intrusion detection system) required for treating classified information according to EU standards. It indicates that Málaga provides a mature and resilient digital ecosystem, supported by strong fibre connectivity, carrier-neutral environments, power redundancy, and proximity to major European and international network routes. According to the application, the site hosts multiple operational data centres with high resiliency, diverse fibre routes, access to Tier 1 and Tier 2 carriers, advanced security controls, DDoS mitigation, power and cooling redundancy. It also offers high-performance, scalable, low-latency connectivity, proximity to international fibre corridors and major Internet Exchange Points, and meets European reliability standards and ISO certifications. Lastly, it indicates that Málaga can host a European-scale Backup Data Centre.</b></p> <p><b>The application indicates that the monthly rental cost is EUR 26/m<sup>2</sup> for the office areas, and EUR 120/unit for the parking spaces. The monthly maintenance costs are EUR 4/m<sup>2</sup> and the fit-out costs are EUR 800/m<sup>2</sup>. The total monthly rental cost for the premises is EUR 180 000. It indicates that the Regional Government of Andalusia and the City of Málaga will provide a subsidy of EUR 12 million (EUR 2 million/year), paid over 6 years, to cover rental, refurbishment, maintenance, and other related costs. The application indicates that the duration of the lease is 5 (mandatory) + 5 (optional) years. The application also indicates the availability of a cost-free plot of land for possible future upgrades.</b></p>	

<b>Criterion 2 – 'Accessibility of the location'</b>		
<b>Sub criteria</b>	<b>Member State answer</b>	<b>Commission assessment</b>
<b>Public transportation</b>		
1) Description of the access to air and rail transport linking the location with European capitals	<p>Málaga-Costa del Sol Airport is one of the leading air transport hubs in southern Spain, linking Europe with the Mediterranean basin, Africa and the rest of the world. In 2024, the airport operated 275 routes, of which 240 were international, reaching 156 destinations across 38 countries. This vast connectivity offers seamless access to key European capitals and major intercontinental hubs, consolidating Málaga's position as one of the most globally connected cities in Europe.</p> <p>The airport offers reduced travel times and direct connections to 25 EU capitals. Across these capitals, the airport operates 69 routes with an average of 24 weekly flights. The top 6 EU capitals with the highest flight frequency are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>" Amsterdam: 77 weekly flights, 3h 05min.</li> <li>" Paris: 70 weekly flights, 2h 35min.</li> <li>" Dublin: 57 weekly flights, 3h 05min.</li> </ul>	See above for building 1.

	<p>" Brussels: 47 weekly flights, 2h 40min.      " Copenhagen: 34 weekly flights, 3h 35min.      " Rome: 30 weekly flights, 2h 35min.</p> <p>In addition, Spain has the 2nd largest high-speed rail network in the world, and the 1st in the EU. Thus, Málaga offers excellent high-speed mobility through the Málaga María Zambrano Station, located in the city centre. It is less than 3h away from Madrid by train and has over 10 daily services. It is also well-connected with other Spanish cities such as Barcelona, Valencia or Seville. Moreover, travellers from cities such as Paris or Lisbon can reach Spain by high-speed train, via Barcelona or Madrid, and continue their journey smoothly to Málaga on the AVE network.</p> <p>Building upon these national connections, Málaga also benefits from its strategic position in the Mediterranean Corridor - a major infrastructure project running along Spain's Mediterranean coastline. Currently under development, the Mediterranean Corridor will be a double-track, high-speed line with international gauge, linking Algeciras (near Málaga) to the wider European rail network.</p>	
2) Availability and types of public transport connections from the closest international airport to the premises	Train, Bus	The application indicates the availability of train and bus connections from the closest international airport to the premises.
Frequency of train connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	20	The application indicates that the frequency of train connections is 20 minutes, and the duration is 12.
Duration of train connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	12	
Frequency of bus connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	25	The application indicates that the frequency of bus connections is 25 minutes, and the duration is 45 minutes.
Duration of bus connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	45	
3) Availability and types of public transport connections from the closest international/national train station or other transport hub to the premises	Bus	The application indicates the availability of bus connections from the closest international/national train or other transport hub station to the premises.
Frequency of bus connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	15	The application indicates that the frequency of bus connections is 15 minutes, and the duration is 30 minutes.
Duration of bus connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	30	
4) Other	<p>Málaga exhibits a high level of overall accessibility, derived from its strategic position along the Mediterranean corridor and its direct integration within the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T). The city's road access system is organised around a hierarchical network of corridors that ensure efficient regional and metropolitan connectivity. Average travel times by road from the metropolitan belt (10-25 km radius) range between 15 and 30 minutes, depending on time and traffic density.</p> <p>Moreover, Málaga demonstrates a strong and ongoing commitment to sustainable mobility, reflected in the implementation of its Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. Key milestones achieved so far include the extension of the metro network to the historic centre, the creation of more than 40 km of cycling lanes, the introduction of electric and hybrid buses within the EMT fleet, and the progressive implementation of a Low Emission Zone in the city centre.</p> <p>The Málaga Metro is a central component of the city's sustainable urban mobility framework. Comprising two lines (L1 and L2) and approximately 15 km of track, the metro network links key residential areas, the city centre, the university, and major transport hubs such as María Zambrano station.</p> <p>Alternatively, Málaga's cycling network connects the city centre with residential</p>	See above for building 1.

	districts, university campuses, and business areas, integrating the city within the metropolitan corridor.	
<b>Accommodation facilities in the vicinity of the premises (within 3 km)</b>		
1) Number of 3 star hotels in the vicinity of the premises	20	The application indicates the presence of 20 three-star hotels in the vicinity of the premises.
2) Number of 4 star hotels in the vicinity of the premises	29	The application indicates the presence of 29 four-star hotels in the vicinity of the premises.
3) Number of 5 star hotels in the vicinity of the premises	3	The application indicates the presence of 3 five-star hotels in the vicinity of the premises.
4) Description of available facilities for events and conferences outside EUCA premises	<p>Málaga has firmly consolidated its position as a premier city for international meetings and events. The Trade Fair and Congress Centre of Málaga (FYCMA) is the city's flagship venue. With a capacity of 20,000 people, it offers versatile and fully equipped spaces that meet the highest standards of quality and functionality. Its flexible infrastructure allows organizers to tailor each venue to their specific requirements, positioning Málaga as a central hub for professional gatherings in Southern Europe. Its facilities include 2 auditoriums, 2 conference rooms, 17 multipurpose rooms and 2 exhibition halls. In addition, FYCMA offers a comprehensive range of services designed to ensure the success of every event, including stands, catering, advertising media, host team, communication and audiovisuals.</p> <p>Some other available premises are the Picasso Museum of Málaga, the Museum of Automobiles and Fashion, Limonero House, Victoria Place, La Panorámica, and diverse hotel venues.</p>	See above for building 1.
5) Other	Alongside its physical infrastructure, Málaga has developed a resilient digital ecosystem, supported by next-generation data centres, high-speed broadband, and sustainable communication networks. Its infrastructure combines an extensive fibre-optic backbone with widespread Fibre-to-the-Home deployment. Additionally, Málaga's mobile network comprises 452 base stations across the municipality, ensuring strong 4G coverage and a fast-expanding 5G rollout, reinforced with over 3,300 antennas.	See above for building 1.
<b>Summary criterion 2</b>	<p><b>The application indicates the availability of train connections (20 min frequency and 12 min duration) and of bus connections (25 min frequency and 45 min duration) from the closest international airport to the premises and the availability of bus connections (15 min frequency and 30 min duration) from the closest train station. It indicates that Málaga's airport operates direct flights to 25 EU capitals and that it is connected by direct train to Madrid (under 3 h), other Spanish cities (Barcelona, Valencia, Seville) and EU capitals (Paris, Lisbon). It also provides information on road connections and sustainable mobility (metro and bike lanes).</b></p> <p><b>The application indicates in the vicinity of the premises the presence of 20 three-star hotels, 29 four-star hotels and 3 five-star hotels. It provides information on the presence of the Trade Fair and Congress Centre that can accommodate up to 20 000 people, and of cultural venues, which can also accommodate meetings and events.</b></p>	

<b>Do you propose other premises (3)?</b>		
Do you propose other premises (3)?	Yes	
<b>Criterion 1 – ‘The date on which EUCA can become operational on site after the entry into force of the Regulation’</b>		
Sub criteria	Member State answer	Commission assessment
<b>Building 3</b>		
<b>Availability of the premises</b>		
1) Adress of the proposed premises (Building 3)	Paseo Antonio Machado 26	The application indicates that the address of building 3 is Paseo Antonio Machado 26.

2) General description of the proposed premises	<p>The building, named Marítimo 26, will have a total leasable area of 9,029 m<sup>2</sup>, distributed across 8 floors. Out of these, four floors will be destined to EUCA's use. The premises will feature 185 parking spaces, dispersed across 4 underground floors. Out of these, 130 will be available for EUCA, and 20 will be destined for electric vehicles. These will be complemented by 30 bicycle parking spaces. The premises will also offer 500m<sup>2</sup> of outdoor terraces, 3 high-speed elevators, an auditorium, changing rooms, 24h security and a penthouse on the top floor.</p> <p>More specifically, the space will be a newly built office development located on the frontline of Málaga's Seafront Promenade, offering a privileged position that blends the convenience of urban life with the natural beauty of the sea. It will provide an inspiring environment to work and grow, supported by a wide range of modern services and amenities designed to foster business success. It will have a spacious, double-height lobby that welcomes visitors with natural light and an open design.</p> <p>Just steps away will lay the future Marina de San Andrés, an ambitious waterfront regeneration project that will transform the area into a vibrant hub for leisure, culture, and innovation. The development is set to introduce new public spaces, high-quality commercial areas, and improved connectivity, elevating the entire district and enhancing the value of its surroundings.</p> <p>Being in the early stages of development, there is still the possibility of tailoring the project ad hoc to specific needs. Most importantly, the building's in-house technical and architectural team, renowned for its extensive expertise, is ready to deliver all types of workplace solutions, even when timelines are tight.</p>	<p>The application indicates the availability of building 3, named Marítimo 26, which will have a total area of 9 029 m<sup>2</sup>, distributed across 8 floors. It indicates that 4 floors and 130 parking spaces (20 for electric vehicles) + 30 bicycle spaces will be destined to EUCA.</p> <p>In addition, it indicates the availability of 500 m<sup>2</sup> of outdoor terraces, 3 high-speed elevators, an auditorium, changing rooms, 24h security and a penthouse on the top floor.</p> <p>The application provides further information on the building characteristics (location, surroundings, materials). It also indicates the possibility for tailoring the building for EUCA's needs.</p>
3) Timeline of the availability of the premises (before fit-out and necessary adaptation works)	The building will be ready by Q4 2027.	The application indicates that the building will be ready by Q4 2027.
4) Estimated time needed for fit-out and adaptation works (expressed in months)	6	The application indicates that 6 months is the estimated time needed for fit-out and adaptation works.
<b>Organisation of the premises</b>		
<i>The size of the EUCA's premises should be at least 6 000 m<sup>2</sup> gross floor area above ground. The Commission proposal provided for a EUCA staff of 250 Full Time Equivalents. The final number of staff will depend on the outcome of the negotiations and may increase.</i>		
1) Total surface of the premises (expressed in m <sup>2</sup> )	6000	The application indicates that the total surface of the premises is 6 000 m <sup>2</sup> .
2) Staff capacity (expressed in maximum number of staff)	532	The application indicates a maximum staff capacity of the premises of 532 staff.
3) Availability of a dedicated meeting room for the executive board (10-15 seats)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a dedicated meeting room for the executive board of 10-15 seats.
4) Availability of a dedicated Management Board room in the secure zone (60-70 seats + at least 30-40 seats in the back)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a dedicated Management Board room in the secure zone of 60-70 seats + at least 30-40 seats in the back.
5) Availability of 'secure room'	Yes	See above for building 1.
5.1) Description of the security features of the 'secure room' (size and security measures applied)	<p>The secure room will have all the security features required for treating classified information according to EU standards. The room will be located in a secured area with a visibly defined and protected perimeter, where entry and exit are strictly controlled through access control systems. Only authorised individuals with the relevant security clearance will have unescorted access to the room, whilst visitors or non-cleared persons must be escorted at all times.</p> <p>Moreover, the room will have acoustic shielding and protection against electromagnetic emanations to prevent eavesdropping, as well as an intrusion detection system. It will remain locked when not in use and guarded when occupied.</p>	

	Any unapproved portable electronic device will remain outside the room. Security operating procedures will be documented, specifying the maximum classification level that may be handled and security, surveillance and protective measures.	
6) Availability of a medium-sized room (30-35 seats)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a medium-sized room of 30-35 seats.
7) Availability of multiple small-sized rooms (10-15 seats)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of 3 small-sized rooms of 10-15 seats.
7.1) If yes, how many? (*)	3	
8) Availability of state-of-the-art meeting and videoconference facilities in the meeting rooms	Yes, in all of them	The application indicates that state-of-the-art meeting and videoconference facilities are available in all of the meeting rooms.
9) Availability of a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering.
<b>Specific technical requirements for Data Hub, data analysis, risk management and crisis management activities.</b>		
10) Availability of a dedicated, secured and restricted area for 'data management' task (for at least 115 staff)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a dedicated, secured and restricted area for 'data management task' for at least 115 staff.
11) Availability of a 24/7 crisis response cell (situation room with capacity for 30 persons)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a 24/7 crisis response cell.
12) Availability of at least two (and ideally three) operational facilities (secure and isolated operational rooms)	Yes	The application indicates the availability of 3 secure and isolated operational rooms serving as operational facilities.
12.1) If yes, how many operational analysis facilities are there? (*)	Three	
13) Availability of a call centre, incident management and service desk facilities in the secured and restricted area	Yes	The application indicates the availability of a call centre, incident management and service desk facilities in the secured and restricted area.
14) Description of the availability and capacity of EU sovereign and highly available telecommunications and networking infrastructure with operational redundancy	<p>The availability and capacity of EU-sovereign, highly available telecommunications and networking infrastructure with operational redundancy in Málaga are supported by a mature, resilient, and rapidly expanding digital ecosystem. The region combines strong fibre connectivity, carrier-neutral environments, power redundancy, and proximity to major European and international network routes.</p> <p>" Site resiliency: Málaga hosts multiple operational data centres that demonstrate high site resiliency. Facilities such as Templus (TIER III), the Málaga Data Centre (Aire Group/OASIX), OASIX Rosalind Franklin, ODC, and DataRush provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Multiple and diverse fibre entry routes, ensuring physical path diversification.</li> <li>o Access to a broad ecosystem of Tier 1 and Tier 2 carriers (Aire, Lyntia, Orange, Vodafone, among others).</li> <li>o Power redundancy through N+1 or higher designs; for example, dual UPS (A+B) and 100% renewable power in the case of Templus.</li> <li>o 24/7 monitored environments with advanced security controls, DDoS mitigation, and redundant cooling and power systems.</li> </ul> <p>" Performance and bandwidth capacity: The region offers high-performance connectivity, low-latency links, and scalable bandwidth. Aire Group provides interconnection capabilities of up to <math>N \times 400</math> Gbps and access to major European IXPs (AMS-IX, LINX, DE-CIX, Equinix, ESPANIX). Local operators ensure redundant BGP routing and scalable uplinks (10 GigE and above). These characteristics enable low-latency access to major cloud providers and guarantee the ability to scale bandwidth as required by large-scale operations.</p>	See above for building 1.

	<p>" Proximity to Optical Fiber Highways: Málaga benefits from proximity to international optical fibre corridors through submarine cable infrastructure located in its province. The key asset is the MEDUSA Submarine Cable System, which includes a landing point in Manilva (Málaga). MEDUSA is one of the highest-capacity systems planned in the Mediterranean, with up to 24 fibre pairs and links across Southern Europe and North Africa, positioning Málaga close to a major emerging optical "highway." Additionally, Málaga appears in planning documents for projects such as FLAG Europe-Asia (FEA) as a potential point of passage, reflecting its geographic suitability for long-haul connectivity, even though FEA is not an operational system. Combined with terrestrial fibre networks from multiple national carriers, this proximity provides Málaga with scalable bandwidth, as well as potential and diverse long-distance connectivity options.</p> <p>" Internet presence/proximity to IXPs: The region benefits from direct and redundant connectivity to major European and national Internet Exchange Points through the infrastructure operated by Aire Networks and its carrier-neutral OASIX data centre in Málaga. Aire Networks provides established connections to leading IXPs-including AMS-IX, LINX, DE-CIX, Equinix, and ESPANIX-and maintains more than 1,000 national and international interconnection agreements, according to its network specifications. The presence of this infrastructure in Málaga enables access to a broad peering ecosystem, enhances route diversity, and improves the efficiency and resilience of traffic exchange, contributing to lower latency for communications with European destinations.</p> <p>Málaga also demonstrates strong adherence to European reliability standards across its operators with TIER III-level design, N+1 or higher redundancy, renewable energy integration and ISO certifications (9001, 14001, 22301, 27001, 27017, 27018), and scalable power solutions.</p> <p>Finally, Málaga benefits from geopolitical stability, favourable climate conditions, and minimal exposure to extreme natural hazards. Its rapidly growing tech ecosystem-supported by multinational companies such as Google, Vodafone, Globant, EY, and Dekra-ensures access to specialised technical talent and reinforces long-term sustainability for large-scale data operations.</p> <p>To sum up, Málaga provides a highly resilient, scalable, and sovereign EU telecommunications and networking environment with robust operational redundancy. Its combination of fibre diversity, high-capacity infrastructure, and consolidated digital ecosystem positions the region as a highly suitable location for the EUCA.</p>	
15) Description of the available cloud-based data storage network solutions	<p>Málaga stands out as a highly competitive location for hosting a European-scale Backup Data Centre, supported by an existing infrastructure and a consolidated technological ecosystem that has attracted key operators within the sector. Málaga has a solid ecosystem of operational data centres, managed by both national and international operators.</p> <p>Amongst others, Templus has invested 15M€ to triple its capacity of 3 MW, featuring a technical hall (CPD3) of 2,200 m<sup>2</sup>, 40 racks, and an average density of approximately 4.5 kW per rack. It operates at TIER III level and is powered by 100% renewable energy. In addition, a large-scale project is currently under development: Box2Bit, with an estimated investment of €279 million to build a data centre campus</p>	See above for building 1.

	<p>in the El Viso industrial area.</p> <p>The existence of this prior technical infrastructure demonstrates stable power supply capacity, high connectivity, redundancy and reliability, commitment to sustainability, scalability and market maturity.</p>	
16) Internal archives capacity of the premises	Yes	The application indicates that the internal archives capacity of the premises is 120 m <sup>3</sup> .
16.1) Archives volume (expressed in m <sup>3</sup> ) (*)	120	
17) Number of parking spaces (inside and outside) - available for EUCA	130	The application indicates that there are 130 parking spaces and 30 bike parking spaces (inside and outside) available for EUCA.
18) Number of bike parking spaces (inside and outside) - available for EUCA	30	
19) Possibilities for extension of office space in its original premises or the nearby area	Yes	The application indicates that there is the possibility for extension of office space in its original premises or the nearby area by 3 029 m <sup>2</sup> .
19.1) Surface for possible extensions (expressed in m <sup>2</sup> ) (*)	3029	
20) Are the premises EMAS verified?	Yes	The application indicates that the premises are EMAS verified.
21) Description of the premises' sustainability. If not EMAS certified, description of additional national/international sustainability certifications	<p>The building has been designed to follow LEED Gold, WIREDSCORE Gold, WELL Gold and AIS standards.</p>	The application indicates that the building has been designed to follow LEED Gold, WIREDSCORE Gold, WELL Gold and AIS standards.
22) Description of the general compliance with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications of the premises including for environmental, security and safety standards as well as for accessibility for people with disabilities	<p>The premises comply with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications, as well as Spanish national and local legislation. Relevant frameworks include the Código Técnico de Edificación, the Regulation for Thermal Installations in Building, the Andalusian LISTA Law and the Málaga PGOU. These generally match EU legislations, addressing efficiency, health, safety, and environmental impacts.</p> <p>To start with environmental aspects, the building has a high environmental efficiency, having been designed with sustainable materials. It has a low energy consumption, and its waste management plan will further minimise waste generation. The building complies with biodiversity and ecosystem conservation legislation, incorporating green roofs and walls with indigenous species.</p> <p>In terms of security, the premises are equipped with advanced security systems, including CCTV and access control. The building is fully available for EUCA and is not linked with neighbouring buildings. There are no external stairways, and light sources have been placed to avoid dark spaces. The security checkpoint is placed at a strategic location to ensure everyone proceeding from car parks to upper floors accesses through it. Lastly, publicly accessible access points are fitted with mechanical opening and closing devices and at least one entrance door has a key-operated lock.</p> <p>In reference to safety, fire detection systems and extinguishers have been installed on all floors. The building also has interior emergency staircases and emergency exits remain open in case they need to be used.</p> <p>Lastly, the building is fully accessible for people with disabilities and reduced mobility, incorporating reserved parking spaces and elevators across all floors. There is at least one automated parking access door, and corridors offer a freeway for people with impaired vision. Accessible toilets and refuge areas are available on every floor, and the building has an evacuation plan for people with reduced mobility.</p>	See above for building 1.
23) Description of the digital security and connectivity features with regard to physical and digital infrastructure, in particular those allowing EUCA to	<p>Málaga has consolidated its position as a technological and innovation hub of reference, and digital security and cybersecurity are fundamental pillars of its city strategy. This approach covers both the protection of public infrastructure and the</p>	See above for building 1.

<p>comply with relevant cybersecurity standards and legislation and for all core facilities to implement certified protocols for end-to-end encryption of data, enforce access controls and deploy advanced systems for continuous issue detection, timely reporting and affective response</p>	<p>promotion of a robust business and educational ecosystem in the sector.</p> <p>Málaga's City Council has defined the Málaga City Cybersecurity Strategy as a key roadmap to promote the secure digitalisation of public services. It contemplates challenges and lines of action focused on innovation and data protection.</p> <p>End-to-end data encryption between infrastructures, as well as access controls, are defined particularly each time a new interconnection is required.</p> <p>For municipal services, the detection, notification, and response to cyber incidents is beginning to be provided through the Andalusia Cybersecurity Centre (CIAN), which depends on the Digital Agency of Andalusia (ADA).</p> <p>Málaga not only consumes security, but generates it, thanks to a strong ecosystem of companies, research centres, and training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>" Reference Centers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Andalusia Cybersecurity Centre (CIAN): Located in Málaga, it acts as a meeting point and support for digital security at an autonomous community level and for other public entities subscribed to its SOC services, such as Málaga's City Council.</li> <li>o Google Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC): The presence of Google's cybersecurity centre reinforces Málaga's position as a strategic global node in this area.</li> </ul> </li> <li>" High-Level Training: The University of Málaga (UMA) actively contributes to the creation of qualified talent with a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Degree in Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence: A program that combines training in computer science, AI, and cybersecurity.</li> <li>o University Master's Degree in Cybersecurity: Focused on advanced mechanisms for acquiring cyber intelligence and defending critical infrastructures.</li> </ul> </li> <li>" Business Ecosystem: Numerous local and multinational cybersecurity companies have established their operations in the city, offering specialised solutions in areas such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Security of devices and communications.</li> <li>o Real-time monitoring and incident response.</li> <li>o Security of applications and web/mobile services.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Málaga is making a determined investment to make digital security not just a necessity, but a competitive advantage for its Málaga TechPark and its smart city ecosystem. The combination of a strong public strategy, the presence of international reference centres, and a pipeline of trained talent places it in a leadership position in the Spanish and European cybersecurity landscape.</p>	
<p>24) Other</p>	<p>Location of the EUCA in Málaga would allow for synergies between the EUCA and the Joint Research Center (JRC) in Sevilla on the use of AI regarding the Customs Data Hub and, where appropriate, on the management of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), and between the EUCA and the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), hosted by the EUIPO (EU Intellectual Property Office) in Alicante, regarding customs enforcement of IPR.</p> <p>Moreover, in terms of connectivity and strategic positioning, Málaga is located just</p>	<p>The application also indicates that the location of the EUCA in Málaga would allow for synergies with the Joint Research Centre in Sevilla, the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights, hosted by the EU Intellectual Property Office in Alicante.</p> <p>It also indicates Málaga's proximity (140 km) with the Port of the Bay of Algeciras.</p>

	<p>140 km from the Port of the Bay of Algeciras, currently the fourth-largest port in Europe by traffic volume (104.2 million tonnes) and ranked by the World Bank as the most efficient port in the entire continent.</p> <p>This proximity further strengthens the region's access to one of Europe's foremost maritime and logistics gateways.</p>	
<b>Financial terms</b>		
1) Description of the financial terms	<p>The Regional Government of Andalusia and the City of Málaga will provide a €12 million subsidy (€2 million/year), paid over six years, to cover rental, refurbishment, maintenance, and other related costs.</p> <p>For a surface area of 6,000m<sup>2</sup>, the monthly rental cost of the building would be equivalent to € 199,500 per month. This can be disaggregated into 180,000€ per month in office spaces, at a rate of 30€ per m<sup>2</sup>, and 19,500€ per month in parking spaces, at a rate of 150€ per parking spot, for 130 parking spaces.</p>	<p>The application indicates that the Regional Government of Andalusia and the City of Málaga will provide a subsidy of EUR 12 million (EUR 2 million/year), paid over 6 years, to cover rental, refurbishment, maintenance, and other related costs.</p> <p>It indicates that the monthly cost for the rental of the building is EUR 199 500 (EUR 180 000 for office costs and EUR 19 500 for 130 parking spaces). It indicates that the costs are calculated assuming a lease for 6 000 m<sup>2</sup> of EUR 30/m<sup>2</sup> per month and the parking spots costs amounts to EUR 150 per parking space per month.</p>
2) Monthly rental cost (expressed in EUR)	199500	<p>The application indicates that the monthly rental cost is EUR 199 500 and that Spain intends to cover the rent for 6 years.</p>
3) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the rent?	Yes	
3.1) Will the applicant Member State cover the rent? (*)	For a given period of time	<p>The application indicates that the monthly maintenance costs are EUR 4/m<sup>2</sup> and that Spain intends to cover the maintenance costs for 6 years.</p>
3.2) If for a given period of time, for how many years? (*)	6	
4) Monthly maintenance costs (expressed in EUR/m <sup>2</sup> )	4	<p>The application indicates that the fit-out costs are EUR 800/m<sup>2</sup> and that Spain intends to cover the fit-out costs.</p>
5) Does the applicant Spain intend to cover the maintenance costs?	Yes	
5.1) Will the applicant Member State cover the maintenance costs? (*)	For a given period of time	<p>The application indicates that Spain intends to cover the future upgrade and extension.</p>
5.2) If for a given period of time, for how many years? (*)	6	
6) Fit-out costs (expressed in EUR/m <sup>2</sup> )	800	<p>See above for building 1.</p>
7) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the fit-out costs?	Yes	
8) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the cost of future upgrade and extension?	Yes	<p>The evolution of EUCA's mandate and staffing needs will be fully accommodated. For this matter:</p> <p>" In the case that EUCA desires to build its own premises, the City of Málaga offers (free of cost) a prime 2,680 m<sup>2</sup> plot of land for EUCA to develop a purpose-built headquarters, with a buildable area of up to 8,819 m<sup>2</sup>. This exceeds EUCA's requirements and ensures ample room to design a facility fully tailored to its needs. The plot is completely flat, significantly simplifying and accelerating construction.</p> <p>" At the same time, for security and independence reasons, if the EU deems it necessary to have a dedicated building, the city of Málaga is also willing to assist in negotiating the purchase of any of the three proposed buildings, and to occupy any space not used by EUCA in order to guarantee the building's security.</p> <p>It is important to note that the financial costs of any upgrades or extensions will be covered, provided they take place within the first six years of the lease and remain within the allocated €12 million budget.</p>
9) Duration of the lease (expressed in years)	10	The application indicates that the duration of the lease is 10 years.

10) Financial conditions of termination before the end of the lease	There is an early termination penalty equivalent to the remaining rent payable until the end of the mandatory term.	The application refers to a penalty in case of an early termination of the lease.
11) Other		The application does not provide information on this point.
<b>Summary criterion 1</b>	<p><b>The application indicates the availability of the 'Maritimo 26' building, located in the (Paseo Antonio Machado 26), as premises 3, which offers 6 000 m<sup>2</sup> (distributed over 4 floors) that can host 532 people. The application indicates that the premises are available for Q4 2027 with an estimated time for fit-out works of 6 months.</b></p> <p>The application indicates the availability of a dedicated meeting room for the executive board of 10-15 seats, a dedicated Management Board room in the secure zone of 60-70 seats + at least 30-40 seats in the back, a medium-sized room of 30-35 seats, 3 small-sized rooms of 10-15 seats. It indicates that state-of-the-art meeting and videoconference facilities are available in all of the meeting rooms. A lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering is available as well as a dedicated, secured and restricted area for 'data management task' for at least 115 staff, a 24/7 crisis response cell, 3 secure and isolated operational rooms serving as operational facilities, call centre, incident management and service desk facilities in the secured and restricted area. It indicates the availability of 120 m<sup>3</sup> of internal archives capacity, 130 parking spaces and 30 bike parking spaces (inside and outside) available for EUCA. It also indicates the possibility for extension of office space by 3 029 m<sup>2</sup>. The applications indicates that the premises are EMAS verified and that they comply with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications.</p> <p>The application indicates that a 'secure room' will be set up with all security features (protected perimeter, access control systems, acoustic shielding, protection against electromagnetic emanations, and an intrusion detection system) required for treating classified information according to EU standards. It indicates that Málaga provides a mature and resilient digital ecosystem, supported by strong fibre connectivity, carrier-neutral environments, power redundancy, and proximity to major European and international network routes. According to the application, the site hosts multiple operational data centres with high resiliency, diverse fibre routes, access to Tier 1 and Tier 2 carriers, advanced security controls, DDoS mitigation, power and cooling redundancy. It also offers high-performance, scalable, low-latency connectivity, proximity to international fibre corridors and major Internet Exchange Points, and meets European reliability standards and ISO certifications. Lastly, it indicates that Málaga can host a European-scale Backup Data Centre.</p> <p>The application indicates that the monthly rental cost is EUR 30/m<sup>2</sup> for the office areas, and EUR 150/unit for the parking spaces. The monthly maintenance costs are EUR 4/m<sup>2</sup> and the fit-out costs are EUR 800/m<sup>2</sup>. The total monthly rental cost for the premises is EUR 199 500. It indicates that the Regional Government of Andalusia and the City of Málaga will provide a subsidy of EUR 12 million (EUR 2 million/year), paid over 6 years, to cover rental, refurbishment, maintenance, and other related costs. The application indicates that the duration of the lease is 10 years. The application also indicates the availability of a cost-free plot of land for possible future upgrades.</p>	

<b>Criterion 2 – 'Accessibility of the location'</b>		
<b>Sub criteria</b>	<b>Member State answer</b>	<b>Commission assessment</b>
<b>Public transportation</b>		
1) Description of the access to air and rail transport linking the location with European capitals	<p>Málaga-Costa del Sol Airport is one of the leading air transport hubs in southern Spain, linking Europe with the Mediterranean basin, Africa and the rest of the world. In 2024, the airport operated 275 routes, of which 240 were international, reaching 156 destinations across 38 countries. This vast connectivity offers seamless access to key European capitals and major intercontinental hubs, consolidating Málaga's position as one of the most globally connected cities in Europe.</p> <p>The airport offers reduced travel times and direct connections to 25 EU capitals. Across these capitals, the airport operates 69 routes with an average of 24 weekly flights. The top 6 EU capitals with the highest flight frequency are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>" Amsterdam: 77 weekly flights, 3h 05min.</li> <li>" Paris: 70 weekly flights, 2h 35min.</li> <li>" Dublin: 57 weekly flights, 3h 05min.</li> <li>" Brussels: 47 weekly flights, 2h 40min.</li> <li>" Copenhagen: 34 weekly flights, 3h 35min.</li> <li>" Rome: 30 weekly flights, 2h 35min.</li> </ul> <p>In addition, Spain has the 2nd largest high-speed rail network in the world, and the 1st in the EU. Thus, Málaga offers excellent high-speed mobility through the Málaga</p>	See above for building 1.

	<p>María Zambrano Station, located in the city centre. It is less than 3h away from Madrid by train and has over 10 daily services. It is also well-connected with other Spanish cities such as Barcelona, Valencia or Seville. Moreover, travellers from cities such as Paris or Lisbon can reach Spain by highspeed train, via Barcelona or Madrid, and continue their journey smoothly to Málaga on the AVE network.</p> <p>Building upon these national connections, Málaga also benefits from its strategic position in the Mediterranean Corridor - a major infrastructure project running along Spain's Mediterranean coastline. Currently under development, the Mediterranean Corridor will be a double-track, high-speed line with international gauge, linking Algeciras (near Málaga) to the wider European rail network.</p>	
2) Availability and types of public transport connections from the closest international airport to the premises	Train, Bus	The application indicates the availability of train and bus connections from the closest international airport to the premises.
Frequency of train connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	20	The application indicates that the frequency of train connections is 20 minutes, and the duration is 12 minutes.
Duration of train connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	12	
Frequency of bus connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	20	The application indicates that the frequency of bus connections is 20 minutes, and the duration is 30 minutes.
Duration of bus connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	30	
3) Availability and types of public transport connections from the closest international/national train station or other transport hub to the premises	Bus	The application indicates the availability of bus connections from the closest international/national train station or other transport hub to the premises.
Frequency of bus connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	15	The application indicates that the frequency of bus connections is 15 minutes, and the duration is 4 minutes.
Duration of bus connections (expressed in minutes) (*)	4	
4) Other	<p>Málaga exhibits a high level of overall accessibility, derived from its strategic position along the Mediterranean corridor and its direct integration within the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T). The city's road access system is organised around a hierarchical network of corridors that ensure efficient regional and metropolitan connectivity. Average travel times by road from the metropolitan belt (10-25 km radius) range between 15 and 30 minutes, depending on time and traffic density.</p> <p>Moreover, Málaga demonstrates a strong and ongoing commitment to sustainable mobility, reflected in the implementation of its Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. Key milestones achieved so far include the extension of the metro network to the historic centre, the creation of more than 40 km of cycling lanes, the introduction of electric and hybrid buses within the EMT fleet, and the progressive implementation of a Low Emission Zone in the city centre.</p> <p>The Málaga Metro is a central component of the city's sustainable urban mobility framework. Comprising two lines (L1 and L2) and approximately 15 km of track, the metro network links key residential areas, the city centre, the university, and major transport hubs such as Marfa Zambrano station.</p> <p>Alternatively, Málaga's cycling network connects the city centre with residential districts, university campuses, and business areas, integrating the city within the metropolitan corridor.</p>	See above for building 1.
<b>Accommodation facilities in the vicinity of the premises (within 3 km)</b>		
1) Number of 3 star hotels in the vicinity of the premises	20	The application indicates the presence of 20 three-star hotels in the vicinity of the premises.
2) Number of 4 star hotels in the vicinity of the premises	31	The application indicates the presence of 31 four-star hotels in the vicinity of the premises.

3) Number of 5 star hotels in the vicinity of the premises	3	The application indicates the presence of 3 five-star hotels in the vicinity of the premises.
4) Description of available facilities for events and conferences outside EUCA premises	<p>Málaga has firmly consolidated its position as a premier city for international meetings and events. The Trade Fair and Congress Centre of Málaga (FYCMA) is the city's flagship venue. With a capacity of 20,000 people, it offers versatile and fully equipped spaces that meet the highest standards of quality and functionality. Its flexible infrastructure allows organizers to tailor each venue to their specific requirements, positioning Málaga as a central hub for professional gatherings in Southern Europe. Its facilities include 2 auditoriums, 2 conference rooms, 17 multipurpose rooms and 2 exhibition halls. In addition, FYCMA offers a comprehensive range of services designed to ensure the success of every event, including stands, catering, advertising media, host team, communication and audiovisuals.</p> <p>Some other available premises are the Picasso Museum of Málaga, the Museum of Automobiles and Fashion, Limonero House, Victoria Place, La Panorámica, and diverse hotel venues.</p>	See above for building 1.
5) Other	Alongside its physical infrastructure, Málaga has developed a resilient digital ecosystem, supported by next-generation data centres, high-speed broadband, and sustainable communication networks. Its infrastructure combines an extensive fibre-optic backbone with widespread Fibre-to-the-Home deployment. Additionally, Málaga's mobile network comprises 452 base stations across the municipality, ensuring strong 4G coverage and a fast-expanding 5G rollout, reinforced with over 3,300 antennas.	See above for building 1.
<b>Summary criterion 2</b>	<p><b>The application indicates the availability of train connections (20 min frequency and 12 min duration) and of bus connections (20 min frequency and 30 min duration) from the closest international airport to the premises and the availability of bus connections (15 min frequency and 4 min duration) from the closest train station. It indicates that Málaga's airport operates direct flights to 25 EU capitals and that it is connected by direct train to Madrid (under 3 h), other Spanish cities (Barcelona, Valencia, Seville) and EU capitals (Paris, Lisbon). It also provides information on road connections and sustainable mobility (metro and bike lanes).</b></p> <p><b>The application indicates in the vicinity of the premises the presence of 20 three-star hotels, 31 four-star hotels and 3 five-star hotels. It provides information on the presence of the Trade Fair and Congress Centre that can accommodate up to 20 000 people, and of cultural venues, which can also accommodate meetings and events.</b></p>	