Announcement for the application for grants and prizes for the distribution of Italian books through the translation of fiction and non-fiction works, as well as for the production, dubbing and subtitling of films, short films and tv-series intended for mass media circulation

YEAR 2025

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 7th, 2025

CHAPTER I

SCOPE OF THE SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS FOR PRIZES AND GRANTS

Article 1.

The grants and prizes for the promotion of Italian books through the translation of fiction and non-fiction works, as well as for the production, dubbing and subtitling of films, short films and TV-series, intended for mass media circulation, are intended to promote Italian language and culture abroad. The works awarded the prizes and grants falling within this Announcement must contribute to the aforementioned purposes.

Article 2.
Applications for **GRANTS** can be submitted for:
a) Translation and publication of Italian fiction and non-fiction works, including those available in digital format (e-books), to be published not before 1st August 2025;
b) Production, dubbing or subtitling of films, short films and TV-series intended for mass media circulation, to be released not before 1st August 2025

Applications for **PRIZES** can be submitted for:
a) Italian fiction and non-fiction books, also in digital version (e-book), already translated and published not before 1st January 2024;
b) production, dubbing, subtitling of films, short films and TV-series intended for mass media circulation, already released not before 1st January 2024.

Article 3.
Applications for grants and prizes set out in Article 1 can be submitted by publishers, translators, producing firms, dubbing firms, subtitling firms, distribution firms, literary agents/agencies and cultural and international entities, located both in Italy and abroad.

At any rate, the application must indicate, as the recipient of the contribution, the publisher / producing firm / distribution firm / cultural entity that has acquired/is going to acquire the publishing rights of the works in foreign language.

CHAPTER II

PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS FOR PRIZES AND GRANTS

Article 4.
Submission of PRIZE or GRANT application and deadline:

Applications must be submitted **BY APRIL 7th 2025 to** the local Italian Embassy through the Italian Cultural Institute with correspondent territorial jurisdiction, if present. In the case of works distributed or to be distributed

in more than one country, the application must be submitted – through the Italian Cultural Institute with correspondent territorial jurisdiction, if present – to the Embassy operating in the country where the work has had – or will presumably have – the greater distribution, also indicating the other countries where the work has been – or will presumably be – distributed. Applications must be submitted exclusively through the form attached to this Announcement, to be filled out in all respects (in Italian or English) by the applicant.

CHAPTER III

GRANTS

Article 5.

Documents to attach to the GRANTS application:

1. Application form, filled out in all respects in Italian or English, EXCLUSIVELY in the same format attached to this Announcement;
2. Short description (max. 3,000 characters including spaces) indicating: expected time schedule for the publication/ production of the work as well as the distribution and promotion channels considered (including fairs, book fairs and book presentations).
3. CV of the translator and copy of their signed contract with the foreign publisher (in case of translation of literary works) OR CV of the subtitles translator and dubbing director and/or adapter and copy of the signed contract for the translation of the work (in the case of translation and subtitling/dubbing of audio-video works)
4. Short business plan presenting (in Euros) the costs of the work, including:
The unit cost of the translation (per page, per word, per minute, etc.);
The total cost of the translation
The expected print run (in case of fiction and non-fiction works);
5. copy of the front and back cover of the book in Italian (in case of translation of literary fiction and non-fiction works) alternatively, DVD or link to the work which is to be produced, dubbed or subtitled (in the case of translation of audio-video works);
6. Copy of the valid contract for the acquisition of authorial copyright, duly signed by the Italian copyright holder. Alternatively, a letter of intent by the foreign publisher / producer to the Italian publisher / producer, expressing the intention and commitment to acquire the copyright (if awarded, the grant will only be paid on presentation of the relevant documentation confirming that the copyright has been acquired). Such contract / letter is necessary also in case of a costless acquisition;
7. Full and detailed description of the use of grants received in the past (number of copies sold/tickets/screenings/TV passages, reviews, presentations, media impact etc.) (*only for applicants already awarded grants by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in the last three years*).

CHAPTER IV

PRIZES

Article 6.

Intended prizes for the 2025 Announcement.
For the year 2025, it is intended to award six PRIZES for Euro 5,000 (five thousand Euro) each:
- 1 for the French language;
- 1 for the English language;
- 1 for the Spanish language;
- 1 for the German language;
- 1 for the Chinese language;
- 1 for the Arabic language.

Article 7.

Documents to attach to the PRIZES application.

The application for PRIZES must include the following attachments:
- all documents required for the application for grants, with the exception of the expected time schedule for carrying out the project;
- the text translated and published in the foreign language or the TV-series or film realised / dubbed / subtitled on digital medium;
- signed contract attesting the acquisition of the copyright.
Please note: documents attached to the awards application (Grants or Prizes) must be accompanied by a translation into Italian or English.

CHAPTER V

INADMISSIBILITY

Article 8.
Grounds of inadmissibility of applications.
Grants applications relating to a work already published, distributed, translated or dubbed on or before the date of the application, or the publication of which is foreseen before 1st August 2025 (that is, before the completion of the awarding procedure), will not be taken into consideration.

Applications received after the deadline (April 7th, 2025) will not be taken into consideration.

Applications requiring a grant equal to or greater than the cost of the whole project will not be considered. Furthermore, the grant awarded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation should not be a binding condition for the fulfilment of the translation, distribution, production, publication, dubbing and subtitling of the work.

Applications submitted by different means than the ones laid out in this Announcement or missing the complete requested documents, or submitted through a different form than the one attached to the present Announcement or not filled in all respects, will not be taken into consideration.

Grants/Prizes applications for works already awarded grants by other Italian institutions (e.g. by Italian Ministry of Culture, CEPELL- Centre for books and reading) will not be considered.
Grants applications for the reprinting of works already published before the deadline will not be taken into consideration.

CHAPTER VI

EVALUATION OF THE APPLICATIONS AND CONCESSION OF GRANTS AND PRIZES

Article 9.
Evaluation of the applications of PRIZES and GRANTS.
Applications submitted before the deadline of April 7th 2025 to the local Italian Embassy through the Italian Cultural Institute with correspondent territorial jurisdiction, if present, will be reviewed and selected by the aforementioned diplomatic missions, after acquisition of the advice of the Italian Cultural Institute with correspondent territorial jurisdiction, if present, and then forwarded to the competent Ufficio IV D.G.D.P. of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.
The selected applications for prizes and grants will then be reviewed and evaluated by the “Gruppo di Lavoro consultivo per la promozione della cultura e della lingua italiana all’estero – sezione editoria” [Advisory team for the promotion of Italian culture and language abroad – publishing section], established with Ministerial Decree 3513/4165 of 1 August 2014.

The selection of the received applications and the concession of PRIZES and GRANTS will be based on the following criteria:

a) Consistency with the general framework of the promotion of Italian language and culture abroad;
b) Favourable opinion of the competent missions abroad, after acquisition of the advice of the Italian Cultural Institute with correspondent territorial jurisdiction concerning the positive impact of the works in promoting Italian culture and language in the local context;
c) Literary or scientific quality of the work;
d) Political priorities of cultural and language promotion; grants application for the translation of Italian works Spanish language from Latin American countries will be given priority (special consideration) in the Announcement/call for applications 2025;
e) Applications for the translation of Italian contemporary literature titles awarded the main Italian national prizes, as well as applications for non-fiction works and subtitling and dubbing of audio-video works.

The grant awarded could be tantamount or inferior to amount requested in the application, in proportion to the number of the application submitted and based on the financial resources of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

CHAPTER VII

PAYMENT OF PRIZES AND GRANTS

Article 10.
Procedure for the payment of PRIZES.
Payment of PRIZES is made within thirty days from the registration of the grants and prizes assignment decree.

Article 11.
Procedure for the payment of GRANTS.
Payment of GRANTS will be made after the publication / production of the work and upon submission to the Italian Cultural Institute with correspondent territorial jurisdiction, if present, or to the local Italian Embassy of the following documents:
- scan of the front and back cover of the translated and published book (with visible ISBN number and barcode)
- scan of the page which bears the caption in the local language and Italian "This book has been translated thanks to a contribution awarded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation". If possible, the caption should appear on the back cover of the book, in order to get a better exposure. In case of dubbing and/or subtitling, a similar proof is required, attesting that the same caption has been included in the work and is therefore visible to the public (e.g. photograph or video excerpt in case of dubbing or subtitling).

In any case, the publishing house is required to send two physical copies of the translated work to the competent office, in order to create a multilingual collection of the Italian works translated thanks to the MAECI grants, within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.
Please note that the concession of Grants does not authorize the reproduction of the MAECI's logo or of the Embassy/Italian Cultural Institute's logo on the translated work.

N.B. According to Ministerial Decrees 159/2014 and 236/2021, the award of a GRANT shall be revoked **"if the work is not published, translated, produced, dubbed or subtitled within a three-year period from the day on which the beneficiary of the grant was notified of its award."**

Rome, February 24, 2025
The Principal Director for Public and Cultural Diplomacy
Minister Alessandro De Pedys