

## **Annex 2: Summary for publication of the Observer's Report**

*The evaluation of the unique eligible proposal submitted in response to the call HORIZON-JU-ER-2025-01 was performed between 12 May and 2 June 2025 entirely in a remote mode. The evaluation of this complex, multidisciplinary proposal was performed by a panel of 6 experts covering the complete required range of expertise including for one of them the relevant financial know how necessary to cope with the financial/budgetary aspects of this lump sum grant action. The evaluation was thorough, performed in full transparency, fairness and impartiality, in compliance with all applicable general Horizon Europe rules as well as with other relevant specific rules for the call (for example specific award sub criteria, and lump sum aspects). The evaluation was moderated, guided, quality-checked, and supervised by staff members of the EU-Rail JU. No particular problem was encountered during the evaluation and the end result was obtained after a rather straightforward process, with each actor contributing in his/her role and capacity to the smoothness and efficiency of the exercise. The end result of the evaluation (one proposal selected for funding) was obtained with the full agreement of all evaluators and to the satisfaction of all participants. The whole process was observed, remotely, by an independent observer who was given full and unfettered access to all relevant aspects of the call and evaluation process and to all information required for him to complete his task.*