

# STRATEGIC PLAN FOR EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL ACTION

2024 - 2027



Comune  
di Bologna

# OUR GOALS

## OUR "PLAN"

The City of Bologna has adopted a Strategic Plan for European and International Action for the period 2024-2027, proposing a comprehensive and multi-year vision of the challenges and opportunities for European and international action at the local level.

The document produced is a synthesis of the actions, tools, actors, and resources available to the city of Bologna to operate in the European and international context, and aims to be a reference point for entities, associations, and stakeholders interested in collaborating in this sphere.



1

### FIRST AND ONLY IN ITALY

Bologna is the first city in Italy to adopt a Strategic Plan for European and International Action.



2

### ADDED VALUE

Strategic for the city, allowing access to resources, visibility, and opportunities that otherwise might remain untapped.



3

### SYNERGIES

The plan facilitates coordination and promotes a collective approach to be stronger and more effective at both local and international levels.

# THE STRUCTURE

The Plan is structured around 3 strategic lines and 7 actions that drive the European and International Strategy.

## STRATEGIC VISION



### CONTEX

1

#### MULTI-LEVEL POLICY CONTEXT

- Analysis of global-level challenges and the role of cities
- Analysis of strategies and programs at the European and international levels
- Coordination with strategies at the national and regional levels



### PRIORITIES

2

#### CONTRIBUIRE ALLE PRIORITÀ DI MANDATO

##### Mandate Priorities

- *Bologna grows for all*
- *Right to health and fragility*
- *Green and sustainable Bologna*
- *Educational, cultural, and sports-oriented Bologna*
- *Close and connected Bologna*

##### Flagship Projects

- Climate Mission
- Green footprint
- City of Knowledge and Digital Twin

##### Asset

- UNESCO Heritage Porticoes
- Garisenda Tower and Asinelli Tower



### INTERNATIONAL MUNICIPALISM

3

#### MUNICIPALISM DRIVES INTERNATIONAL ACTION

- Proximity policies as a methodological approach
- Greater decision-making power to local communities in the European Union
- Cities represent the bridge between the international sphere and local communities
- Cities as reliable and responsible actors to address new global challenges



# 1. Bologna within the European Union

## PRIORITIES

- Bologna as an active participant in defining priorities at the European level.
- Promoting a cohesive and connected Bolognese community with European values.

## ACTIONS

1

### I. TOWARDS A PROXIMITY EUROPE

- Institutional meetings with EU representatives
- Establishing a Citizen Table on Europe
- Establishing the House of Europe

2

### II. INFORMATION, AWARENESS, TRAINING

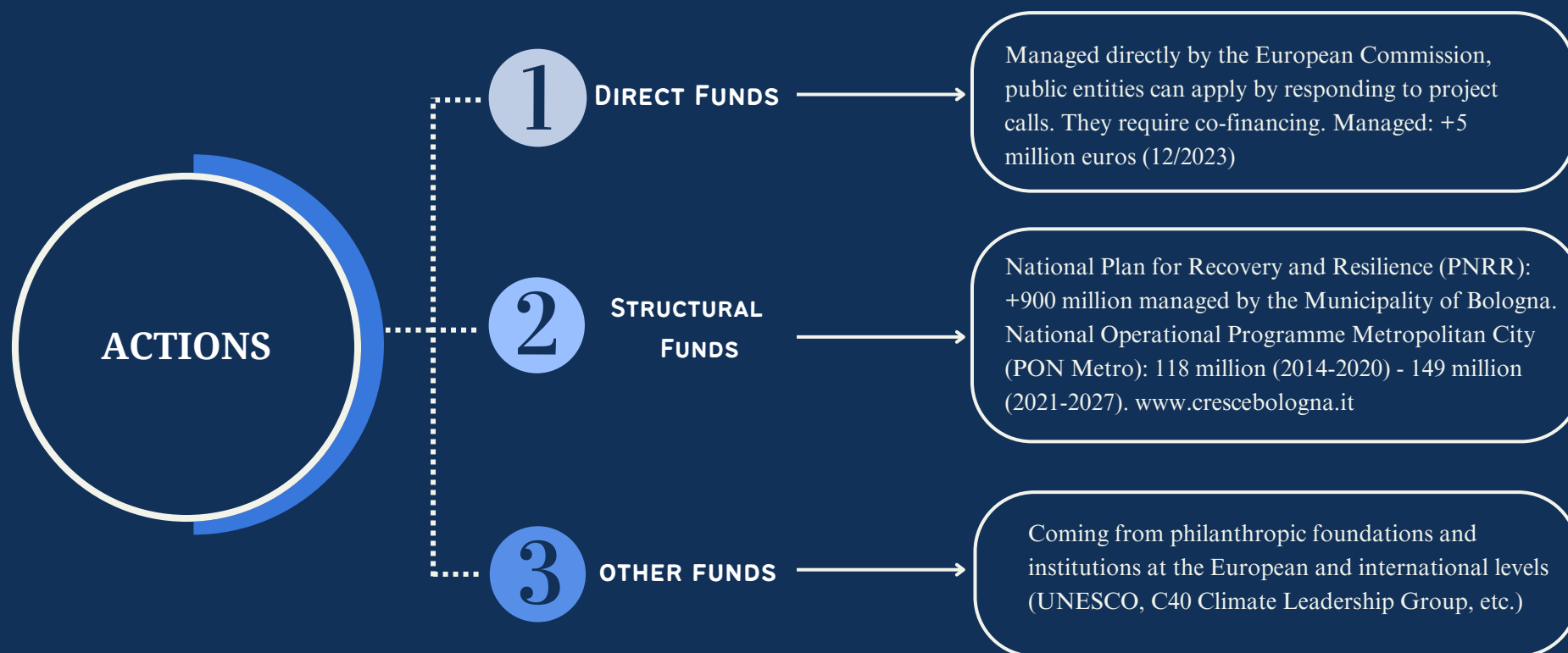
- **Internal in-formation**
  - Café Europa, Manuals and Workshops. Events
- **Services for citizens:**
  - Europe Direct, Zonarelli Intercultural Center, Giramondo Offices, Digital Communication, Events



## 2. Bologna and European & International Funds

### PRIORITIES

European and international funding provides resources for local and metropolitan development. They address primary needs and promote the experimentation of innovative actions and services.



# 3. Bologna: An Active City in City Diplomacy

## PRIORITIES

Promoting international ties and partnerships that give global visibility to urban excellences and their priorities, influencing decision-making processes at the international level.



# 3. Bologna: An Active City in City Diplomacy

## 4

### STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND TWINNING WITH THE CITY

14 collaboration agreements and 13 international twinnings with cities to promote cultural, economic, social exchanges, and development cooperation.

Main Themes: Inclusion, Urban Innovation, Sustainable Mobility, New Technologies, Energy Transition, Culture and Sustainable Tourism, Participatory Democracy, Youth.





# 4. Bologna, Development Cooperation, and Peace Education

## PRIORITIES

Enriching the urban context and contributing to the improvement of living conditions in other realities, condemning every form of aggression and promoting peace as a fundamental value.

### ACTIONS

1

#### ACTIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

- Collaborations with NGOs and local associations
- Developing projects for Global Citizenship Education
- Focus on promoting regular migration flows: opportunities for communities and the local economy
- Synergy with the Emilia-Romagna Region

2

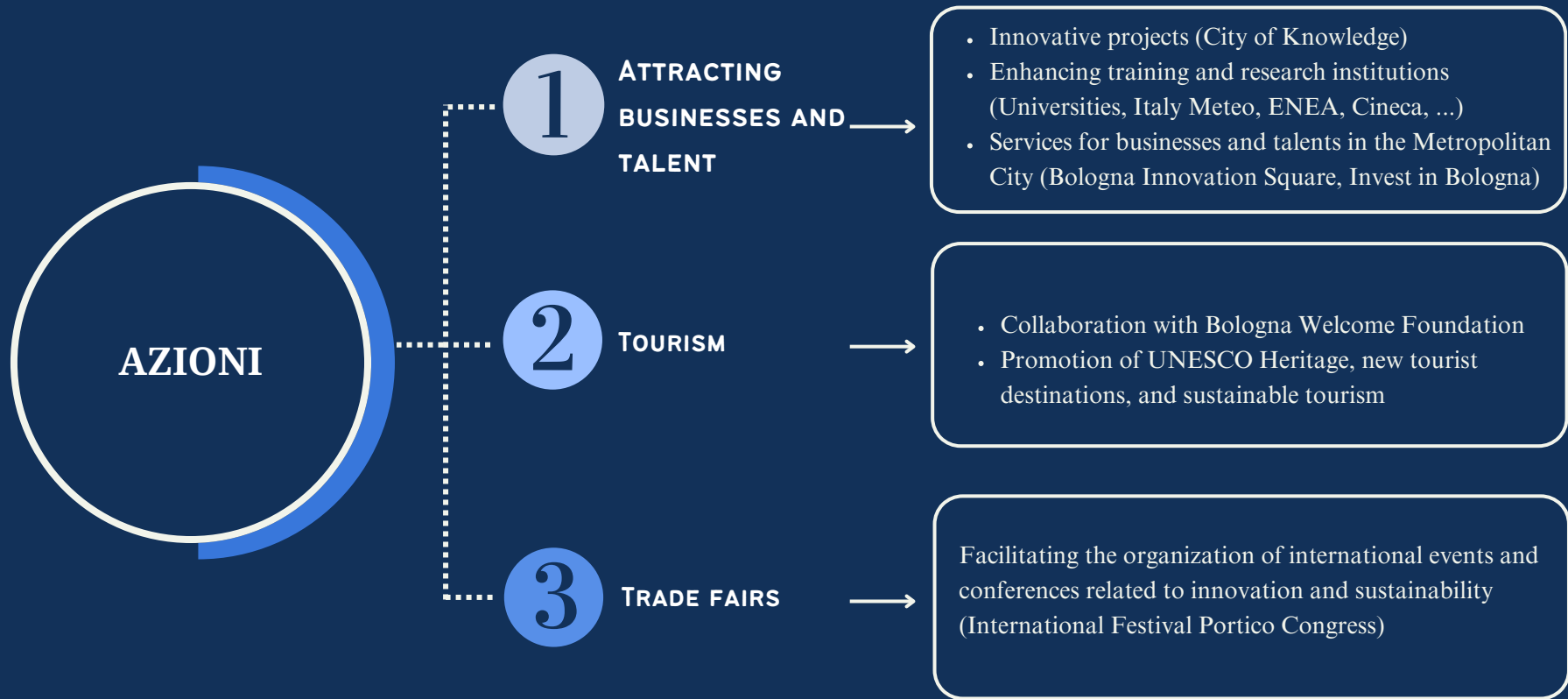
#### ACTIONS FOR THE PROMOTION OF PEACE

- Supporting Montesole School of Peace Foundation
- Journeys of Conscience (2024)
- General Collaboration Pact for the "House of Cultures and Well-being"
- Collaboration with associations (Portico of Peace)
- Events and mobilization days for peace

# 5. Bologna and its International Attractiveness

## PRIORITIES

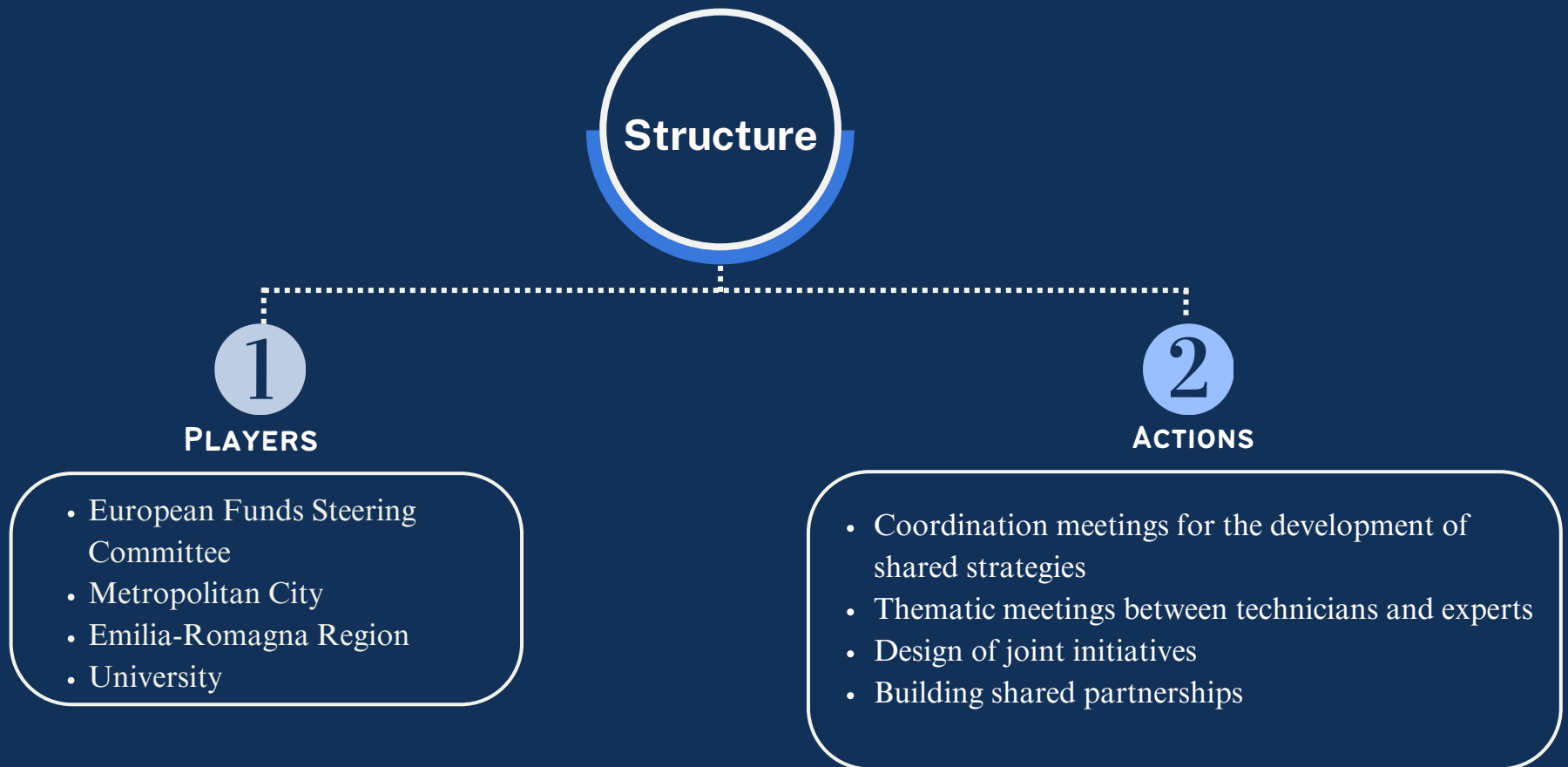
Being known worldwide as an epicenter of innovation, promoting sustainability in strategic sectors for the administration



# 6. Governance actions

## PRIORITIES

Promoting a synergistic approach between the administration and stakeholders of the territory, ensuring the effective use of resources and acting as a unified actor.



# 7. Communication actions

## PRIORITIES

- Ensuring the informed and conscious participation of all stakeholders within the organizational structure
- Guaranteeing transparency and providing accessible information to citizens, associations, and businesses

## ACTIONS

- **Cresce Bologna (Bologna Grows)** : an online platform dedicated to the narrative of initiatives and projects promoted by the Municipality and Metropolitan City of Bologna (PNRR, PON Metro, FSC)
- Public-facing desks for direct information sharing with citizens and associations (Europe Direct, Zonarelli Center)
- Information and awareness events, conferences, and debates to engage and inform the community
- Digital tools, including newsletters and the web page of the European and International Sector

# Internal Organization

## GOVERNANCE

The management of the Plan is ensured at both political and administrative levels.

### Deputy Mayor for International Relations, Cooperation, and European Funds Steering Committee

Coordinates the actions of the Plan, working closely with the City Council to implement it. Represents the City, in coordination with the City Council and departments, in international contexts, promoting its image and strategic objectives.

### European and International Sector

Operational coordination tool of the municipality for the implementation of the Plan, serving as a "bridge" between strategy and action.

### City Council

Reflects the democratic approach and active participation aspect outlined in the European and International Strategic Plan. It includes the Europe and international activities commission.





**Thank you**

**For more information please contact**  
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