



Expleo Italia: Partner in the High-Level European Project PICS2, Awarded the Seal of Excellence by the European Commission

Expleo Italia S.p.A. is proud to be a partner in the **PICS2 – Puglia Innovation Center for Safety and Security project**, a highly strategic and innovative initiative that originates from a major European recognition: the Seal of Excellence awarded by the European Commission.



The Seal of Excellence is the official quality label granted by the Commission to projects that meet high standards of technical, scientific and societal impact, but could not initially be funded due to budget constraints. Only 24 projects across Italy have subsequently received national funding to join the European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIH)

network, and PICS2 is among them.

The Libera Università Mediterranea “Giuseppe Degennaro” (LUM), which leads the partnership, signed a grant agreement with the Italian Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy, officially launching the project as part of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) – Mission 4 "Education and Research", Component 2 "From Research to Business", Investment 2.3.

Expleo Italia's Role

As a technological and consulting partner, Expleo Italia will contribute its well-established expertise in the following fields:

- Engineering and digital transformation
- Technological innovation and strategic consultancy

PICS2 is designed to support the digital transition of enterprises and public administrations, with a particular focus on:

- Safety: protecting people, the environment, and infrastructures
- Security: safeguarding physical and digital assets from deliberate attacks
- Smart integration of data and services

Expleo will play an active role in delivering services across five key areas:

1. Technical audits and technological maturity assessments
2. Pre-investment testing and validation

Territorial Impact and European Value

The project aims to engage:

- 315 micro and small enterprises
- 83 medium-sized enterprises
- 20 large companies
- 45 public administrations

With a total budget of over €4.35 million, PICS2 represents a concrete lever to enhance the competitiveness and technological resilience of Italy's industrial ecosystem—starting in Puglia, with national and European reach.

A Strong and Collaborative Ecosystem

The partnership includes 16 leading organisations, such as:

Almaviva, Dedalus, Telecom Italia, ARTES 4.0, CNA Bari, ITS Apulia Digital Maker, Legacoop Puglia, Altea, and of course, Expleo Italia.

Under the scientific and operational leadership of LUM, the project ensures strong coordination between innovation demand and supply, based on a collaborative model that fully values the unique strengths of each partner.

Expleo for European Innovation

Being part of a project awarded the Seal of Excellence reaffirms Expleo Italia's position as a strategic partner in European innovation programmes, and our continuous commitment to delivering expertise and technologies in support of sustainable and secure growth.

