

# Italian Comprehensive Regulation of Restorative Justice enacted by Legislative Decree No. 150/2022

Unofficial English translation<sup>1</sup>

#### Legislative Decree October 10th, 2022, n.150 - [D.lgs. 150/2022]

Tiles I-III [Text omitted]

## Title IV - Comprehensive Regulation of Restorative Justice

#### Part I - Principles and General Provisions

*Section I - Definitions, principles and objectives* 

#### Article 42 - Definitions

- 1. For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions apply:
  - a) restorative justice: any programme that allows the victim of a crime, the person designated as the offender and other members of the community, to participate freely, consensually, actively, and voluntarily, in the resolution of matters arising from the offence, through the assistance of a suitably trained, impartial third party, referred to as mediator;
  - b) the victim of the crime: a natural person who has suffered direct damage to property or any other consequence as a result of the offence, as well as a family member of the natural person whose death was directly caused by a criminal offence and who has suffered harm because of that person's death.
  - c) the person designated as the offender:
    - 1) the person designated as such by the victim, even prior to the filing of a complaint;
    - 2) the person under investigation;
    - 3) the defendant:
    - 4) the person subject to a personal security measure;
    - 5) the person convicted by a final judgment;
    - 6) the person in respect of whom it has been decided that there is no need to proceed, or that there is no need to proceed because the condition for proceeding has not been met,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Center for Restorative Justice and Mediation Studies (CeSGReM) at the University of Insubria (Como and Varese, Italy), directed by Professor Grazia Mannozzi, has promoted the English translation of the Comprehensive Legislation on Restorative Justice introduced in Italy by Legislative Decree No. 150/2022. This is an unofficial translation, carried out by Nicole Landenberger and Alessandro Vaiti (students in the "Restorative Justice and Criminal Mediation" Course at the University of Insubria), and revised by Carlotta Calemme (post-doctoral research fellow, University of Insubria) and Sara Bianca Taverriti (post-doctoral research fellow, University of Insubria).

also in accordance with Article 344-bis of the Code of Criminal Procedure, or due to extinction of the criminal liability<sup>2</sup>;

- d) the family member: the spouse, the partner in a civil partnership as defined in article 1, paragraph 2, of law n. 76 of 20 May 2016, the stable cohabiting partner as defined in article 1, paragraph 36, of the same law, the person linked to the victim or to the person designated as the offender by a stable emotional bond, as well the relatives in direct line, the siblings and the victim's dependants or the offender's dependants.
- e) the restorative outcome: every agreement, resulting from the restorative justice programme, aimed at repairing the offence and capable of representing mutual recognition and the possibility of rebuilding the relationship between the participants.
- f) restorative justice services: all activities relating to the preparation, coordination, management and delivery of restorative justice programmes.
- g) Center for Restorative Justice: the public structure referred to in Chapter V, Section II, responsible for the activities necessary for the organisation, management, delivery and implementation of restorative justice programmes.
- 2. The rights and faculties granted to the victim of a crime are also granted to legal entities offended by the crime.

## Article 43 - General principles and objectives

- 1. Restorative justice in criminal matters is based on the following principles:
  - a) the active and voluntary participation of the person designated as the offender and the victim of crime, as well as other possible participants, in the management of the adverse effects caused by the crime;
  - b) the equal consideration of the interest of both the victim and the person designated as the offender;
  - c) the involvement of the community in restorative justice programmes;
  - d) the consent to participate in restorative justice programmes;
  - e) confidentiality of statements and activities in restorative justice programmes;
  - f) the reasonableness and proportionality of the potential outcomes reached consensually during the programme;
  - g) the independence of the mediators and their equal proximity to the participants to the restorative justice programmes;
  - h) the guarantee of adequate time for the implementation of each programme.
- 2. Restorative justice programmes tend to promote the recognition of the victim of crime, the responsibility of the person designated as the offender and the restoration of the bounds with the community.
- 3. The access to restorative justice programmes is guaranteed to those who might have an interest, and it is free of charge.
- 4. Access to restorative justice programmes is always encouraged, without discrimination and in the respect of any person's dignity. Access can be limited only in case of any real danger for the participants, resulting from the programme's execution.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The expression used here does not represent a literal translation but rather a linguistic adaptation (*Trans. Note*).

## Section II - Access to restorative justice programmes

# Article 44 - Principles on access

- 1. The restorative justice programmes regulated by this Decree shall be accessed by everyone without discrimination based on the type or seriousness of the offence.
- 2. Access to the programmes referred to in paragraph 1 is allowed at each stage and level of the criminal proceedings, during the enforcement phase of sentences and security measures, after their execution and following a judgement of "no case to proceed" or "not to proceed" due to the absence of a condition for proceeding, also in accordance with article 344-bis of the Code of Criminal Procedure, or due to the extinction of the offence.
- 3. In the case of offences that can be prosecuted on complaint, the programmes referred to in paragraph 1 may be accessed even prior to the filing of a complaint.

# Article 45 - Participants in restorative justice programmes

- 1. Participants in restorative justice programmes can be:
  - a) the victim of crime;
  - b) the person designated as the offender;
  - c) any other person of the community, such as relatives of the victim and of the person designated as the offender, people indicated as support by the victim and the person designated as the offender, legal entities and associations that represent their interests who have been wronged by the offence, States, Regions, local authorities or other administrative entities' representatives or delegates;
  - d) any person who might have an interest.

#### Section III – Minors

## Article 46 - Rights and guarantees for minors

- 1. In the implementation of restorative justice programmes involving minors in any capacity, the provisions of this Decree, insofar as they are compatible, shall be applied appropriately considering the personality and the needs of the child, taking into account the best interest of the child, in accordance with the provisions of Article 3, paragraph 1, of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, of 20th November 1989, ratified by law n.176 of 27th May 1991.
- 2. Mediators with specific skills, considering the training and competences acquired, shall be appointed to implement restorative justice programmes involving minors in any capacity.

#### Part II – Guarantees for Restorative justice programmes

## Section I - Provisions on the Rights of Participants

#### Article 47 - Right to receive information

- 1. The person designated as the offender and the victim of crime are informed without delay by the judicial authority, at every stage and level of the criminal proceedings or at the beginning of the enforcement of the custodial sentence or security measure, of the possibility of accessing available restorative justice programmes and services.
- 2. The information referred to in paragraph 1 shall also be provided to the people of interest by the institutes and services, including juvenile ones, of the Ministry of Justice, the local social

services of the victim support services, the public security authority, as well as by other actors who are in contact with the same persons for any reason.

- 3. The individuals referred to in Article 45 shall have the right to receive from the mediators effective, comprehensive and objective information on the restorative justice programmes available, on the procedures for access and implementation, on the possible results and any agreements between the participants. They shall also be informed of the guarantees and obligations provided for in this Decree.
- 4. The information referred to in this article shall be provided to the holder of parental responsibility, the guardian, the support administrator, the special guardian in the cases referred to in Article 121 of the Criminal Code, as well as to the legal defence of the victim of crime and of the person designated as the offender, if appointed.
- 5. The information shall be provided to the addressees in an understandable language and in a manner appropriate to their age and capacity.

## Article 48 - Consent to participation in restorative justice programmes

- 1. Consent to participation in a restorative justice programme shall be personal, freely given, aware, informed and expressed in writing. which may be withdrawn at any time, including through conclusive conduct.
- 2. In the case of a child under the age of fourteen, consent shall be given by the holder of parental responsibility or, in the cases referred to in Article 121 of the Criminal Code, by the special guardian, after the person concerned has been heard and has given his/her consent, taking into account his/her capacity for discernment.
- 3. In the case of a child who has reached the age of fourteen, consent shall be given by the child and the holder of parental responsibility or, in the cases referred to in Article 121 of the Criminal Code, by the special guardian. If the holder of parental responsibility or the special guardian does not give consent, the mediator shall decide, after hearing the persons concerned and taking into account the interests of the child whether to proceed solely on the basis of his/her consent, without prejudice to the limits inherent in the child's capacity to act.
- 4. In the case of a person subject to a judicial interdict, the consent shall be given by the legal administrator after hearing the person subject to the interdict; In the case of incapacitated person, the consent shall be given by the incapacitated person and the guardian. In the case of a person subject to a support administration, consent shall be given by the person, alone or with the assistance of the support administrator, on the basis of the specific indications contained in the orders referred to in Articles 405 and 407(4) of the Civil Code. Consent for legal entities is expressed by their legal representative pro tempore or by their delegate.
- 5. Consent of the company shall be expressed by the legal representative *pro tempore* or his/her delegate.
- 6. Consent shall be obtained by the appointed mediator during the first meeting, in the presence of the lawyer of the crime victim and the lawyer of the person designated as the offender, if they so wish.

#### Article 49 - Right to language assistance

- 1. The person designated as the offender, the victim of crime and other participants who do not speak or understand Italian have the right to be assisted by an interpreter free of charge to consciously participate in restorative justice programmes.
- 2. In the same cases, a translation of the mediator's report shall be ordered.

- 3. Knowledge of the Italian language shall be presumed, unless proved otherwise, in the case of a person of Italian nationality. The use of a language other than the mother tongue of the person concerned is permitted only if the person concerned has sufficient knowledge of it to ensure effective participation in the programme. Knowledge of the Italian language will be assessed by the mediator.
- 4. The interpreter and the translator will also be appointed even if the mediator has personal knowledge of the language or dialect to be interpreted.
- 5. Articles 144 and 145 of the Code of Criminal Procedure also shall apply.

#### *Section II – Guarantees and obligations of Mediators and Participants*

#### Article 50 - Duty of confidentiality.

- 1. Mediators and staff of Restorative Justice Centres are bound by a duty of confidentiality concerning the activities and acts performed, the statements made by participants and the information acquired by reason of or in the course of the restorative justice programme, unless the participants have given their consent to the disclosure, or the mediator considers such disclosure absolutely necessary to prevent the commission of imminent or serious offence or where the statements themselves constitute an offence.
- 2. Participants are fully obliged not to disclose statements made and information acquired in the course of the restorative justice programmes before its conclusion and the finalisation of the criminal proceedings by an irrevocable criminal judgment or decree.
- 3. After the conclusion and finalisation of the criminal proceedings by an irrevocable criminal judgment or decree, the publication of the statements made and information acquired is allowed with the consent of the person concerned and in compliance with the rules on the protection of personal data.

## Article 51 - Inadmissibility as evidence

1. Without prejudice to the content of the report referred to in Article 57 and without prejudice to Article 50(1), statements made, and information obtained under the programme may not be used in criminal proceedings or at the stage of enforcement of sentences.

## Article 52 - Protection of secrecy

- 1. The mediator may not be required to testify before the judicial authority or to make statements before any other authority about acts performed, about the content of the work carried out, about statements made by the participants and about information obtained by reason or in the course of the restorative justice programme, unless the participants agree to the disclosure or the mediator considers it absolutely necessary to prevent the commission of imminent or serious offences or that the statements themselves constitute an offence. The provisions of Article 200 of the Code of Criminal Procedure shall apply the mediator.
- 2. No papers or documents containing information about restorative justice programmes shall be confiscated from the mediators or from the places where restorative justice programmes are carried out.
- 3. The interception of conversations or communications in the places where the restorative justice programme is carried out shall not be permitted, nor shall the interception of conversations or communications of the mediators concerning facts that have come to their knowledge by reason of or in the course of the same programme.

- 4. The results of seizures and interceptions of conversations or communications made in violation of the provisions of this article shall not be used unless they constitute evidence of a criminal offence or, in the case of interceptions, relate to facts about which the mediators have testified or otherwise disclosed.
- 5. The mediator shall have no obligation to report criminal offences of which he/she has become aware by reason of or in the course of the restorative justice programme, unless the participants have consented to the disclosure, the mediator considers the disclosure absolutely necessary to prevent the commission of imminent or serious offences, or the statements themselves constitute a criminal offence.

# Part III - Restorative justice programmes

*Section I – Conduct of restorative justice programmes* 

## Article 53 - Restorative justice programmes

- 1. Restorative justice programmes shall comply with relevant European and International principles and shall be conducted by at least two mediators with the guarantees provided for in this Decree. They shall include:
- a) mediation between the person designated as the offender and the victim of the crime, also extended to kinship groups, or between the person designated as the offender and the victim of an offence other than the offence for which proceedings are being conducted
- b) restorative dialogue;
- c) any other mediator-led dialogue programme conducted in the interest of the victim of crime and the person designated as the offender.

#### Article 54 - Preliminary activities

- 1. The first meeting of the participants in the restorative justice programmes shall be preceded by one or more contacts with the mediators and by interviews between the mediator and each of the participants to provide the information referred to in Article 47, paragraph 3, to obtain consent and to verify the feasibility of the programmes.
- 2. The lawyers of the person designated as the offender and of the victim of crime shall be entitled to attend the preliminary interviews at the request of the persons concerned.

# Article 55 - Conduct of meetings

- 1. Restorative justice programmes shall take place in spaces and venues appropriate for their implementation and suitable to ensure confidentiality and independence.
- 2. In conducting the meetings, the mediators shall ensure respectful, non-discriminatory and equal treatment of the participants and shall allow sufficient time for the needs of the case.
- 3. Without prejudice to Article 54(2), the persons concerned shall participate in person at all stages of the programme and may be assisted by support people, also in relation to their capacity. The mediator shall, also at the request of the competent judicial authority, send communications on the status and progress of the programme.
- 4. The mediator, also upon request of the competent judicial authority, shall provide information on the status and timing of the programme.

## Article 56 - Discipline of restorative outcomes

- 1. When the programme ends with a restorative outcome, this may be both symbolic or material.
- 2. The symbolic outcome may include formal statements or apologies, behavioural commitments, including public or community commitments, agreements concerning contact with specific individuals or access to specific places.
- 3. The material outcome may include compensation, restitutions, efforts to avoid or mitigate the harmful or dangerous consequences of the offence or to prevent the offence from having further consequences.
- 4. The parties shall be guaranteed the assistance of mediators in implementing agreements on the symbolic outcome.
- 5. The lawyers of the person designated as the offender and the victim of crime shall be entitled to assist the parties in reaching agreements on the material outcome.

# Section II - Evaluation by the judicial authority

# Article 57 - Reporting to and communication to the judicial authority

- 1. At the end of the programme, a report drafted by the mediator shall be submitted to the proceeding judicial authority describing the activities carried out and the restorative outcome reached. Additional information will be provided upon request and with the consent of the participants.
- 2. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 58, the mediator shall also inform the proceeding judicial authority of any failure to carry out the programme, any interruption of the programme or any failure to achieve a restorative outcome.

# Article 58 - Evaluation of the outcomes of restorative justice programmes

- 1. The judicial authority shall evaluate, for the purposes of its competence, the implementation of the programme and, also for the purposes of article 133 of the Criminal Code, the possible restorative outcome.
- 2. In any case, the failure to carry out the programme, its interruption or the failure to achieve a restorative outcome shall not have adverse effects on the person designated as the offender.

# Part IV – Training of qualified mediators in restorative justice and requirements for professional practice

#### Section I - Training of qualified mediators

#### Article 59 - Training of qualified mediators in restorative justice programmes

- 1. Training of qualified mediators shall ensure the acquisition of the necessary knowledge, skills, competences and professional ethical principles to implement restorative justice programmes with impartiality, independence, sensitivity and equal proximity.
- 2. Qualified mediators receive both initial and ongoing training.

- 3. The initial training shall consist of at least two-hundred-and-forty hours, of which one-third shall be theoretical and two-thirds shall be practical, followed by at least one hundred hours of practical training in one of the Restorative Justice Centres referred to in article 63<sup>3</sup>.
- 4. Ongoing training shall consist of at least thirty hours per year, dedicated to theoretical and practical updating, as well as the exchange of national, European and international practices.
- 5. Theoretical training shall include knowledge of the principles, theories and methods of restorative justice, as well as basic concepts of criminal law, criminal procedure law, penitentiary law, juvenile law, criminology, victimology and other related subjects.
- 6. Practical training shall aim at developing listening and relational skills, as well as the competencies and abilities necessary to deal with the negative effects of conflicts, with special attention to victims, minors and other vulnerable people.
- 7. Both practical and theoretical training are provided by Restorative Justice Centres and Universities, which collaborate according to their respective competencies. The Restorative Justice Centres shall be specifically responsible for the practical training, which shall be provided by qualified mediators, included in the list referred to in article 60, who have at least five years of experience in restorative justice services and proven competence competencies as trainers.
- 8. Access to the courses requires at least a bachelor degree and the passing of cultural and aptitude tests.
- 9. Upon successful completion of the final theoretical-practical examination, participants in the training course will be qualified as qualified mediators in restorative justice programmes.
- 10. The Minister of Justice, in consultation with the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs and the Minister of Higher Education and Research, shall, within six months of the entry into force of this Decree, issue a decree regulating the forms and timing of the practical and theoretical training referred to in paragraph 7, as well as the procedures for the examinations referred to in paragraphs 8 and 9. The costs of participation in the training activities and of the final theoretical and practical examination shall be borne by the participants.

#### Section II - Requirements for Practicing the Activity

Article 60 - Requirements for the exercise of the activities of expert mediator. List of qualified mediators.

- 1. In addition to the qualification referred to in Article 59(9), the practice of the activity of expert mediator in restorative justice programmes shall require inclusion in the list referred to in paragraph 2.
- 2. By decree of the Minister of Justice, in consultation with the Minister of Labour and Social Policy and the Minister of Higher Education and Research, to be adopted within six months of the entry into force of this Decree, a list of qualified mediators shall be established at the Ministry of Justice. The list will contain the names of qualified mediators and their qualifications as trainers. The decree will also define the criteria for assessing the experience and competence of qualified mediators for the purpose of admission to training activities, as well as the criteria for inclusion and removal from the list, including for subsequent reasons. It will also regulate the procedure for the revision of the list and the date from which participation in the training activities referred to in Article 59 will be a mandatory requirement for the exercise of the activity of expert mediator. The

<sup>3</sup> It should be noted that the Italian Ministerial Decree of 9 June 2023 established that the training of a qualified mediator in restorative justice must include at least 160 hours of theoretical training and 320 hours of practical training and 200 hours of internship.

Regulation shall also address incompatibilities with the practice of expert mediation, as well as the requirements for good repute and any fees for registration on the List.

3. The establishment and maintenance of the list referred to in paragraph 2 shall be carried out with the existing human, financial and material resources available to the Ministry of Justice under existing legislation, without creating new or additional financial burdens on the State budget.

#### Part V - Restorative justice services

Section I - Coordination of services and essential levels of performance

# Article 61 - Coordination of services and the National Conference for restorative justice

- 1. The Ministry of Justice shall coordinate restorative justice services at the national level and shall carry out the functions of resource planning, proposing the essential levels of service and monitoring the services provided. For these purposes, it shall rely on the National Conference for Restorative Justice.
- 2. The National Conference is chaired by the Minister of Justice or his/her representative. It is composed of one representative from each Region or Autonomous Province, one mayor or his/her representative from each Region or Autonomous Province appointed by the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI), one representative of the Fund for the Payment of Fines and six experts who provide technical and scientific advice.
- 3. The National Conference is convened annually by the Minister of Justice or his/her delegate and is held via videoconference.
- 4. The National Conference shall draw up an annual report on the state of restorative justice in Italy, which shall be presented to Parliament by the Minister of Justice.
- 5. The experts referred to in paragraph 2 shall be appointed by decree of the Minister of Justice, in agreement with the Minister of University and Research, from among persons with recognized competence and experience in the field of restorative justice, ensuring a balanced representation of qualified mediators and university professors. The term of appointment of the experts shall be two years, with the possibility of renewal for a further two years.
- 6. The implementation of the activities referred to in this article shall be carried out by the competent administrations with the human, material and financial resources available within the framework of the legislation in force and, in any case, without new or additional costs for public finances. Participation in the activities of the National Conference for Restorative Justice shall not entitle participants to any compensation, fees, allowances, indemnities or reimbursements.

#### Article 62 - Essential levels of performance

1. By agreement of the unified Conference, referred to in Article 8 of Legislative Decree No. 281 of 28 August 1997, the essential and uniform levels of services for restorative justice shall be established following the principles and guarantees set out in this Decree, within the limits of the available resources referred to in Article 67, Paragraph 1.

Article 63 - Establishment of Restorative Justice Centres and the Local Conference<sup>4</sup> for restorative justice

- 1. Restorative Justice Centres shall be established in the local authorities, determined in accordance with this Article.
- 2. For each judicial district of the appeal Court, a Local Conference for restorative justice shall be established, with the participation (through their representatives) of:
  - a) the Ministry of Justice;
  - b) the regions or autonomous provinces within whose territory the judicial district extends;
  - c) the provinces or metropolitan cities within whose territory the judicial district extends;
  - d) the municipalities with judicial offices within the judicial district;
- e) any other municipality within the judicial district in which restorative justice experiences are ongoing.
- 3. The Local Conference shall be convened by the Minister of Justice or his/her delegate at least once a year.
- 4. The Local Conference shall be coordinated by the Minister of Justice or his/her delegate and shall be conducted by video conference.
- 5. The Local Conference for Restorative Justice, after evaluating the current experience with restorative justice and after consulting the experts referred to in article 61, paragraph 2, the President of the Court of Appeal, the General Prosecutor of the Court of Appeal and the President of the Bar Council of the municipality where the Court of Appeal is located (also representing the district Bar Associations), shall identify, by means of a memorandum of understanding, on the basis of the available human, instrumental and financial resources, one or more local authorities to entrust with the establishment and management of Restorative Justice Centres. This shall be done according to the following criteria:
  - a) the need for services at local level;
- b) the need for the Centres to ensure that the full range of restorative justice programmes is offered throughout the district, either territorially or functionally;
- c) the need for the Centres to ensure that, in the provision of services, the essential levels of service are met and that the principles and guarantees set out in this Decree are respected.
- 6. The implementation of the activities referred to in this article shall be carried out by the competent administrations with the human, material and financial resources available within the framework of the legislation in force and, in any case, without new or additional costs for public finances. Participation in the activities of the Local Conference for Restorative Justice shall not entitle participants to any remuneration, fees, allowances, indemnities or reimbursements of any kind or to any other form of financial compensation.

#### Article 64 - Management forms

1. Restorative Justice Centres shall ensure the essential and uniform levels of service referred to in Article 62.

2. The Centres may use qualified mediators of the competent local authority. They may also employ qualified mediators by concluding service contracts in accordance with articles 140 and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "Local Conferences" are administrative bodies established by the Ministry of Justice to implement restorative justice at local level (*Trans. note*).

following of the legislative decree n. 50 April 18, 2016, or by using third sector entities in accordance with article 55 of the legislative decree n.117 July 3, 2017, or by means of an agreement in accordance with, article 56 of the same legislative decree.

- 3. The service contract or agreement must specify, among other things, the characteristics and methods of implementing restorative justice programmes, their duration, obligations and forms of insurance coverage, financial relations, forms of administrative control by the competent local authority and cases of expiry and termination for non-performance, including failure to comply with the principles and guarantees set out in this Decree.
- 4. In any case, the personnel implementing restorative justice programmes must qualify as expert mediator and be listed in the register referred to in Article 60, paragraph 2.

# Article 65 - Processing of personal data

- 1. The Restorative Justice Centres shall process personal data, including sensitive data as defined in articles 9 and 10 of the UE regulation 2016/679 of the European Parliament and Counsel of April 27, 2016, which are strictly necessary for the exercise of the functions and achievement of the objectives described in this decree, for purposes of significant public interest under Article 2-sexies, paragraph 2, letter q) of Legislative Decree No. 196 of 30 June 2003, and shall assume the role of data controller.
- 2. The processing of data must comply with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003.
- 3. The types of data that may be processed, the categories of persons concerned of interest, he subjects to whom the personal data may be communicated, the processing operations and the specific measures to protect the rights of the persons concerned shall be defined by decree of the Minister of Justice. The decree shall be issued within one year of the entry into force of this Decree, in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 3, of Law No. 400 of 23 August 1988, after consultation with the Data Protection Authority.

#### Article 66 - Supervision by the Ministry of Justice

- 1. The Local Conference shall submit an annual report on its activities to the Ministry of Justice. In any case, the Ministry may at any time request information on the status of the restorative justice services.
- 2. The information received shall be evaluated for the decisions to be taken following article 67, paragraph 1.

#### Article 67 - Public funding

- 1. Fund for the financing of measures in the field of restorative justice shall be set up in the budget of the Ministry of Justice, with an annual allocation of 4,438,524 euro as from 2022. By decree of the Minister of Justice, in consultation with the Minister of Economy and Finance, and after obtaining the opinion of the Unified Conference referred to in article 8 of Legislative Decree no. 281 of 28 August 1997, the annual share to be transferred to the entities referred to in article 63, paragraph 5, for the operation of the Restorative Justice Centres and the provision of related services shall be determined, within the available resources of the Fund established under this paragraph.
- 2. The Regions and Autonomous Provinces, Metropolitan Cities, Provinces, Municipalities and the Fund for the Payment of Fines, within the framework of their respective policies and

competences, may contribute to the financing of restorative justice programmes, within the limits of the resources available in their budgets.

- 3. Within the limits of the funds available under paragraph 1, and without prejudice to the financing of the measures necessary to ensure the essential level of restorative justice services, the determination of the amounts to be allocated to the bodies referred to in art. 63, paragraph 5, shall take into account, on the basis of criteria of proportionality, the amount of own resources used annually by these bodies to finance restorative justice programmes, duly documented and reported to the National Conference referred to in art. 61.
- 4. The expenditure referred to in paragraph 1, amounting to 4,438,524 euros per year as from 2022, shall be covered by a corresponding reduction in the Fund for the implementation of the delegation for the efficiency of the criminal process, referred to in article 1, paragraph 19, of law no. 134 of 27 September 2021.
- 5. The Minister of Economy and Finance is authorised to make the necessary budgetary adjustments.

Titles V-VI [Text omitted]