Women experts from all areas are selected through a methodology agreed with a scientific partner. The profiles include both experts from the academic and research community as well as professionals. The selection takes place by examining the following criteria, identified in the light of the international scientific literature on gender, organizations and work and adapted to the objective of the database functioning.

TOPICALITY
Relevant issues from the Italian, European and international public debate are taken into consideration to make the publication usable and relevant from a topical point of view. The topics of interest are defined after internal discussion within the partnership. An analysis of the main search engines is also carried out, aimed at identifying the previous year’s most searched words in Italy.

Innovation
This selection criterion refers to the inclusion in national and/or international rankings and any awards obtained for merits, research and innovations.

Territorial representation
The selection considers the need to identify experts who can represent and be an expression of different territorial realities.

Gender and generation
This criterion is intended to give visibility to experts who take gender into account in their work and research, or who demonstrate sensitivity toward the issue of equal opportunities. Using a correct gender language, such as adopting the feminine form of nouns describing professions and top positions in the Italian language, represents an element for positive evaluation, especially where it is not possible to include the gender dimension in one’s activity. It also favors those who prove to be attentive to the valorization of talents from an intergenerational perspective, and are therefore actively involved in promoting young women.

Availability
Availability is a fundamental preliminary criterion. In addition to correctly representing excellence and scientific work, experts must be able to become a point of reference for journalists, who are the end-users of the database itself. Experts must declare their availability for journalistic interviews and participation in initiatives and public interest events.

1) STEM AREA
The selection is supervised by a scientific committee composed of Silvia Bencivelli, Gilberto Corbellini, Alberto Quadrio Curzio, Daniela Falcinelli, Maria Cristina Messa, Telmo Pievani, and Donatella Sciuto. The STEM area experts are selected through a methodology agreed with the Genders (Gender & Equality in Research and Science) research center of the University of Milan.

Online selection criteria
Specific Criteria for Academics
Classification. Academic experts are identified starting with research by disciplinary sector according to the classification of scientific disciplines used by the European Research Council (ERC), carried out by inserting keywords in specialized databases. The intent is to identify experts in each field, always balancing the classification criterion with the topical criterion. The ERC research lines of most significant interest to the media will, therefore, be privileged.

Relevance. Publications are an essential indicator of the quality of the experts, especially international ones. In light of the possible criticalities of an analysis based on quantitative data only, in addition to taking into consideration the results obtained from specialized databases, such as Scopus, ResearchGate and Web of Science, a qualitative evaluation of the work is also done, assessing the prestige of the publications and the variety of addressed topics.

Specific criteria for non-academics
Non-academic experts are mostly selected through the snowball sampling technique, that is thanks to referrals by other colleagues from the activated networks, with particular attention to colleagues who enjoy less visibility despite having the same criteria. In fact, once referrals have been submitted, they are evaluated according to the criteria, particularly by well-known experts in comparison to less visible colleagues.

2) ECONOMY AND FINANCE AREA

The selection of economy and finance experts is agreed with the Bocconi University of Milan and supervised by a scientific committee chaired by Paola Profeta and composed of Elena Casolari, Alberto Quadrio Curzio, Daniele Manca, Paola Profeta and Anna Maria Tarantola.

Specific criteria for academics
Italian academics are selected based on the top 5% of the REPEC ranking for economists who work in the MIUR Macrosector 13/4 in Italy or who work abroad. Bibliometric indicators are also considered: Google Scholar citations above 1000 and at least 12 H-index to identify a relevant impact of research in the academic community.

Specific criteria for non-academics
For professionals, as for the STEM area, snowball sampling is used, including experts who graduated in economic disciplines, but also mathematics and management engineering. The list includes managers of public institutions and excludes professionals who work in private companies.

3) INTERNATIONAL POLITICS AREA

The selection of international politics experts is agreed with ISPI (Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale) and supervised by a scientific committee chaired by Beatrice Covassi and composed of Barbara Stefanelli and Paolo Magri.

Specific criteria for academics
Italian academics are selected based on: relevant educational qualifications [degree and/or doctorate in Political Sciences, International Relations, Law, International Economics, History, Languages for International Relations], publications [essays, articles in scientific journals, analysis and in-depth articles in dedicated think tank websites and specialist magazines both online and in print, think tank reports], consultancy to national/European institutions and/or international organizations, prizes and awards.

Specific criteria for non-academics
For professionals, as for the other areas, snowball sampling is used, including experts with at least 5 years of experience in the field and/or in the sector of competence, with a relevant degree [degree and/or doctorate in Political Science, International Relations, Law, International Economics, History, Languages for International Relations], consultancy to national/European institutions and/or international organizations. The database also includes exponents of international organizations with relevant educational qualifications [degree and/or doctorate in Political Science, International Relations, Law, International Economics, History, Languages for International Relations], at least 5 years of experience in the field and/or in the sector of competence, published articles, reports and/or management of international/national projects.

REFERRALS

It is possible to refer an expert by writing to 100esperte@osservatorio.it. Every year referrals received by April 30 will be evaluated and published by June 30, those received from May 1 to October 31 will be evaluated and published by December 31.