

# TENDER FILE / TERMS OF REFERENCE

(Restricted consultation procedure / Framework Contract)

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

## Purchase of consultancy services on facilitation of the Media Contests on the decentralisation reform at the national and regional levels and the Dityatko film contest on the topic “We are the local self-government!”

### Contract N° 8549/2018/37RC/T

The Council of Europe is currently implementing a Programme “Decentralisation and local government reform in Ukraine”. In that context, it is looking for Provider(s) for provision of services on facilitation of the Media Contests on the decentralisation reform at the national and regional levels and the Dityatko film contest on the topic “We are the local self-government!” to be requested by the Council on an as needed basis.

#### A. TENDER RULES

This tender procedure is a restricted consultation procedure. **In accordance with Rule 1333 of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the procurement procedures of the Council of Europe<sup>1</sup>, the Organisation shall invite to tender at least three potential providers for any purchase between €2,000 (or €5,000 for intellectual services) and €55,000 tax exclusive.**

This specific tender procedure aims at concluding a **framework contract** for the provision of deliverables described in the Act of Engagement (See attached). A tender is considered valid for 120 calendar days as from the closing date for submission. The selection of tenderers will be made in the light of the criteria indicated below. All tenderers will be informed in writing of the outcome of the procedure.

The tenderer must be either a natural person, or a legal person except consortia.

Tenders shall be submitted **by email only** (with attachments) **to the email address indicated in the table below, with the following reference in subject: Call on Media contests 8549/2018/37RC/T**. Tenders addressed to another email address **will be rejected**.

The general information and contact details for this procedure are indicated on this page. You are invited to use the CoE Contact details indicated below for any question you may have. **All questions shall be submitted at least 5 (five) working days before the deadline for submission of the tenders and shall be exclusively addressed to the email address indicated below with the following reference in subject: Call on Media contests 8549/2018/37RC/T**.

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Type of contract ▶                          | Framework contract     |
| Duration ▶                                  | Until 28 February 2019 |
| Deadline for submission of tenders/offers ▶ | 15 August 2018         |
| Email for submission of tenders/offers ▶    | Andriy.GUK@coe.int     |
| Email for questions ▶                       | Andriy.GUK@coe.int     |
| Expected starting date of execution ▶       | 30 August 2018         |

<sup>1</sup> The activities of the Council of Europe are governed by its [Statute](#) and its internal Regulations. Procurement is governed by the Financial Regulations of the Organisation and by [Rule 1333 of 29 June 2011 on the procurement procedures of the Council of Europe](#).

## B. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

### Background of the Project

The Council of Europe Programme “Decentralisation and local government reform in Ukraine” is implemented as a part of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine for 2018-2021.

The Programme has been designed so that its activities contribute to the following impact: decentralisation and local government reform are strengthened through revision of the legislation and capacity-building activities, which leads to improving the quality of the governance and services at the local level. To ensure the desired impact, the one of the main field of the CoE activities is support to the implementation of Media Contests on the decentralisation reform at the national and regional levels and the Dityatko film contest on the topic “We are the local self-government!” for the best coverage of the decentralisation reform.

The methodology of the National Media Contest on the decentralisation reform was developed by the Council of Europe on the Minregion request and tested in 2016 successfully. From 2017 the National Media Contest is an official annual contest of the Minregion supported by the Council of Europe. Taking into account the Contest success at the national level as well as official recommendation from the Minregion some oblast councils requested the Council of Europe support in adaptation of the National Media Contest’s methodology to the regional circumstances. As a result several Regional Media Contests on the decentralisation reform were launched in Kharkiv, Vinnitsa, Khmelnytsky, Donetsk, Chernigiv and Sumy oblasts according to the decision of the oblasts councils with the Council of Europe methodological support in 2016-2018. Some oblasts councils are still waiting for such a decision to launch regional Media Contest.

The Council of Europe is looking for a maximum of 15 Providers (provided enough tenders meet the criteria indicated below) in order to support the implementation of the project with a particular expertise in (i) facilitation of media support to ensure the best coverage of the decentralisation reform at the national and regional levels, (ii) application of the Council of Europe standards and recommendations, (iii) providing expert support to implementation of the decentralisation reform in Ukraine.

This Contract is currently estimated to cover up to 21 activities, to be held by 28 February 2019. This estimate is for information only and shall not constitute any sort of contractual commitment on the part of the Council of Europe. The Contract may potentially represent a higher or lower number of activities, depending on the evolving needs of the Organisation.

The total amount of the object of present tender **shall not exceed 55,000 Euros tax exclusive** for the whole duration of the Framework Contract. This information does not constitute any sort of contractual commitment or obligation on the part of the Council of Europe.

### Scope of the Framework Contract

Throughout the duration of the Framework Contract, the pre-selected Providers may be asked to:

- Promote the contests: elaborate informational articles, posters and other information materials as well as disseminate it regularly via websites, FB and by e-mail to journalists, media and local authorities etc.;
- Collect and check the contests’ application forms;
- Consult interested parties on the contests’ procedure including via phone and via mail;
- Manage the data for the Selection procedure;
- Facilitate selection procedure: participate in the pre-selection of the applications, coordination in the selection panels, presentation results, award ceremonies;
- Present the overviews of the progress and results of the contests;
- Provide support in elaboration of the contests’ materials for the next year cycle;
- Contribute to organisation of thematic study visits for the contests winners.

The above lists is not considered exhaustive. The Council reserves the right to request deliverables not explicitly mentioned in the above lists of expected services, but related to the field of expertise object of the present Framework Contract.

In terms of **quality requirements**, the pre-selected Service Providers must ensure, *inter alia*, that:

- The services are provided to the highest professional/academic standard;
- Any specific instructions given by the Council – whenever this is the case – are followed.

In addition to the orders requested on an as needed basis, the Provider shall keep regular communication with the Council to ensure continuing exchange of information relevant to the project implementation. This involves, among others, to inform the Council as soon as it becomes aware, during the execution of the Contract, of any initiatives and/or adopted laws and regulations, policies, strategies or action plans or any other development related to the object of the Contract (see more on general obligations of the Provider in Article 3.1.2 of the Legal Conditions in the Act of Engagement).

Unless otherwise agreed with the Council, written documents produced by the Provider shall be in Ukrainian and/or English specified in concrete order of the Council (see more on requirements for written documents in Articles 3.2.2 and 3.2.3 of the Legal Conditions in the Act of Engagement).]

### C. FEES

Tenderers are invited to indicate their fees, by completing and sending the table of fees, as attached in Section A to the Act of Engagement. These fees are final and not subject to review. Tenders proposing fees above the exclusion level indicated in the Table of fees will be **entirely and automatically** excluded from the tender procedure.

The Council will indicate on each Order Form (see Section D below) the global fee corresponding to each deliverable, calculated on the basis of the unit fees, as agreed by this Contract.

### D. HOW WILL THIS FRAMEWORK CONTRACT WORK? (ORDERING PROCEDURE)

Once this consultation and the subsequent selection are completed, you will be informed accordingly. Deliverables will then be delivered on the basis of Order Forms submitted by the Council to the selected Provider (s), by post or electronically, on **an as needed basis** (there is therefore no obligation to order on the part of the Council).

#### Pooling

For each Order, the Council will choose from the pool of pre-selected tenderers the Provider who demonstrably offers best value for money for its requirement when assessed – for the Order concerned – against the criteria of:

- quality (including as appropriate: capability, expertise, past performance, availability of resources and proposed methods of undertaking the work);
- availability (including, without limitation, capacity to meet required deadlines and, where relevant, geographical location); and
- price.

Each time an Order Form is sent, the selected Provider undertakes to take all the necessary measures to send it **signed** to the Council within 2 (two) working days after its reception. If a Provider is unable to take an Order or if no reply is given on his behalf within that deadline, the Council may call on another Provider using the same criteria, and so on until a suitable Provider is contracted.

#### Providers subject to VAT

The Provider, **if subject to VAT**, shall also send, together with each signed Form, a quote<sup>2</sup> (Pro Forma invoice) in line with the indications specified on each Order Form, and including:

- the Service Provider's name and address;
- its VAT number;
- the full list of services;
- the fee per type of deliverables (in the currency indicated on the Act of Engagement, tax exclusive);
- the total amount per type of deliverables (in the currency indicated on the Act of Engagement, tax exclusive);
- the total amount (in the currency indicated on the Act of Engagement), tax exclusive, the applicable VAT rate, the amount of VAT and the amount VAT inclusive .

#### Signature of orders

An Order Form is considered to be legally binding when the Order, signed by the Provider, is approved by the Council, by displaying a Council's Purchase Order number on the Order, as well as by signing and stamping the Order concerned. Copy of each approved Order Form shall be sent to the Provider, to the extent possible on the day of its signature.

### E. ASSESSMENT

#### *Exclusion criteria and absence of conflict of interests*

(by signing the Act of Engagement, you declare on your honour not being in any of the below situations)<sup>3</sup>

Tenderers shall be excluded from participating in the tender procedure if they:

- have been sentenced by final judgment on one or more of the following charges: participation in a criminal organisation, corruption, fraud, money laundering;

<sup>2</sup> It must strictly respect the fees indicated in the Act of Engagement. In case of non-compliance with these fees, the Council of Europe reserves the right to terminate the Contract with the Provider, in all or in part.

<sup>3</sup> The Council of Europe reserves the right to ask tenderers, at a later stage, to supply an extract from the record of convictions or failing that an equivalent document issued by the competent judicial or administrative authority of the country of incorporation, indicating that the first three above listed exclusion criteria are met, and a certificate issued by the competent authority of the country of incorporation indicating that the fourth criterion is met.

- are in a situation of bankruptcy, liquidation, termination of activity, insolvency or arrangement with creditors or any like situation arising from a procedure of the same kind, or are subject to a procedure of the same kind;
- have received a judgment with res judicata force, finding an offence that affects their professional integrity or serious professional misconduct;
- do not comply with their obligations as regards payment of social security contributions, taxes and dues, according to the statutory provisions of their country of incorporation, establishment or residence;
- are or are likely to be in a situation of conflict of interests.

*Eligibility criteria*

- A university degree;
- At least 2 year of experience in providing support to the implementation of the local self-government and decentralisation reform.

*Award criteria*

- Quality of the offer (90%), including:
  - Relevance of the experience of the tenderer in the areas covered by this call (decentralisation and local self-government reform, media support to the decentralisation etc.), including previous assignments with international organisations (45%);
  - Previous relevant experience in facilitating the implementation of the contests methodology in Ukraine (45%);
- Financial offer (10%).

Multiple tendering is not authorised.

F. DOCUMENTS TO BE PROVIDED

- A completed and signed copy of the **Act of Engagement**<sup>4</sup> (See attached);
- A **detailed CV**, demonstrating clearly that the tenderer fulfills the eligibility criteria (4 pages maximum);
- At least one example of the previous deliverables / links to publications etc. relevant to the experience the tenderer claims.

**Act of Engagement and CV shall be submitted in English, failure to do so will result in the exclusion of the tender. Other supporting documents can be provided in English or Ukrainian.**

**If any of the documents listed above are missing, the tender will not be considered.**

**The Council reserves the right to reject a tender if the scanned documents are of such a quality that the documents cannot be read once printed.**

\* \* \*

---

<sup>4</sup> The Act of Engagement must be completed, signed and scanned in its entirety (i.e. including all the pages). The scanned Act of Engagement may be sent page by page (attached to a single email) or as a compiled document, although a compiled document would be preferred. For all scanned documents, .pdf files are preferred.