



HORIZONTAL FACILITY FOR WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY

“Accountability of the Judicial System” Call for Expression of Interest for national short - term consultants

Title:	National short-term consultants for providing expertise and support for the implementation of the Action “Accountability of the Judicial System” implemented within the framework of the EU/CoE Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Turkey
Duty station:	Podgorica, Montenegro
Project:	EU/CoE Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Turkey HF 14 – Montenegro - Accountability of the Judicial System
Organisation:	Council of Europe, Programme Office in Podgorica, Montenegro
Contract duration:	From 10 to 30 working days during the period of February 2017 – October 2018 (the exact number of working days/consultants to be determined according to project needs)
Possible start date:	20 February 2017
Deadline for applications:	8 February 2017, 16:00 Podgorica time

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT/CONTEXT

As a part of the European Union and the Council of Europe programmatic framework Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Turkey” the Council of Europe is implementing the Action “Accountability of the Judicial System” in Montenegro. The objective of the Action is to enhance the capacity of the Judicial and Prosecutorial Councils, the Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution and the accountability of whole judicial system of Montenegro. This objective will be pursued through supporting the implementation of primary and secondary legislation regulating the area of judicial accountability, capacity building activities for judges and prosecutors, awareness raising campaigns and development of training programme for judges and prosecutors.

The Action will achieve the following outcomes:

- Strengthened capacity of the Judicial Council to recruit, assess and promote judges based on transparent, merit-based and non-discriminatory criteria;
- Enhanced accountability of the judicial system through support to the implementation of the Code of Ethics for judges and prosecutors;
- Enhanced accountability of the judicial system through support of the implementation of disciplinary procedures for judges and prosecutors;

- Strengthened institutional capacity of the Judicial and the Prosecutorial Councils;
- Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution empowered to implement the 2015 Law on the Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution.

The main partners of the project are Judicial Council, Prosecutorial Council, Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution, Ministry of Justice, Office of the Supreme State Prosecutor, Supreme Court and the Bar Association of Montenegro.

The Action started on 1 November 2016 and will be implemented throughout a period of 24 months.

DESCRIPTION OF TASKS AND QUALIFICATIONS

The Council of Europe Programme Office in Podgorica is creating a Roster of national consultants with extensive professional experience and knowledge of Council of Europe standards for providing assistance and expert support to the judicial institutions in the course of judicial reform process. The Roster will enable the project to respond in an immediate and efficient manner to the need for specific expertise to support local stakeholders and partners.

We are pleased to invite experienced local consultants (individuals, not companies) to apply to be considered for registration in the project's consultant and trainer's roster in the following thematic areas:

1. Support to the implementation of the Code of Ethics for judges and prosecutors;
2. Support to the implementation of disciplinary procedures for judges and prosecutors;
3. Strengthening institutional capacities of the Judicial and Prosecutorial Councils
4. Support to the Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution

The selected consultants are expected to contribute to the achievement of the expected results project's objectives and expected results, in close cooperation with the Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law (DG1) and project staff in the Council of Europe Programme Office in Podgorica, as well as project partners and other consultants. The consultants will be expected to travel within Montenegro to make evaluations and analysis, to draft reports and recommendations, and to support the implementation of capacity-building activities. The consultants' tasks may include contribution to implementation of one or a combination of several of the following activities:

- Examining existing practices of the implementation of the codes of ethics for judges and prosecutors;
- Providing training sessions and workshops for judges and prosecutors on principles and rules of ethics in judiciary;
- Providing workshops for development of tools and guidelines of codes of ethics;
- Developing public awareness materials on ethics standards for judges and prosecutors and complaint procedures in cooperation with Judicial and Prosecutorial Council;
- Assessment of the current disciplinary rules and proceedings and evaluation of the roles and performances of the Disciplinary Committees;
- Developing study with findings and recommendations for improvement in implementation of disciplinary rules and procedures;
- Attending seminars and round table discussions with judges, prosecutors and other stakeholders;
- Providing functional analysis of the Judicial and Prosecutorial Councils;
- Coordinating work of the Working group for developing information and public relation strategy for the Councils;
- Needs assessment for the secretariats and members of the Councils;
- Developing plan for priority training needs for the secretariats and members of the Councils;

- Drawing up road map for improving Judicial Council's budgeting and financial capacities;
- Analysing capacity and needs of the Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution;
- Coordinating work of the working group for developing strategy and action plan for the implementation of the Law on Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution;
- Developing Strategy and the Action Plan for the Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution.

KEY QUALIFICATIONS

- University degree in law;
- Minimum 5 years of professional experience at international and/or national level;
- Extensive professional experience at the national level in areas related to judiciary and human rights;
- Excellent knowledge of the national judiciary reform process, strategic framework, legislation, policies and practices;
- Strong analytical, research and reporting skills;
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills and ability to facilitate training sessions;
- Excellent oral and written knowledge of Montenegrin, proficiency in English is desirable;
- Experience with similar international projects would be an advantage.

EVALUATION PROCESS

Consultants will be evaluated based on qualifications and the competencies specified for each thematic area/subcategory. Only consultants who best meet the criteria indicated in this call will be considered for shortlisting. Consultants cannot be government employees or civil servants.

FEES AND STATUS

The selected consultants will be included into the roster. When a request for services arises, the project will contact the most appropriate consultant from the roster and offer a Council of Europe consultancy contract. The proposed contract cannot be construed as conferring on the selected candidates the capacity of Council of Europe staff member or employee.

In case of travel all travel expenses and per diems will be paid by the CoE according to the applicable rules of the Council of Europe.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Consultants are invited to submit the following documents via e-mail to the following address:

justice.montenegro@coe.int.

- Curriculum Vitae in English (Europass format, maximum length 4 pages) highlighting the relevant experience required for the tasks;
- Form for expression of interest, indicating to which of the activities mentioned above experts would be interested to contribute to.

Please do not send any other documents and in particular any heavy attachments at this stage.

If any additional clarification is needed, applicants are invited to submit an e-mail to the following address: justice.montenegro@coe.int.

The deadline for applications is **8 February 2017, 16:00 Podgorica time**.

NOTE

Only selected consultants will be contacted. The decision of the CoE, to accept or reject an application is not subject to appeal.