

TENDER FILE / TERMS OF REFERENCE (Restricted consultation procedure / Framework Contract)

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Purchase of consultancy services for the provision of services in the area of communication under the Project "Improving the Effectiveness of the Administrative Judiciary and Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of the Council of State" in Turkey

The Council of Europe is currently implementing a Project on "Improving the Effectiveness of the Administrative Judiciary and Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of the Council of State" in Turkey. In that context, it is looking for a Provider for the provision of services in area of communication 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 Europe¹, 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 under paragraph B-Expected Deliverables below. 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 duly registered company under sole proprietorship of a natural person, or equivalent, provided that the signatory of the Act of Engagement is individually liable for all obligations undertaken by the entity, and is the owner of the moral rights in any creations of the entity. If contracted by the Council of Europe, the signatory of the Act of Engagement shall provide the deliverables personally, in accordance with the terms as provided in the current Tender File, Act of Engagement and future Order Forms (see Section D below on ordering procedure).

Tenders shall be submitted **by email only** (with attachments) **to the email address indicated in the table below, with the following reference in subject: Consultancy-Communication.** 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: Question: Consultancy-Communication**

Type of contract ►	Framework contract
Duration ►	Until 31 December 2021
Deadline for submission of tenders/offers ►	18 July 2019
Email for submission of tenders/offers ►	dg1.admjust.tr@coe.int
Email for questions ►	dg1.admjust.tr@coe.int
Expected starting date of execution ►	02 August 2019

¹ 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 is currently implementing a project on Improving the Effectiveness of the Administrative Judiciary and Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of the Council of State in Turkey, co-funded by the European Union, the Republic of Turkey and the Council of Europe. The project aims at fostering public confidence in the administrative judiciary by further strengthening its independence, impartiality and effectiveness, and increasing its public awareness. The project's objectives are: to support further reform of the administrative justice system in Turkey, including strengthening the institutional capacity of the Council of State as well as increasing the effectiveness and quality of administrative justice courts.

The project has a total duration of 36 months and will be completed in December 2021.

The Council of Europe is looking for **a maximum of 3 Providers** (provided enough tenders meet the criteria indicated below) in order to support the implementation of the project with a particular expertise **in communication**.

This Contract is currently estimated to cover up to 6 activities to be held by 31 December 2021. 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.

For information purposes only, the total budget of the project amounts to 3.335.000 Euros and 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, pre-selected Providers may be asked to:

- Review the Project Communication and Visibility Plan;
- Develop and implement the Project communications strategy with the aim of securing maximum public attention to it, through, for example, press releases, special events, and press interviews either through traditional (broadcast/print) or electronic media;
- Advise on and/or support the implementation of all communication and visibility activities included in the Project Communication and Visibility Plan in close co-ordination with the project team, the other project consultants and the relevant service providers;
- Develop, pre-test, review and periodically update on the basis of feedback and need appropriate messages, tools and materials (such as materials for different media/target audiences, information scripts, TV/radio spots, illustrative leaflets, posters, infographics and other materials) in close co-ordination with the project team, the other project consultants and the relevant service providers;
- Supervise the design and production of high-quality visibility and communication material in a timely manner in coordination with the project team and the beneficiaries;
- Advise on innovative communication approaches via social media platforms, especially through the established Council of Europe and beneficiary institution's social media accounts;
- Track and report regularly web and social media statistics on project visibility ;
- Liaise with the communication and information departments of the beneficiary institutions, and the EU Delegation in Turkey for joint approaches and activities.
- Ensure timely and quality implementation of communication and visibility activities, tools and outputs including but not limited to public events; conferences, media events/press conferences, publications; visual instruments; information and visibility material; website;
- Effectively monitor and evaluate various communications tools and activities, to measure the impact on achieving the overall Project objective;
- Draft reports;
- Ensure that all necessary measures are taken to ensure the visibility of the European Union and the Republic of Turkey in line with the Communication and Visibility Manual of EU and Council of Europe.

The above list is not considered exhaustive. The Council reserves the right to request deliverables not explicitly mentioned in the above list of expected services, but related to the field of expertise which is the object of the 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 a continuous 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 English (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 quote² (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;

² 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.

- 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)³

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;
- 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

1. University Degree or equivalent in communication/media, journalism or related fields.
2. Fluency in Turkish and in English with good verbal and written skills (at least level B2 of the CEFR).
3. Financial offer not exceeding the limit set out in the Act of Engagement.

Award criteria

1. At least 3 years of relevant experience in communication and visibility (30%).
2. A demonstrated experience in developing and implementing communication and visibility plans or campaigns tailored to different audiences and using a variety of means and/or experience in international technical assistance projects with a focus on legal co-operation or justice sector reforms would be an advantage (30%).
3. Writing and presentation skills (20%)
4. Financial offer (20%).

The Council reserves the right to hold interviews with eligible tenderers.

Multiple tendering is not authorised.

F. DOCUMENTS TO BE PROVIDED

- A completed and signed copy of the **Act of Engagement**⁴ (see attached);

³ 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.

⁴ 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.

- A detailed CV, preferably in Europass Format, demonstrating clearly that the tenderer fulfils the eligibility criteria;
- A motivation letter (maximum one page) describing the tenderer's interest in and specific contribution to the present consultancy;
- A word document outlining how the tenderer meets each of the eligibility and award criteria mentioned above under item E. A text of maximum 200 words per each criterion shall describe, preferably with reference to concrete examples, the tenderer's relevant experience and competences in relation to the given criterion. Text exceeding the 200 words per criterion will not be considered.
- Sample of a communication and visibility plan for an international technical cooperation project prepared by the tenderer.

All documents shall be submitted in English, failure to do so will result in the exclusion of the tender.

If any of the documents listed above are missing, the Council of Europe reserves the right to reject the tender.

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.

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