**TENDER FILE / TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**(Competitive bidding procedure/ One-off contract)**

**Purchase of consultancy services** **to support confidential counselling mechanism evaluation of the Georgian Bar Association’s Ethics Commission**

***Contract N° 1-13/03/2020-BH8686***

The Council of Europe is currently implementing until 14/12/2021 a Project on *Support to the profession of lawyer in Georgia*. In that context, it is looking for a Provider for the provision of consultancy services to support confidential counselling mechanism evaluation of the Georgian Bar Association’s Ethics Commission (See Section A of the Act of Engagement).

1. TENDER RULES

This tender procedure is a competitive bidding procedure. **In accordance with Rule 1395 of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the procurement procedures of the Council of Europe[[1]](#footnote-1), 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 **one-off 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: Tender\_Local consultancy\_GBA Ethics Commission.** 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: Questions\_ Tender\_Local consultancy\_GBA Ethics Commission.**

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| --- | --- |
| **Type of contract ►** | One-off contract  |
| **Duration ►** | Until complete execution of the obligations of the parties (See Article 2 of the Legal conditions as reproduced in the Act of Engagement) |
| **Deadline for submission of tenders/offers ►** | 30 March 2020 |
| **Email for submission of tenders/offers ►** | archil.pashalishvili@coe.int  |
| **Email for questions ►** | archil.pashalishvili@coe.int |
| **Expected starting date of execution ►** | 07 April 2020 |

1. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

The expected deliverables are described in **Section A of the Act of Engagement** (See attached).

1. FEES

All tenderers are invited to fill in the **table of fees** as reproduced in **Section A of the Act of Engagement**.

Tenderers **subject to VAT** shall also send **a quote (Pro Forma invoice)** on their letterhead 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.

1. ASSESSMENT

*Exclusion criteria and absence of conflict of interests*

(by signing the Act of Engagement,**[[2]](#footnote-2)** you declare on your honour not being in any of the below situations)

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*

* At least 5 years of professional experience working in the areas of justice, justice sector reform, and socio-legal research, particularly in the areas of equal treatment and opportunities;
* Excellent knowledge of Georgian and English (at least level C1 of the CEFR);
* Financial offer not exceeding the limit set out in the Act of Engagement.

*Award criteria*

* Quality of the offer (90%), including:
	+ Methodology proposed;
	+ Capacity to meet the deadlines indicated in the Terms of reference;
	+ Relevance of the experience of the tenderer in the areas covered by this call (35%);
	+ Social research, drafting and analytical skills (55%);
	+ Consultancy or other relevant work experience in international projects and/or in projects related to justice (10%).
* Financial offer (10%).

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

Multiple tendering is not authorised.

1. NEGOTIATIONS

The Council reserves the right to hold negotiations with the bidders in accordance with Article 20 of Rule 1395.

1. DOCUMENTS TO BE PROVIDED

Tenderers are invited to submit:

* **A completed and signed copy of the Act of Engagement[[3]](#footnote-3) (See attached)**
* For tenderers subject to VAT only: **a quote, describing their financial offer**, in line with the requirements of section C of the Tender File (see above);
* Registration documents, for legal persons only;
* Contact details of 3 (three) references;
* A sample, not exceeding 3 pages (i.e. an extract), of a study, report or another relevant text recently drafted, in English, by the tenderer. Where relevant, a sample of the work of each individual allocated to work under the contract should be included;
* Motivation letter, not exceeding 1 page, describing how the tenderer meets the requirements of the expected services. Tenderers may supplement motivation letters with documents proving their knowledge, such as programmes of events and descriptions of projects they participated in, titles and references of research they undertook and summaries of reports they produced.

**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.**

**\* \* \***

1. The activities of the Council of Europe are governed by its [Statute](https://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=0900001680306052) and its internal Regulations. Procurement is governed by the Financial Regulations of the Organisation and by [Rule 1395 of 20 June 2019 on the procurement procedures of the Council of Europe](https://search.coe.int/intranet/Pages/result_details.aspx?ObjectId=090000168094853e). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 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. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. 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. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)