**TENDER FILE / TERMS OF REFERENCE**

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

**Purchase of fully equipped conference hall and catering services during the Conference on the execution of the ECtHR judgments which is to be organised on 12 December 2025 in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova within the framework of the Council of Europe Project on “Strengthening the human rights compliant criminal justice system in the Republic of Moldova phase II”, *Contract N° BH9275/2025/29*.**

The Council of Europe is currently implementing a Project on “Strengthening the human rights compliant criminal justice system in the Republic of Moldova Phase II” (hereinafter – the SHRCCJ Project), running from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2028. The SHRCCJ Project aims to enhance the protection of human rights for the population of the Republic of Moldova by fostering an effective and functional criminal justice system in line with the European human rights standards.

In that context, it is looking for a Provider for the provision of fully equipped conference hall and catering services during the Conference on the execution of the ECtHR judgments which is to be organised on 12 December 2025 in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova (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 €6,000 for intellectual services) and €171,000 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 180 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 a legal person or consortia of legal and/or natural persons.

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 – *Venue and catering services in Chisinau, SHRCCJ Project*.** 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 – *Venue and catering services in Chisinau, SHRCCJ Project*.**

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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 ►** | 16 September 2025 23h59 CET |
| **Email for submission of tenders/offers ►** | **Criminal.Justice@coe.int** |
| **Email for questions ►** | **questions.criminal.justice@coe.int** |
| **Expected starting date of execution ►** | 12 December 2025 |

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

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, terrorist financing, terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities, child labour or trafficking in human beings;
* 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 an entity created to circumvent tax, social or other legal obligations (empty shell company), have ever created or are in the process of creation of such an entity;
* have been involved in mismanagement of the Council of Europe funds or public funds;
* are or appear to be in a situation of conflict of interest;
* are retired Council of Europe staff members or are staff members having benefitted from an early departure scheme;
* are currently employed by the Council of Europe or were employed by the Council of Europe on the date of the launch of the procurement procedure;
* are subject to restrictive measures applied by the United Nations Security Council or the European Union. In the case of legal persons, the restrictive measures imposed on the tenderer’s owner(s) or executives will also exclude the tenderer from participating in this tender procedure.

*Eligibility criteria*

The eligibility criteria determine the conditions for participating in a procurement procedure and define the essential requirements that each bidder must comply with. Bidders shall demonstrate that they fulfil the following criteria:

* Being registered as a company specialised in the field covered by this call;
* Proven experience of the tenderer in the areas covered by this call;
* Availability to execute the assignment on the dates indicated in the Terms of Reference.

*Award criteria*

The award criteria aim at assessing the quality of a bidin order to **identify the bid/s offering the best value for money**. Eligible bids will be assessed against the following award criteria:

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| **Award criteria** | **Document/s to be submitted** |
| **Quality of the offer (****90 points), including:**   * + Relevant experience of the tenderer in the areas covered by this call (30 points);   + Provider’s characteristics (central location in Chisinau or very well connected to the centre of Chisinau or easily accessible location, quality of facilities (conference rooms, restaurant halls, outdoor space) and quality of services offered (menus for coffee breaks, buffet lunch, including quantity of portions and catering), flexible cancellation policy regarding adjustments of the number of participants; (60 points); | * The company’s profile describing the tenderer’s capacity to meet the requirements of the tender (brief 2-pages description of the experience in providing similar services with international organizations/business clients; * Graphic presentation (pictures) of the conference room/s with indication of total area in square meters (m2) and total capacity of each room, samples of menus for coffee breaks and lunch break; * A detailed description of the cancellation policy regarding adjustments of the number of participants which the service provider intends to apply to each deliverable. |
| **Financial offer (10 points)** | Completed and signed Act of Engagement |

The above award criteria will be assessed based on the bidder’s capacity, as outlined in the supporting document, or on the basis of a consolidated assessment of the combined capacity of all eligible profiles or consortium members if the bid is submitted by a legal person or a consortium.

*Additional rules applicable to the submission and assessment of the bids*

The bidders’ attention is drawn to the following additional rules governing the assessment of the bids:

* Unless expressly provided otherwise in the tender documents, a bidder may not submit more than one bid for the same procurement procedure. Bidding for more than one lot – where a contract is divided into lots – is allowed;
* In the same procurement procedure, natural person may not submit a bid on his/her own behalf and, at the same time, be included in a bid submitted by a legal person or a consortium. In such cases, the Council of Europe reserves the right to exclude the bid submitted by the natural person from the procurement procedure;
* In the same procurement procedure, a legal person may not submit a bid and, at the same time, be a member of a consortium also bidding under the same procurement procedure. In such cases, the Council of Europe reserves the right to exclude the bid submitted by the legal person from the procurement procedure.

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**

* **One** completed and signed copy of the Act of Engagement;[[3]](#footnote-3)
* A list of all owners and executive officers, for legal persons only;
* Registration documents (scanned);
* All the documents listed above, under **Section D** (see above), necessary for the assessment of the bid under the eligibility and award criteria.

**All documents shall be submitted in English (registration document/s can be submitted in original language), 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.**

**Documents may be submitted via file sharing services such as WeTransfer, Dropbox, OneDrive, etc.). In this case, the link must mandatorily remain active for at least 30 days after the deadline for the submission of the bids. Failure to ensure this may lead to the bid being excluded from the procurement procedure.**

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

**\* \* \***

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 the following supporting documents:

   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 and sixth above listed exclusion criteria are met;

   A certificate issued by the competent authority of the country of incorporation indicating that the fourth criterion is met;

   For legal persons, an extract from the companies register or other official document proving ownership and control of the Tenderer;

   For natural persons (including owners and executive officers of legal persons), a scanned copy of a valid photographic proof of identity (e.g. passport). [↑](#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)