Germany-Frankfurt am Main: ECB - Provision of Quantitative and Qualitative Research
2020/S 142-348307

Contract notice

Services

Legal Basis:
Directive 2014/24/EU

Section I: Contracting authority
I.1) Name and addresses
Official name: European Central Bank
Postal address: Sonnemannstrasse 22
Town: Frankfurt am Main
NUTS code: DE712 Frankfurt am Main, Kreisfreie Stadt
Postal code: 60314
Country: Germany
Contact person: Berengere Giraud
E-mail: procurement@ecb.europa.eu
Fax: +49 69/13447110
Internet address(es):
Main address: http://www.ecb.europa.eu

I.2) Information about joint procurement

I.3) Communication
The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at: http://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobsproc/sourcing/html/index.en.html
Additional information can be obtained from the abovementioned address
Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the abovementioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority
European institution/agency or international organisation

I.5) Main activity
Economic and financial affairs

Section II: Object
II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title:
Provision of Quantitative and Qualitative Research
Reference number: PRO-005337

II.1.2) Main CPV code
79311000 Survey services

II.1.3) Type of contract
Services

II.1.4) Short description:
The European Central Bank is seeking through this open procedure suppliers for the provision of qualitative and quantitative survey research and intends to award two framework agreements (the ‘Contracts’) to the suppliers offering the best value for money, provided that a sufficient number of suppliers meet the selection and award criteria.

The ECB may conduct procurements on its own behalf and for the benefit of institutions entitled to participate in the activities of the Eurosystem Procurement Coordination Office.

The ECB and the Participating EPCO Members continuously strive to have a better understanding of public attitudes towards payment habits and preferences, perception and awareness about euro banknotes, knowledge about the institution itself and about news consumption habits through research that draws from opinion polls among the general public, merchants, cash handlers or other specific target groups.

II.1.5) **Estimated total value**
Value excluding VAT: 30 000 000.00 EUR

II.1.6) **Information about lots**
This contract is divided into lots: no

II.2) **Description**

II.2.1) **Title:**

II.2.2) **Additional CPV code(s)**
- 79311100 Survey design services
- 79311200 Survey conduction services
- 79311210 Telephone survey services
- 79311300 Survey analysis services
- 79342310 Customer survey services
- 79342311 Customer satisfaction survey
- 79300000 Market and economic research; polling and statistics
- 79320000 Public-opinion polling services

II.2.3) **Place of performance**
NUTS code: DE DEUTSCHLAND
Main site or place of performance:
The works and services may be provided mainly at the premises of the contractor, or at any other place indicated in a specific order. Please refer to the Tender documentation.

II.2.4) **Description of the procurement:**
The data collected via different polls and opinion surveys is instrumental to help shape communications policies and strategic decisions that can contribute to improving the efficiency and resilience of the cash cycle and the payment system as a whole. Surveys may be required before starting designing the next generation of euro banknotes. A comprehensive assessment of the preferences and needs of the general public and cash handlers or public consultations may be sought in order to define possible design elements, security features and issuance modalities. Surveys may also be used, when applicable, to measure the impact of communications
campaigns on the occasion of euro changeovers in countries deciding to adopt the euro or to assess the impact of possible counterfeiting attacks.

The successful tenderer(s) shall conduct two types of surveys:
(i) general public surveys to be conducted in three formats;
(a) standard general public surveys;
(b) target group surveys, such as among cash handlers, teachers, special interest groups, etc.; and
(c) payment diary surveys (only applicable for quantitative surveys);
(ii) company surveys.

The two types of surveys shall mainly be conducted in all euro area countries. However, surveys may also be held in only one or a few selected euro area countries, EU countries and/or non-EU countries.

The ECB may conduct procurements on its own behalf and for the benefit of institutions entitled to participate in the activities of the Eurosystem Procurement Coordination Office (EPCO), such as the national central banks (NCBs) of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB) and National Competent Authorities (NCAs) of the Member States of the European Union participating in the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM), which are or may become members of EPCO, in accordance with Decision ECB/2008/17. The current EPCO members are available at the following link: http://www.epco.lu/links.php.

Institutions other than central banks may also participate in EPCO’s activities, such as national authorities of Member States, EU agencies and bodies or international organizations, upon invitation by the Governing Council of the ECB. In addition, in-house printing works (PWs), as part of the relevant NCBs (according to Decision ECB/2008/17 as amended by Decision ECB/2020/27), may directly participate in EPCO joint tender procedures for procurement of goods and services necessary for the performance by those in-house printing works of Eurosystem tasks. For the purpose of this tender procedure and of this document all the entities participating in EPCO’s activities are called Participating EPCO members (PEMs).

Under this open procedure, the ECB is the leading central bank carrying out the joint tender procedure for its own account and for the benefit of the national central banks (NCBs) of the ESCB (including their in-house printing works) and the NCAs (altogether PEMs), which are entitled to participate in this joint tender procedure. All these entities may directly order Deliverables under the contract(s) by entering into individual bilateral specific agreements (‘Orders’) with the successful tenderer(s).

II.2.5) Award criteria
Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

II.2.6) Estimated value
Value excluding VAT: 30 000 000.00 EUR

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system
Duration in months: 48
This contract is subject to renewal: no

II.2.10) Information about variants
Variants will be accepted: no

II.2.11) Information about options
Options: no

II.2.12) Information about electronic catalogues

II.2.13) Information about European Union funds
The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: no

II.2.14) Additional information
III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.1) Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers
List and brief description of conditions:
As stated in the procurement documents.

III.1.2) Economic and financial standing
Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.1.3) Technical and professional ability
Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.1.5) Information about reserved contracts

III.2) Conditions related to the contract

III.2.1) Information about a particular profession

III.2.2) Contract performance conditions:

III.2.3) Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract
Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure
Open procedure

IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system
The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement
Framework agreement with several operators
Envisaged maximum number of participants to the framework agreement: 2

IV.1.4) Information about reduction of the number of solutions or tenders during negotiation or dialogue

IV.1.6) Information about electronic auction

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)
The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: no

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate
Date: 31/08/2020
Local time: 12:00

IV.2.3) Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates

IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted:
English

IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender
Duration in months: 6 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders
Date: 31/08/2020
Local time: 14:00

Section VI: Complementary information
VI.1) **Information about recurrence**
This is a recurrent procurement: yes
Estimated timing for further notices to be published:
In 4 years.

VI.2) **Information about electronic workflows**
Electronic invoicing will be accepted

VI.3) **Additional information:**
This tender procedure is conducted via the ECB’s electronic tendering system (e-tendering) which can be accessed via the following internet address:

If you have not used the ECB’s electronic tendering system before, you need to register via the above link (click on ‘Register’). Subsequently to the registration, you will receive an automated notification with your user credentials to log in (click on ‘Login’) and to access the tender documentation. Please note that:
— a registration to the above system is only required once and you can reuse your user credentials in all future procedures of the ECB which are conducted via the above system. Therefore, please keep your user credentials for the future,
— in case you should have participated in previous ECB tender procedure(s) in the past which were conducted via the ECB’s prior online system, you nevertheless need to register once to the ECB’s electronic tendering system under the above address,
— your mere registration does not constitute an application/tender. You must submit your application/tender via the ECB’s electronic tendering system as further instructed in the application/tender documentation.

The system reference number for the above procurement is: [RFX-PT-2020-000039: PRO-005337-Survey Research]

To download the tender documents, log on to the ECB’s electronic tendering system with your login and password. Expand the field ‘Public Tenders – Upcoming Events’. Click on ‘Click to request an invitation to this event’ for the above procedure and close the new window which opens. Once the request is completed (this can take a few minutes), the status of the participation request will change to ‘Invited’ and the RFx documentation will be accessible via the RFx tab.

Under the above link you also find user guides for detailed information on how to use the system and contact details for technical support.

Should you require technical help when using the system, please contact the ECB’s technical support team at sourcing.support@ecb.europa.eu by quoting the reference number and the problem experienced.

Any other queries relating to this procurement procedure and the content of the procurement documentation shall be submitted as message via the ECB’s e-tendering system (under the tab ‘Discussion’).

The ECB endeavours to answer all queries as quickly as possible but cannot guarantee a minimum time response. The ECB shall not be bound to reply to queries received less than seven calendar days before the time-limit for the submission of tenders.

The tender procedure shall be open on equal terms to all natural or legal persons resident or located in the European Union and to all natural and legal persons resident or located in a country which has ratified the World
Trade Organisation Agreement on Government Procurement or has concluded with the European Union a bilateral agreement on procurement under the conditions laid down in the said agreements.


VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body
Official name: European Central Bank c/o Legal Advice Team
Town: Frankfurt-am-Main
Country: Germany
Internet address: [http://www.ecb.europa.eu](http://www.ecb.europa.eu)

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures
Official name: The European Ombudsman
Postal address: 1 avenue du Président Robert Schuman, CS 30403
Town: Strasbourg Cedex
Postal code: 67001
Country: France

VI.4.3) Review procedure
Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures:
15 days from the receipt of the information specified in Article 34(3) of ECB Decision 2016/2 laying down the rules on procurement or, if no information is requested, 15 days from the receipt of the notification to unsuccessful tenderers. Further requirements are outlined in Article 39 of this Decision. A complaint to the European Ombudsman does not affect the deadline for lodging appeals.

VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained
Official name: Central Procurement Office of the European Central Bank
Postal address: Sonnemannstrasse 22
Town: Frankfurt am Main
Postal code: 60314
Country: Germany
E-mail: procurement@ecb.europa.eu
Telephone: +49 6913440
Fax: +49 6913447110
Internet address: [http://www.ecb.europa.eu](http://www.ecb.europa.eu)

VI.5) Date of dispatch of this notice:
13/07/2020