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**Germany-Frankfurt am Main: Digital Euro Consultancy
2022/S 040-099799**

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: Ms Erika Paslauskaitė
E-mail: procurement@ecb.europa.eu
Telephone: +49 69/13440

Internet address(es):

Main address: <http://www.ecb.europa.eu>

I.3) Communication

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at: <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobsproc/tenders/html/index.en.html>

Additional information can be obtained from the abovementioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via: <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobsproc/tenders/html/index.en.html>

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:

Digital Euro Consultancy
Reference number: PRO-007480

II.1.2) Main CPV code

66171000 Financial consultancy services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description:

The European Central Bank (ECB) is seeking through this negotiated procedure suppliers for the provision of consultancy services for digital euro design, business model and realisation with regard to the investigation – and eventually realisation – phase of a digital euro. The ECB intends to award a framework contract (the 'Framework Contract') to the suppliers offering the best value for money. The envisaged number of framework contracts to be awarded is five.

II.1.5) **Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: 20 000 000.00 EUR

II.1.6) **Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: no

II.2) **Description**

II.2.2) **Additional CPV code(s)**

72221000 Business analysis consultancy services

7222300 Information technology services

73200000 Research and development consultancy services

73210000 Research consultancy services

79400000 Business and management consultancy and related services

79410000 Business and management consultancy services

79411100 Business development consultancy services

79900000 Miscellaneous business and business-related services

II.2.3) **Place of performance**

NUTS code: DE712 Frankfurt am Main, Kreisfreie Stadt

Main site or place of performance:

Mainly on the ECB premises in Frankfurt am Main area and/or from locations within the EEA.

II.2.4) **Description of the procurement:**

The ECB is seeking through this procurement procedure to acquire strategic partners for consultancy services that allow the delivery of excellent, strategic capabilities to support solving complex questions that are not only new to the ECB but also globally in the context of central banking digital currencies (CBDCs).

The services to be provided under the scope of this tender procedure are related to:

- the investigation phase of the digital euro project; and
- subject to the decision of the ECB Governing Council to continue the project after the investigation phase – realisation phase of the digital euro project.

II.2.5) **Award criteria**

Criteria below

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 60

Price - Weighting: 40

II.2.6) **Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: 20 000 000.00 EUR

II.2.7) **Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Duration in months: 48

This contract is subject to renewal: yes

Description of renewals:

Up to two renewals of 12 months duration each can be unilaterally requested by the ECB.

II.2.9) **Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited**

Envisaged number of candidates: 10

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates:

Following the pre-qualification phase 10 candidates are envisaged to be invited to tender. This number is twice the number of five successful bidders that are envisaged to be awarded with a framework agreement after the bidding phase and a potential subsequent negotiation phase.

II.2.10) **Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: no

II.2.11) **Information about options**

Options: no

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**

Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical 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:

See the details in the call for applications documentation related to this tender.

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.2) **Conditions related to the contract**

III.2.2) **Contract performance conditions:**

In line with the terms and conditions of the draft contract, which will be provided to the successful candidates as part of the invitation to tender.

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1) **Description**

IV.1.1) **Type of procedure**

Competitive procedure with negotiation

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: 5

In the case of framework agreements, provide justification for any duration exceeding 4 years:

Duration of 48 months, with a maximum of two annual extensions that can be unilaterally requested by the ECB.

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

Recourse to staged procedure to gradually reduce the number of solutions to be discussed or tenders to be negotiated

IV.1.5) **Information about negotiation**

The contracting authority reserves the right to award the contract on the basis of the initial tenders without conducting negotiations

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.2.2) **Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**
Date: 25/03/2022
Local time: 12:00
- IV.2.3) **Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates**
Date: 31/05/2022
- 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: 12 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

Section VI: Complementary information

- VI.1) **Information about recurrence**
This is a recurrent procurement: no
- 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:
<http://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobsproc/sourcing/html/index.en.html>
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-2022-000002: PRO-007480-R1-Digital euro consultancy
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 is conducted in accordance with ECB Decision 2016/2 laying down the Rules on Procurement (as amended), available on the ECB website at <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/legal/1001/procurement/html/index.en.html>

VI.4) **Procedures for review**

VI.4.1) **Review body**

Official name: Procurement Review Body of the European Central Bank, c/o Legal Advice Team

Postal address: Sonnemannstrasse 22

Town: Frankfurt am Main

Postal code: 60314

Country: Germany

E-mail: generalcourt.registry@curia.europa.eu

Telephone: +49 6913440

Fax: +49 6913446886

Internet address: <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:

Within 10 days of receipt of the notification in accordance with Article 34(1) or the first sentence of Article 34(3) of ECB Decision 2016/2 laying down the Rules on Public Procurement. 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 c/o Legal Advice Team
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>

VI.5) **Date of dispatch of this notice:**
15/02/2022