

Ref.: EDAC202104004

Brussels, 14/04/2021

**Subject: Ex-ante publicity notice for the negotiated procedure  
21.RTI.NP3.104 for a study on “Homomorphic Encryption for Defence”**

To whom it may concern

The European Defence Agency (EDA) will shortly launch a call for tenders for the award of the above mentioned middle value contract.

Should you be interested in being invited in the above mentioned call for tenders, please follow the instructions below.

In order to help you assess whether the envisaged contract is of your interest, the following information is hereby communicated.

Outline description of the envisaged contract	
Type of contract	Direct contract
Lots	N/A
Maximum estimated budget available for the contract	EUR 105 000
Duration of the contract	12 months
Subject matter of the contract	The following tasks are expected to be undertaken as part of this study:

	<div>1) Describe common types of homomorphic encryption (eg. PHE - partially homomorphic, SHE - somewhat homomorphic, FHE – fully/levelled homomorphic encryption).</div> <div>2) Analyse prominent homomorphic encryption schemes (eg. YASHE, RLWE, FV, etc) along with the associated tools, programming languages, encryption libraries and applicable APIs. Assess and describe additional pertinent important topics from the resulting research.</div> <div>3) Identify existing and foreseen homomorphic encryption applications for military systems (eg. cloud, military IoTs, data privacy and protection, information exchange between varying security domains, secure communications for ISR sensors, SDR, etc)</div> <div>4) Describe limitations and challenges related to the use of homomorphic encryption in general and specifically for defence.</div> <div>5) Identify possible pMS initiatives in the field of homomorphic encryption for defence (the option of conducting a workshop with interested pMS and CapTech Cyber moderator will be explored).</div>						
Participation in the negotiated procedure	<div>Participation in EDA’s public procurement procedures is open on equal terms to all natural and legal persons coming within the scope of the EU Treaties. When applying the rules of access to the market, it is the country where the tenderer is established which is to be considered. As regards a natural person, it is the State in which the person has his domicile.</div> <div>EDA procurement procedures are not covered by the WTO Multilateral Government Procurement Agreement (GPA). Tenderers established in third countries (non-EU countries) do not have the right to participate in procurement procedures unless international agreements in the field of public procurement grant them the right to do so. In case there is no such agreement, or the agreement does not apply to the kind of contracts put out to tender, tenderers of third countries are not entitled to participate.</div> <div>The relevant international agreements in the field of public procurement are the Stabilization and Association Agreements (SAA) and the European Economic Area Agreement (EEA). Currently, the following countries have signed and ratified the above Agreements and therefore economic operators established in Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, North Macedonia, Albania, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina also have the right to participate in EDA’s public procurement procedures.</div>						
Selection criteria: necessary capacity to implement the contract	<div>Potentially interested economic operators are hereby informed that the following selection criteria will be assessed in the scope of the envisaged negotiated procedure:</div> <div>Economic and financial criteria<table><tr><th>Criterion</th><th>Minimum capacity</th><th>Evidence/supporting documents</th></tr><tr><td>Economical and financial capacity</td><td>The tenderer must have a minimum annual turnover for the last three financial</td><td>The duly completed and signed Financial and Economic Capacity Overview</td></tr></table></div>	Criterion	Minimum capacity	Evidence/supporting documents	Economical and financial capacity	The tenderer must have a minimum annual turnover for the last three financial	The duly completed and signed Financial and Economic Capacity Overview
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		years for which accounts have been closed of 100 000 EUR	Form in annex to the tender specifications
<b>Technical and professional criteria</b>			
	<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Minimum capacity</b>	<b>Evidence/supporting documents</b>
	<p>1. The tenderer shall demonstrate experience of at least 5 years in the field of one or more of the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Communication Information Services</li> <li>– Cyber Security</li> <li>– Encryption</li> <li>– Information Security</li> </ul>	3 projects delivered in the last 5 years.	List of 3 relevant services provided in the past five years, with sums, dates and recipients, public or private describing the services provided with respect to the requirements laid out above. The most important services shall be accompanied by certificates of satisfactory execution, specifying that they have been carried out in a professional manner and have been fully completed (where applicable);
	2. The tenderer shall demonstrate its capacity to provide a qualified team of experts for delivering the service	<p>Team of minimum 3 experts having at least the following qualifications/expertise:</p> <p><u>Project Manager:</u> At least 5 years' experience in activities such as project coordination, including overseeing project</p>	The CVs of experts detailing the educational and professional qualifications and experience. The Europass curriculum vitae format <sup>1</sup> shall be filled in. Each CV provided shall indicate the

<sup>1</sup> <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/home>

	<p>delivery, quality control of delivered service, client orientation and conflict resolution experience in project of a similar size.</p> <p><u>Experts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At least 5 years of work experience in a field required under criterion 1.</li> <li>- Graduate or Postgraduate degree in a field required under criterion 1.</li> <li>- Very Good knowledge of English (B2 level).</li> <li>- Experience in several programming languages and APIs (at least one of the experts)</li> <li>- In possession of related professional certifications on the field of information security from an established vendor (eg. ISC2, SANS, ISACA, ISO). (at least one of the experts)</li> <li>- Attended recent developments (last 5 years) in the field of information security proved by professional/academic level courses and or certifications (at least one of the experts)</li> </ul>	intended function in the delivery of the service. The precise contractual link with the tenderer has also to be described.
	<p><b>NB</b> Whilst no documents need to be submitted at this stage to prove that the above criteria are met, potentially interested economic operators are strongly advised to verify that they fully comply with the announced criteria.</p>	
Indicative date for launching the negotiated procedure	<p>Invitation to submit tenders will be electronically sent to economic operators indicatively by <b>10/05/2021</b></p>	

Indicative time schedule for signing the contract	The envisaged contract will be signed indicatively by end of June 2021
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If you are interested in being invited in the above mentioned call for tenders, please reply to this ex-ante publicity notice by sending via email the filled-in **Reply Form**. Such Reply Form shall be sent to no later than **29/04/2021 – at 17h00 (Brussels time)** to the following EDA functional mail box:

[procurement@eda.europa.eu](mailto:procurement@eda.europa.eu)

No evaluation is performed at this stage. All the economic operators who have expressed their interest to participate in this procurement procedure within the above-mentioned deadline will be subsequently invited to submit a tender. The contracting authority reserves the right to also invite economic operators not included in the list of interested economic operators who responded to this ex-ante publicity.

Only the candidates invited by the contracting authority to participate in this procurement procedure will be admissible.

This publicity is in no way binding for the EDA. The EDA's contractual obligation commences only upon signature of the contract with the successful tenderer.

Submission of an expression of interest implies acceptance of receiving the invitation to tender by electronic means. **It is the tenderer's responsibility to provide a valid e-mail address together with their contact details in the Reply Form and to check their e-mail regularly.**

We look forward to receiving your expression of interest.

**Annex:** Reply Form (Expression of interest)

### REPLY FORM (Expression of interest)

Please return the present page duly filled in to the following e-mail:

[procurement@eda.europa.eu](mailto:procurement@eda.europa.eu)

Please indicate in the subject line of the e-mail the title and number of the procedure:

**21.RTI.NP3.104 “Homomorphic Encryption for Defence”**

Name of the Company	
Title, first name and last name of contact person, and Function within the Company	
Address of the Company (including post code, town, country)	
Telephone: (with international prefix)	
E-mail of the contact person <sup>2</sup>	

Upon reception of your expression of interest, your personal data will be recorded and further processed by EDA for the sole purpose of drawing up list of interested economic operators that will be invited to take part in the present negotiated procedure. Such data will be processed by EDA in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725<sup>3</sup>, pursuant to Article 31 of Council Decision (CSFP) 2015/1835.

Details concerning processing of your personal data are available in the privacy statement at the page:

<http://www.eda.europa.eu/docs/default-source/procurement/privacy-statement.pdf>

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<sup>2</sup> Where the invitation to tender will be sent.

<sup>3</sup> Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p.39)