



International

Republican Institute

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REQUEST FOR QUOTES

Procurement Number:	EURASIA2018M004o
Open Date:	November 14, 2018
Questions Deadline:	November 16, 2018
Closing Deadline:	November 24, 2018
Geographical Area Restrictions:	937
Point of Contact:	Teodora Graur, Snr. Program Officer, IRI Moldova tgraur@iri.org

Background:

The International Republican Institute (IRI) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, organization dedicated to advancing freedom and democracy worldwide. Since 1983, IRI has worked to develop democratic institutions and ideals, carrying out a variety of international programs to promote freedom, self-government and the rule of law worldwide. IRI provides technical assistance in the areas of political party strengthening, developing civic institutions and open elections, promoting democratic governance and advancing the rule of law.

IRI will be conducting a long-term election observation mission in the Republic of Moldova to observe the electoral process before the country's February 2019 parliamentary elections. IRI's election observation mission will run from December 2018 through March 2019 in order to observe both the pre- and post-election environment.

IRI is currently recruiting candidates for long-term analysts (LTAs) who will provide in-depth analysis on three priority thematic observation areas: media, legal and election/campaign.

Period of Performance:

Date of signature- March 26, 2019

Statement of Work:

Media analyst

- Monitor and provide in-depth analysis of the performance and content of the electronic and print media during the election process.
- Monitor the activities of the main electronic and print media to verify their compliance in line with international standards for democratic elections and national legislation during the election campaign. Assess whether media provide sufficiently diverse and balanced information to enable voters to make informed choices.

- Assess the extent to which parties and candidates have equal access to the media in accordance with international standards and national legislation and whether media coverage—particularly state media—is balanced and neutral.
- Follow the election-related work of media regulatory bodies and any election-related disputes concerning the media.
- Assess the media environment and the extent to which media are able to work freely;
- Follow up on concerns related to campaign propaganda and/or misinformation.

LTAAs will report to IRI’s Election Observation Mission (EOM) Coordinator, assist in producing analytical documents and reports on their priority thematic observation areas ahead of the elections, and work closely with the Election Observation Coordinator and other IRI Moldova staff in developing regular reports and analyses. LTAs will also coordinate with the other Chisinau-based analysts and IRI’s team of long-term observers (LTOs) to ensure specific analysis is incorporated into findings and recommendations.

LTAAs will be based in Chisinau, Moldova with occasional travel to districts to gather more information in coordination with the LTOs.

The LTAs will also:

- Prepare observation reports, briefing materials and talking points on relevant issues and other advice to the EOM Coordinator, IRI Moldova staff, LTOs and Short-Term Observers (STOs) as requested and as necessary
- When relevant, attend meetings and sessions hosted by the CEC, civil society organizations (CSOs), political parties or other related bodies
- Work closely with the EOM Coordinator to ensure that LTOs are provided guidance, training and briefings to effectively observe relevant issues in their geographic regions
- Work closely with other LTAs to ensure the integration of various issues into the political and campaign environment analysis
- Maintain regular relations with election analysts of other international observation missions, as well as with local CSOs who are monitoring similar issues.
- Ensure relevant analysis is integrated into the STOs’ training materials and Election Day observation and forms.
- Travel to regions throughout Moldova as necessary.
- Support the activity of the mission and of the international observers in any other aspect as necessary.

Technical Bid:

All bids submitted to IRI must include:

1. Information addressing your experience in providing each of the services identified in the above Statement of Work and your proposed specific approach for providing those services to IRI under this contract, including sufficient information to determine a clear definition of services as it relates to other providers that may be involved.
2. The name, address, and telephone and facsimile numbers of the bidder (and electronic address if available);

3. Bidders shall provide contact information for a minimum of three professional references with whom the applicant has had a working relationship within the last 24-month period. IRI may contact these individuals.
4. If the Bidder is a U.S. organization/resident, or a foreign organization/resident which has income effectively connected with the conduct of activities in the U.S. or has an office or a place of business or a fiscal paying agent in the U.S., the technical bids must contain Bidder's Taxpayer Identification Number.
5. Bids will not exceed 5 pages (not including cover page), using Times New Roman font, 1" margins.
6. Attachment requirements:
 - CV/Resume
 - Expert Service Rate Form provided at the end of this solicitation. IRI may contact previous clients and employers for professional references and compensation confirmation.
 - Copy of an election- focused report or other in-depth analysis piece on similar topic prepared by the bidder for evaluation

Price Bids must adhere to the following criteria:

IRI will pay directly (to the hotel, airline, train, etc.) for all preapproved travel related expenses including transportation, lodging, and meals for the contractors' participation in IRI activities and events. If it is more feasible for the contractor to use his/her own vehicle for travel to an IRI event, IRI will reimburse the cost of the transportation to the contractor based upon the prescribed formulas used by the funder of the event, calculated according to the kilometers traveled and the type of vehicle used. The daily and hourly rates submitted should, therefore, not include an assumption of costs incurred by the contractor for travel related expenses. All other expenses should be included within the daily and hourly rates, as no other expenses will be covered or reimbursed by IRI. Bids must be submitted in Moldovan Lei (MDL), as payments under any resulting contract will be made in lei.

Unit	Unit Price	Weekly rate(based on 5-day work week)
Daily rate		

RFQ Terms and Conditions:

1. Prospective Bidders are requested to review clauses incorporated by reference in the section "Notice Listing Contract Clauses Incorporated by Reference".
2. IRI may reject any or all bids if such is within IRI's interest.
3. Payment will be made upon receipt of detailed invoices and deliverables/services.
4. Proof of costs incurred, such as but not limited to receipts, pictures and financial documents may be requested during and for up to three years after the end of the contract period.
5. The Bidder's initial bid should contain the Bidder's best offer.
6. IRI reserves the right to make multiple contracts or partial contracts if, after considering administrative burden, it is in IRI's best interest to do so.
7. Discussions with Bidders following the receipt of a bid do not constitute a rejection or counteroffer by IRI.

8. IRI will hold all submissions as confidential and shall not be disclosed to third parties. IRI reserves the right to share bids internally, across divisions, for the purposes of evaluating the bids.
9. By submitting a bid, Bidder agrees to comply with all terms, conditions, and provisions included in the solicitation and agreement to the services identified above, and will specifically identify any disagreement with or exceptions to the terms, conditions, and provisions.
10. Bidders confirm that the prices in the bid/proposal/application/quote have been arrived at independently, without any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other bidder or competitor for the purpose of restricting competition.
11. Bidders agree to disclose as part of the bid submission:
 - a. Any close, familial, or financial relationships with IRI staff and agents. For example, the bidder must disclose if a bidder's mother conducts volunteer trainings for IRI.
 - b. Any family or financial relationship with other bidders submitting bids. For example, if the bidder's father owns a company that is submitting another bid, the bidder must state this.
 - c. Any other action that might be interpreted as potential conflict of interest.

Evaluation and Award Process:

1. Bids will be evaluated by IRI for compliance with administrative requirements, recent and relevant past performance and experience in performing of similar projects by the Bidder, technical capabilities and proposed technical approach, the qualifications of the personnel for the project, and price. IRI may contact any Bidder for clarification or additional information, but Bidders are advised that IRI intends to evaluate the offers based on the written bids and reserves the right to make decisions based solely on the information provided with the initial bids. IRI may but is not obligated to conduct additional negotiations with the most highly rated Bidders prior to award of a contract, and may at its sole discretion elect to issue contracts to one or more Bidders.
2. Mathematical errors will be corrected in the following manner: If a discrepancy exists between the total price proposed and the total price resulting from multiplying the unit price by the corresponding amounts, then the unit price will prevail and the total price will be corrected. If there were a discrepancy between the numbers written out in words and the amounts in numbers, then the amount expressed in words will prevail. If the Bidder does not accept the correction, the offer will be rejected.
3. IRI may determine that a bid is unacceptable if the prices proposed are materially unbalanced between line items or sub-line items. Unbalanced pricing exists when, despite an acceptable total evaluated price, the price of one or more contract line items is significantly overstated or understated as indicated by the application of cost or price analysis techniques. A bid may be rejected if IRI determines that the lack of balance poses an unacceptable risk.
4. IRI will conduct a source selection based as follows:
IRI intends to make an award to the responsible Offeror based on the following evaluation factors:

a) Technical evaluation, (including technical capabilities, proposed technical approach, and personnel qualifications) – **40 percent**

- Capability to carry out the specific analysis in either of thematic areas identified (15)
- English, Russian or Romanian language abilities including strong written English communication skills as evidenced in the sample report submitted (25)

b) Past performance and experience in performing similar projects including reference checks to confirm professionalism, research quality, ability to work within a team and provide independent and ideologically neutral analysis – **50 percent**

e) Price – **10 percent**

IRI intends to evaluate Offerors' proposals in accordance with these factors and make an award to the responsible Offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the program.

5. If a cost realism analysis is performed, cost realism may be considered in evaluating performance or price.

Submission Instructions:

Bids must be submitted via email to POC, Teodora Graur, Snr. Program Officer, IRI Moldova tgraur@iri.org with the subject line "EURASIA2018M004o" by the deadline listed above.

IRI Obligations

Issuance of this RFQ does not constitute a contractual commitment on the part of IRI, nor does it commit IRI to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a bid.

Notice Listing Contract Clauses Incorporated by Reference

IRI is required to make the Bidder subject to the clauses of the prime award. The resulting agreement incorporates one or more clauses by reference, with the same force and effect as if they were given in full text. Where "flow-down" to the Bidder is appropriate and applicable, references to "USAID" or "Department of State" shall be interpreted to mean "IRI", "Recipient" to mean "Contractor", and "Subrecipient" to mean "the Bidder". Included by reference are 2 C.F.R. 200 and USAID Standard Provisions for Non-US Non-governmental Organizations/US Department of State Standard Terms and Conditions.

EXPERT RATE INFORMATION					
Name (<i>Last, First, Middle</i>)			Proposed Rate:		Daily Hourly
Rates should be given for the last three (3) years. If employment history/salary information is applicable, list salaries separate for each year. If expert services is applicable, indicate the type of rate daily/hourly.					
EMPLOYMENT HISTORY - SALARY					
POSITION TITLE	EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS POINT OF CONTACT & TELEPHONE #	Employment Period (<i>M/D/Y</i>)		Annual Salary ¹ U.S. Dollars	
		From	To		
SPECIFIC EXPERT SERVICES					
SERVICES PERFORMED/TITLE	CLIENTS NAME AND ADDRESS POINT OF CONTACT & TELEPHONE #	Service Period (<i>M/D/Y</i>)		Units at Rate	Daily/Hourly Rate ² In U.S. Dollars
		From	To		
CERTIFICATION: To the best of my know ledge, the above facts as stated are true and correct.					
Signature				Date	

¹ Basic periodic payment for services rendered. Exclude bonuses, profit-sharing arrangements, commissions, consultant fees extra or overtime work payments, overseas differential or quarters, cost of living or dependent education allow ances.

² A form of management fee whereby the client pays a set fee for providing professional services. Exclude cost reimbursements, bonuses, overtime work payments, overseas differential or quarters, cost of living, and any other allow ances.