



**SUBJECT: EX ANTE PUBLICITY - MEDIUM/LOW VALUE CONTRACT - Audit of the annual accounts of EuroHPC JU for the financial years ended 31/12/2020 and 31/12/2021 (< EUR 60.000)**

**Description of the contract:**

The service to supply is the financial audit of EuroHPC JU accounts for the financial year 2020 and 2021, which comprises providing the audit firm's opinion on the reliability of the Joint Undertaking's provisional and final annual accounts.

The European Court of Auditors (ECA) is the external auditor of the European Union. In line with the requirements of Article 287 (1) TFEU and Article 54 of the Joint Undertaking's Financial Rules, the ECA shall prepare annually a Specific Annual Report (SAR) on the Joint Undertaking's. The SAR provides a basis for the discharge procedure by Parliament and Council which concludes the annual budgetary process. A central part of the SAR are the ECA's Statements of Assurance on the reliability of the (final) annual accounts and on the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions.

Article 70 (6) of the Financial Regulation<sup>1</sup> requires that an audit firm shall verify that the annual accounts of European Agencies properly present their income, expenditure and financial position prior to the consolidation in the Commission's final accounts. The ECA shall prepare a specific annual report on each of these entities, considering the audit work performed by the audit firm and the action taken in response to its findings.

The audit objective is thus to obtain reasonable assurance and to draw an opinion on the reliability of the Joint Undertaking's year 2020 and year 2021 provisional and final annual accounts.

**Price:**

The maximum total price cannot exceed EUR 60.000.

**Description of the procedure:**

This ex-ante publicity is the first stage of a negotiated procurement procedure below EUR 60.000 with a minimum of 3 candidates, through which the EuroHPC JU may award the above-mentioned contract. The purpose of this notice is to support the EuroHPC JU in the selection of the list of candidates to be invited to submit an offer for the contract. Please note that offers

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1046



submitted in the subsequent negotiated procedure with a value above EUR 60.000 will be rejected. All economic operators interested in providing the services described above should send a declaration of interest before **02 December 2020, 17h00 Luxembourg time**, by e-mail to **info@eurohpc-ju.europa.eu** with the subject reference "*Audit of the annual accounts of EuroHPC JU*".

In their declaration of interest (300 words maximum) interested economic operators should declare their ability to provide the relevant services in compliance with ISA and ISSAI standards and to take all the necessary measures to prevent any situation of conflict of interest or professional conflicting interest. This information will be assessed in order to select suitable candidates.

All interested economic operators will be informed of the decision of the EuroHPC JU. The Request for Offers and related documents will be provided by e-mail only to the selected candidates. Please note that the EuroHPC JU reserves the right to modify the conditions or to cancel the negotiated procedure. In case of cancellation, all interested economic operators would be informed of this decision.

Economic operators who do not express their interest before the deadline and to the address above will not be invited to submit an offer. The latter restriction will not apply to the economic operators directly invited by the EuroHPC JU.

**Indicative date for launching the procedure (sending out the invitations):** 08 December 2020

This notice is in no way binding on EuroHPC JU. EuroHPC JU contractual obligations commences only upon signature of the contract with the successful candidate. Up to the point of signature, EuroHPC JU may either abandon the procurement or cancel the award procedure, without the candidates being entitled to claim any compensation.