



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM

**VOLUNTARY CONTRACT NOTICE FOR UPCOMING PROCUREMENT  
PROCEDURE – Electronic Full Text Platform for periodicals and serials  
Ref. 20860/SL/ALR/2011**

**Title:** Electronic full text platform for periodicals and serials

**I. Contracting authority**

**1. Name, addresses and contact point of the contracting authority:** European Central Bank, Directorate General Secretariat & Language Services, Archives, Library and Records Division, attention: Dorothea Scherzer and Ursula Bachmann, Postfach 16 03 19, 60066 Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Tel +49 69 1344 7696 Fax +49 69 1344 7880.

**2. Business area:** Directorate General Secretariat & Language Services

**3. Division:** Archives, Library and Records Division

**4. Section:** Library Section

**5. Description of the functions:** *Tasks of the Library Section*

The mission of the Library is to deliver high quality information services to all ECB staff in an efficient and user-friendly way to meet their specific needs in the performance of their duties and to enhance current awareness. The Library ensures that in its activities it is fair, reliable, prompt, accountable and responsive to user needs. The Library is committed to achieving best practice in all its areas of business, to using state-of-the-art solutions and to continually improving efficiency in the use of funds and resources of the ECB.

**II. Description of the requested service:**

The Archives, Library and Records Division is currently seeking potential tenderers for a procurement procedure who are offering an electronic full text platform for periodicals and serials from various publishers in our field of interest, i.e. economics, banking, finance, mathematics, statistics and legal.

The platform shall have at least the following characteristics;

- Contain full text of scholarly journals, magazines, country reports, serials, etc. from at least 5 publishers,
- In the field of economics, banking, finance, mathematics, statistics, and legal,
- Site licence for the whole ECB via IP recognition
- Simple and advanced search facilities in English language;
- Alert services to individual issues,

- Offering index per issue ,
- Giving information about availability through a standard web scale discovery service,
- Printing and downloading possibilities,

In addition, the vendor shall provide the following services:

- Training possibilities for users shall be available in English language either online or onsite
- Support which is available in our time zone (08.00 to 18.00 or 09.00 to 17.00 CET) by phone, online, e-mail, or in person.

It is the ECB's intention to identify and select potential bidders in accordance with the rules specified in this voluntary contract notice and in particular under Section III. ("Procedure") below who will then be invited to participate in an upcoming procurement procedure as further described below.

The successful tenderer will be awarded a contract following the closure of the procurement procedure, subject to a successful cost benefit analysis.

### **III. Procedure**

#### **1. General information**

This document constitutes a voluntary contract notice in the run-up to an upcoming procurement procedure for an electronic full text platform for periodicals and serials which shall be governed by Decision ECB/2007/5 of 3 July 2007 laying down the Rules on Procurement<sup>1</sup> and the supplementary rules attached as **Annex 1**. The procurement procedure will be carried out without publication of a notice in accordance with Article 29 of Decision ECB/2007/5.

#### **2. Pre-selection procedure:**

The ECB will send a request for proposal to all candidates fulfilling the minimum criteria laid down in Section IV.1 of this voluntary contract notice. In such request for proposal, the selected tenderers will be asked to submit an offer to the ECB for the specified services. In the context of the procurement procedure, Tenderers will need to grant a trial access (free of charge) to the ECB for minimum one month in the context of which the ECB will evaluate the quality of the electronic full text platform offered.

**3. Division into lots:** No.

**4. Type of contract:** Contract for the duration of 4 years (envisaged number: 1)

**5. Closing date:** All applications must be received by the ECB by the closing date set out in Section VIII below.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 184, 14.7.2007, p. 34 as amended by Decision ECB/2009/2 (OJ L 51, 24.2.2009, p. 10) and Decision ECB/2010/8 (OJ L 238, 9.9.2010, p. 14), all published on <http://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/proc/tenders/html/index.en.html>.

**IV. Qualifications and experience (selection criteria)**

- 1. Minimum criteria:**
- Candidates need to demonstrate their experience by a minimum of three current (i.e. ongoing) references for the provision of similar services of a minimum duration of three years each.
  - Candidates need to clearly demonstrate that they fulfil all of the above minimum characteristics the platform shall provide (see Section II)

**V. How to apply:**

Applications must include :

- Detailed answers to prove that all the minimum characteristics of the platform (see Section II) are met.
- In addition please provide a list of titles with information about the periodicals and serials contained to assess if the ECB's requirements (see Section II) are met.
- Three current (i.e. ongoing) references with a minimum duration of at least three years of similar services performed by the candidate (the description of the references shall be made in English language).

All applications must be received by the ECB by the closing date (see Section VIII. below). If candidates submit their proposals by registered post or private courier services, the post office stamp or the date on the slip issued by the courier service shall constitute proof of compliance with the above time-limit for submission. However, the ECB will only consider proposals that reach the ECB by no later than five calendar days after expiry of the above time-limit.

Interested candidates may not apply to participate in the procurement procedure and/or be added to the list of candidates at a later date by sending the information requested in this voluntary contract notice after the closing date.

The ECB may, at its discretion, exclude applications that do not meet the qualifying criteria, do not contain the information requested or are otherwise incomplete.

**VI. Additional information:**

1. The contract is intended for a duration of 4 years.
2. The contract shall be governed by and interpreted under German civil law.
3. The ECB reserves the right to reuse the candidate's data for the identification of potential bidders for future procurement procedures.

**VII. Date of dispatch of this call for the identification of potential bidders:**

**5 December 2011**

**VIII. Closing date:**

**19 December 2011**