

SAFETY OF FEMALE JOURNALIST ONLINE (SOFJO PHASE II) – RESEARCH IN SOUTH CAUCASUS

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Ref#: IP-C_SEC/02/2022 – Safety of Female Journalist Online (SOFJO Phase II)

To work with the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFoM) on the SOFJO II project, the OSCE seeks to hire as an implementing partner a non-governmental (not for profit) organization with strong experience and expertise in social science research, public policy analysis and media and gender projects in three countries in South Caucasus: Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

1) Background information

The Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFoM) has launched the SOFJO project with the objective to bridge the implementation gap when it comes to the online safety of women journalists. The project aims at deepening OSCE participating States' understanding of what it takes to increase the safety of women journalists in the OSCE region, by supporting stakeholders of relevance addressed in the 2020 SOFJO Resource Guide in developing policies, procedures and measures to improve women journalists' online safety and adopt a gender responsive approach. Comprehensive data is an essential precondition for any sustainable policy response. While surveys with women journalists have been conducted on the global level, this research project aims particularly at South Caucasus (Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan) and the safety situation of women journalists there, in view of generating evidence to support awareness raising and inform effective initiatives on SOFJO.

The RFoM in the frame of the SOFJO Phase II project need the research to be conducted by an Implementing Partner as the Office lacks the necessary capacity in the region.

2) Target audience

The target group for the research will be woman journalist in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

3) Specific tasks of the implementing partner shall include:

Under the overall supervision of the RFoM Office, the Implementing Partner will be involved in the overall realization of the activity. The selected IP will conduct a research, collect and analyze data, produce a finding report and present the findings. The overall budget allocated for this activity is up to EUR 15,000.

The expected actions from the Implementing Partner are to:

- Find respondents and develop a database of respondents (approx. 100 per country, representative and diverse sample)
- Adapt the survey questions to the South Caucasus context.

- Coordinate and conduct the Survey online (including coordination of translations of survey and responses and maintaining the online survey platform)
- Conduct qualitative in-depth interviews with 5-10 respondents (to be identified and then agreed upon with RFoM)
- Analyze the survey and interview results, draft conclusions and prepare a final survey report with concrete recommendations for OSCE participating States based on the outcome in English language (translation to Russian language shall be done via the translation agency, coordinate design of report)
- Coordinate draft analysis and report with RFoM, and integrate received feedback (report to be approved by RFoM)
- Organize an event/s for the launch of the survey report
- Carry out administrative tasks related to the project implementation
- Coordinate with RFoM throughout the process regarding the implementation, analyses of results and evaluation, bring to the attention of the RFoM any relevant developments or challenges
- Prepare project report, including on achievements and lessons learned

4) Qualifications of the IP (mandatory requirement):

- Minimum 8 years of experience in conducting social science research, public policy analysis and media and gender projects;
- Extensive knowledge of the South Caucasus region and presence in three countries: Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan
- Availability of experts with at least 5 years of experience in the production of similar researches;
- Technical capacities to find respondents, collect, analyse and disseminate data in three countries: Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan;
- Ensure professionalism, transparency and accountability in managing funds provided by external entities;
- Strong communication skills in English;

Applicants will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Experience in providing professional, high-quality social science research, analysis, and/or policy advice; 30 out of 100 points.
- Experience and presence in three countries: Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan; 25 out of 100 points.
- Experience with media research and analysis projects; 15 out of 100
- Experience with gender research and analysis projects; 15 out of 100 points
- Quality of the description and cost-effectiveness of the budget to complete activities related in section 2; 15 out of 100 points.



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5) The project proposal should provide:

Technical Proposal (no prices should be included to the Technical Proposal):

- a) Background information about the applicant organization with justification of its eligibility to participate in the public call based on the qualifications:
 - a. One page brief description of the plan to implement the research;
 - b. List of similar researches (region, gender, etc);
- b) Timeline of activities;
- c) Supporting documentation, as requested under 6) below.

Financial Proposal:

d) The Financial Proposal shall cover all direct expenses to be incurred for performing the services as specified including, but not limited, to the cost of the remuneration of the Bidder's personnel and all other compensations, insurance and social charges, technical assistance, supervision costs, travel costs and any other direct costs incurred by the contractor's personnel strictly for the purpose of performing the services; and shall show a detailed cost breakdown per price categories.

As the OSCE is always interested in delivering products of the highest quality, the applicants are welcome to present any suggestions or comments on how to improve the delivering of this activity.

6) Entities eligible to apply:

- Non-governmental (not for profit) organizations

7) Supporting documentation:

Applicants shall provide information on their operational capacities:

- Registration certificate (accreditation);
- Statute (in English);
- Documentation proving expertise in social science research, public policy analysis and media and gender projects (in English);
- A list of key personnel who will be involved in the project with CVs;
- Bank account details;

8) How to apply and the procedures to follow:

The Public Call documents are available on request by e-mail to: ipcalls-at@osce.org. The Public Call documents include:

- This document;
- Acknowledgement letter - ANNEX A; (applicants are required to submit Participation form **not later than 28th June 2022, 17:00 (CET - Vienna Time)**).



Applicants must apply in English. Hand-written applications will not be accepted.

Applications (Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal) must be delivered in separate, password protected PDF files to ipcalls-at@osce.org **on or before 1st July 2022, 12:00 CET (local time)**.

Any application submitted after the deadline at **12:00 CET on 1st July 2022** will be automatically rejected.

Please address all your queries or questions in writing to ipcalls-at@osce.org up to 5 days before the submission deadline and kindly refrain from any telephone calls or personal visits.