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Education International - European Region

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ETUCE Call for tender to

Subcontract external expertise to carry out research service for the EU Project 101101573 – ETU4REF

Brussels, 9 November 2023

SF/ee/ 10364

1. Background and objective of the project

The expert work to be carried out is part of the project *“In and Through Education: Education Trade Unions support the inclusion of refugees and migrants”* (hereinafter "ETU4REF"). The project is a two-year initiative (01/11/2023 - 30/10/2023) funded by the European Commission under the Call SOCPL-2022-INFO-WK-01 - Information and training measures for worker's organisations.

The European Trade Union Committee for Education (ETUCE) represents 127 Education Trade Unions and 11 million teachers in 51 countries of Europe. ETUCE is a Social Partner in education at the EU level and a European Trade Union Federation within ETUC, the European Trade Union Confederation. ETUCE is the European Region of Education International, the global federation of education trade unions.

ETUCE is a sectoral social partner and the representative voice of education trade unions in Europe. Its main objectives are to support teachers to strive for appropriate working conditions, e.g., safe and healthy workplace, adequate working time and workload, social protection, and gender equality, to represent the interest of teachers vis-à-vis the EU Institutions, to promote high-quality education for all in Europe and to inform the national education unions and respective affiliates about the development in the EU policies in education and employment.

The education sector and education trade unions play a key role in supporting refugees and migrants and their inclusion in the education system and the labour market (both students and education personnel), as well as providing the support and protecting the rights and working conditions of the education personnel in the hosting countries who face numerous challenges in that regard. Social partners in education have also an important task to ensure that the future generations learn about democratic citizenship, tolerance and inclusion, and are able to practice these values every day". In particular, implementation of inclusive education requires teachers, trainers, academics, school leaders, and other education personnel to acquire relevant and up-to-date competences, skills and knowledge that allow them to respond to diversity in the classrooms and promote mutual respect, cross-cultural understanding and intercultural dialogue.

Therefore, building on the findings of the previous ETUCE projects, this project aims to further build the capacity of the education trade unions on providing specific support to their affiliates regarding the inclusion of refugees and migrants in the education system, especially regarding the support-based inclusion, the usage of the first language, cooperation with family and local community, and other issues highlighted in the research outcomes of the project. The project also seeks to address the specificities of the refugees from Ukraine, including the temporality of their status as the vast majority of them is planning to return as soon as the war finishes.

Furthermore, by addressing the challenges of inclusion of refugees and migrants in the education systems, education trade unions contribute to making the teaching profession more attractive following the joint ETUCE-EFEE social dialogue aim of setting up a framework agreement on the attractiveness of the teaching profession, including for refugees and migrants, and accommodate the needs of education personnel from various backgrounds (including young teachers who feel unprepared and unsupported to teach refugee students) and aim to represent the voice of all teachers and other education personnel in the European region.

2. Legal basis

The contractual agreement is based upon and regulated by the European Commission's rules, provisions and requirements as set out in the project grant agreement n. 101101573 ("ETU4REF" project) and the applicable Belgian law.

3. Purpose of the contract

ETUCE requires a subcontractor (research expert) to provide an external and objective scientific perspective and expertise on the issues at stake in the "ETU4REF" project, such as the state-of-art of the inclusion of refugees and migrants in education in European region countries, including the link to economic (e.g. housing, access to health services), social, and political issues (e.g. right-wing movement and nationalist tendencies). The research expert will work on the preparation of a research report and contribute to the implementation of the project activities, including the project advisory group meetings, the roundtables, and the final Conference.

4. Service to be provided by the subcontractor

In particular, the Subcontractor in this project is required to:

1. Draw up **a project research report** of around 50 pages in English, with recommendations for national and EU policy makers and with the 5-pages summary. To this purpose, the external research is required to:
 - Prepare, with the input of the project advisory group, a comprehensive online survey addressed to ETUCE member organisations to) to identify specific professional needs of teachers, academics and other education personnel regarding the inclusion of refugee learners in the education system and match them with specific support provided by the education trade unions, including in the context of trade union organising and attractive teaching profession, and analyse its results.
 - Develop a comprehensive dataset with the survey results and their analysis.

- Carry out desk research and a literature review regarding the state-of-art of the inclusion of refugees and migrants in education in European region countries, including the link to economic (e.g. housing, access to health services), social, and political issues (e.g. right-wing movement and nationalist tendencies), and identify main challenges and gaps. Take into account findings of ETUCE, ETUC, FRA, and other relevant sources, including on the national level.
 - Develop a mapping of trade unions' good practices at national, regional, and local level on addressing the inclusion of refugees and migrants in and through education.
2. Contribute with an external and scientific perspective to the preparation of the project activities, including preparing background documents for the roundtables and presenting the research outcomes at roundtables and closing conference.
 3. Participate in the project advisory group meetings to regularly update ongoing research work.
 4. Work in close coordination with the ETUCE project's team throughout the project.

5. Expertise, experiences and skills required

ETUCE requires the Subcontractor to have the following requirements:

- Experience with research on addressing the inclusion of refugees and migrants and its impact on workers, in particular in the education sector (at European and national level);
- Experience with research on education policy making and the work of social partners in education;
- Proven experience with quantitative and qualitative analysis in the social field;
- Understanding of education trade unions' concerns as regards the challenges and needs of the teaching profession in the context of the national education system across Europe regarding the inclusion of refugees and migrants in education;
- Ability to meet budget allowance;
- Management experience in a project team, preferably, for EU-funded projects;
- Ability to meet deadlines;
- Availability to attend meetings.

6. Time schedule and reporting

The launch of the production starts after the signature of the contract by the two parties and the first meeting with the ETUCE project coordination team (January 2024).

Considering regular input from the Advisory Group, the Subcontractor is expected to deliver a final research report on an ongoing basis and no later than July 2025.

The rest working calendar will be agreed on the occasion of the first meeting between the ETUCE and the subcontractor.

7. Payments and standard contract

The contract signed between ETUCE and the Subcontractor is subject to the Grant Agreement signed between ETUCE and the European Commission for this project initiative. Payment of the fees defined in the contract will be made in two instalments dependent on the expert carrying out the relevant stages of work as listed above:

1. A first instalment amounting to 50%, issued after the contract signature and the submission of a duly filled-in invoice.

2. A second instalment for the remaining payment, issued after completion, delivery, and approval by ETUCE of the final outcomes upon submission of a duly filled-in invoice

The total amount that the expert will receive in compensation for the abovementioned tasks during the project lifetime will be a **maximum € 30,000.00 (VAT and all taxes included)**.

The Subcontractor is reimbursed for travel and accommodation expenses for their participation in the preparatory meetings, advisory group meetings, roundtables, and the final conference. These tasks are those previously set up in the Description of the Action only subject to the changes that may be decided by the Advisory Group.

8. Award and selection criteria

The contract will be awarded to the tenderer whose offer ensures the best value for money and no conflict of interest, considering the following selection criteria:

- Evidence track record of research and/or experience on addressing the inclusion of refugees and migrants and its impact on workers, in particular in the education sector (at European and national level) – 20%.
- Experience with research on education policymaking and/or on social partners in education and industrial relations in English– 20%.
- Proven experience with quantitative and qualitative analysis in the social field – 10%.
- Understanding of education trade unions' concerns as regards the challenges and needs of the teaching profession in the context of the national education system across Europe regarding the inclusion of refugees and migrants in education – 10%.
- Ability to meet budget allowance – 10%.
- Research experience of working in English in a project team, preferably for EU-funded projects – 10%.
- Ability to meet deadlines and ensure participation in the project activities – 10%.
- Availability during the two-year project for the requested tasks – 10%.

9. Content and presentation of the bids

9.1 Content of the bids

The bids should contain a CV and a portfolio with a detailed explanation of the qualifications and the expertise of the potential subcontractor, (e.g., information on references from the subcontractor on similar projects already handled, to demonstrate their experience and capability to succeed in performing the tasks as set out in item 3 of this tender).

The bids should include a detailed description of the methodology and tools applied to implement the research activity as well as a project plan with detailed time and cost planning (in EURO). The external expert is requested to send a budget listing the costs by task including a fair estimation of the number of working days and the number of people participating in the tasks.

The tender bid must be drawn up in accordance with all the tender requirements set out in this call for tender. They must be accurate and concise and clearly show that the tenderer meets the requirements and is able to provide the services on the terms stipulated.

9.2 Presentation of the bids

Replies must be presented electronically via email **by 7 December 2023 (midnight, CET)** at the latest to:

ETUCE

Subject: External Research expertise EU Project 101101573 – ETU4REF

Bischoffsheimlaan 15,

1000 Brussels, Belgium

E-Mail: secretariat@csee-etu.org

10. Selection of the bids

The evaluation and selection of the bids will be made by the ETUCE Secretariat in consultation with the project Advisory Group in accordance with the requirements set out in this call.