



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

FORM AM 10-7:

**Procurement Notice/Advertisement
Open International Competition (OIC)**

Country of Destination: Iraq

Reference Number: IRQ/RFP/25/43

Description: Research on Freedom of Expression and Content Governance in Iraq

Deadline for submission of electronic proposals: 26 May 2025 (Midnight UTC+3, Baghdad time)

Posting Date: 06 May 2025

The United Nations Educational, Science and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) hereby invites qualified companies/individuals to submit proposals to conduct **Research on Freedom of Expression and Content Governance in Iraq** under the UNESCO EU-funded project "Social Media 4 Peace" project. The comprehensive research shall encompass consultations with key stakeholders at the national level to gain better understanding of the governance systems of online harmful content in Iraq and its impact in society, civic space, peacebuilding efforts and human rights.

With a multistakeholder participatory approach, the research will specifically aim to:

1. Provide a clear understanding of the country's local context, background, and conflict related dynamics, both offline and online, as well as their interplay;
2. Analyze existing legislative frameworks, policies, tools, mechanisms and other initiatives in place aiming at addressing the spread and impact of harmful online content; and build resilience of users and promote user empowerment through MIL, as well as identification of stakeholders engaged in the governance of digital platforms;
3. Assess the effectiveness of these laws, frameworks, policies, tools, and initiatives and their impact on the protection of human rights of users, both online and offline, and conflict dynamics in the country;
4. Formulate recommendations and propose actions to address the gaps and challenges identified.

Location of Firm/Institution submitting proposal:

- The Firm/Institution submitting the proposal must be based in the Arab Region or have proven past experience of preparing similar type of analytical documents for the issues covering thematic area as outlined in the present ToRs in Iraq, as well as have a demonstrated presence and operational capacity within Iraq, including the ability to access different regions in the country as required for the scope of work.

Estimated timeline of the consultancy is June 2025 – March 2026.

The purpose of this notice is to provide general information on the requirements for the procurement process and to inform interested suppliers how to obtain a copy of the Solicitation Documents.

Interested companies who wish to participate in the OIC must request for a complete set of Solicitation Documents, available free of charge, from UNESCO contact person at the address shown below.

Your electronic offer, comprising a technical and financial proposal attached in two separate files, must be sent to baghdad.proc@unesco.org on or before **26 May 2025 (Midnight UTC+3, Baghdad time)**, in strict compliance with the instructions as stipulated in the Solicitation Documents.

UNESCO reserves the right to amend the documents at any time during the solicitation process. Any amendments or clarifications will be communicated directly to all Bidders who have requested for a complete set of solicitation documents and officially confirmed their intention to submit a proposal. No remuneration will be made to companies for preparation and submission of their tenders.

UNESCO Contact Information:

Name, Office: UNESCO Office in Baghdad

Attn: Mr. Dhea Subhee

E-mail: baghdad.proc@unesco.org

