

**eurAC**

european network  
for central africa

## **Call for tenders**

### **Terms Of Reference**

September 2021

EurAc is looking for a consultant to contribute to the analysis of its European advocacy strategy and targets

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. About EurAc

Created in 2003, the European Network for Central Africa (EurAc) is the advocacy network of European NGOs working in and on Central Africa. **EurAc aims for peace, security, justice and democracy towards a sustainable development in Central Africa, and especially in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Rwanda.**

The network gathers 34 European organisations from 10 different European countries (European Union Members States - *Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden*- as well as *Norway and Switzerland*).

EurAc benefits from a solid and multi-faceted expertise and from long-standing relations with policy and decision-makers in EU capitals and with key partners in the Great Lakes region. Therefore, EurAc is in a unique position to play an important role in monitoring EU's relations with the Great Lakes region and sending clear and fact-based messages to shape the EU agenda in accordance with EurAc's principles.

EurAc's mission is to carry out advocacy towards the EU to contribute to the development and the implementation, by the EU and its Members States, of strong and coherent policies promoting peace, inclusive political participation, the sustainable and equitable management of natural resources and the full respect of human rights in the Great Lakes region.

To reach these goals, EurAc member organisations advocate towards EU Member States, the EU institutions, and their relationships with multilateral organisations - such as the United Nations (UN), the African Union (AU) and regional organisations.

EurAc works to push European countries to act with one voice with regards to the coherence of their political and economic relations with the region.

## 1.2. Vision and objectives

EurAc's member organisations work together to foster policies by the EU and its Member States that promote **human rights** and **inclusive political participation**, the **equitable and sustainable management of natural resources**, as well as **peace and security** in Central Africa.

In order to do this, the network has identified four strategic objectives:

- The EU adopts meaningful policies, legal and political instruments to minimise the adverse environmental, social and economic impact of the exploitation of **natural resources** in the Great Lakes region.
- The EU supports democratic, civil-society-led efforts from the people of the Great Lakes region to promote **human rights and democratic participation**.
- The EU engages in foreign relations that promote **peace and security** for the citizens of the region, and particularly for the most vulnerable groups.
- **European Member States act with one voice** with regards to their political and economic relations with the region, which are rooted in human rights and prioritise the wealth and well-being of its people and the environment.

## 2. Call for consultant

### 2.1. General context

In 2019, after almost 20 years of existence, EurAc launched an internal reflexion process with its members to reshape the network's internal dynamics and to improve the efficiency of its advocacy strategies towards the European Union and its Member States. An external consultant guided the reflexion of the network and its members throughout 2020. The exercise helped reassess the network's functioning and governance structures.

In parallel, the previous strategic plan (2018-2020) was subject to an external evaluation. The final report of this evaluation suggested a series of recommendations on how EurAc could improve the impact of its advocacy by adapting its advocacy strategy to the current political context in the Great Lakes region, and by putting its members at the heart of its advocacy strategies toward the EU and its Member States.

Currently EurAc is in the process of finalising the design of its new global strategy for the period 2021 - 2024 and is looking for a consultant to strengthen the advocacy component of this strategy.

### 2.2. Purpose of the consultancy & objectives

► **To help analyse EurAc's advocacy targets, including the different institutions within the EU and its Member States; analyse their interactions and suggest efficient ways to influence them by including EurAc's diverse membership.<sup>1</sup>**

This will be done by three main channels, which are:

1. Increased understanding of different EU decision-makers (including Member States), their mandate, tools, mechanisms and power to implement or to influence political processes decisions regarding EurAc's three main areas of work;
2. Increased understanding of the European political and strategic priorities in the Great Lakes region and the way to address them. Identify where the added value of advocacy is and where the chances of success are possible;
3. More effective decentralisation and coordination of the advocacy network through its member and their Member States.

### 2.3. Deliverables

► **EurAc must understand the position and power interactions among EU institutions, and the relation between the EU-AU (African Union) and the EU-UN (United Nation). In order to do so, we would like to analyse the 6 EU levels and the UN/AU agencies in a holistic way: identify their bilateral agreements, goals, overlaps, articulations,**

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<sup>1</sup> For more information about our members, please visit our website: <https://www.eurac-network.org/en/member-organisations>

**their mutual influences; and identify the different “tools” for influencing each institution.**

The consultant will provide to EurAc a proposition on how to connect all levels in order to create a more comprehensive and cohesive influencing strategy. This will be fueled by:

### 2.3.1. A stakeholder mapping and power analysis

This mapping should include the following information:

- A mapping of EU decision-makers related to our 3 main thematic (Peace and security; Human rights and political participation; Natural resources);
- A clear description of the way the EU bodies are linked to the 3 thematic areas, what is their power to intervene in - or influence the decision-making process (=power + tools)
- The interlink, interaction, power and influencing strength between the different stakeholders:
  - among EU institutions;
  - among EU agencies and members states (through their capital and embassy on the ground)
  - among the EU and AU’s bodies + EU and UN’s bodies.

### 2.3.2. A mapping of the EU thematic priorities for the Great Lakes Region<sup>2</sup>

This mapping should include the following information:

- Identify the EU thematic and strategic priorities for the region (political and funding priorities) – in the light of EurAc’s main areas of work;
- Identification of most relevant EU-level policy processes and windows of opportunities for advocacy in next 3 – 5 years (with regards to EurAc’s main areas of work).
- Analyse where, when and how EurAc and its members should intervene on national, EU and UN levels to be able to influence EU policies and (and possibly UN) decisions.

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<sup>2</sup> Burundi/DRC/Rwanda

## 3. Practicalities

### 3.1. Timeline for consultancy

**13<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021:** publication of the call

**4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021:** selection of candidate and exchange between EurAc and the selected candidate to precise the terms and conditions.

**11<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> October 2021:** consultancy for about 20 days

- ▶ **By the 20<sup>th</sup>:** first exchange of view between Eurac and the consultant
- ▶ **By the end of October/beginning of November:** A meeting is organised between EurAc and the consultant to present the final results of the consultancy.

**3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021:** handover of the final written outcomes

EurAc reserves the right to stop the recruitment process before the final deadline if one of the candidates is suitable.

### 3.2. Location and duration of the assignment

No specific location as this is primarily a desk-based piece of work. Meetings can be hold online. Approximately 3 weeks of research + redaction. We expect to have 3 (online) meetings with the candidate (beginning/middle/end of the consultancy).

### 3.3. Budget

The tenderer should include a proposed price offer, including all costs (taxes included).

This is primarily a desk-based piece of work. Additional costs should be agreed upon before undertaking any non-desk-based work.

### 3.4. Decision criteria

The selection criteria is the following:

- The expertise and experience of the bidder in relation to the assignment, in particular his/her experience with EU membership-based advocacy organisations
- The budget

### 3.5. Personal specification

The consultant should be able to justify:

- Master's level studies in the fields of social sciences, public policy or any other equivalent field
- Experience of at least 5 years in advocacy and public policy

- Experience of at least 3 years in working with/understanding European policies and institutions (preferably with CSOs/NGOs)
- Demonstrated understanding of the EU institutions, including the European Parliament, European Commission (DG INTPA, DG JUST, DG TRADE, DG GROW...), the EEAS (Brussels headquarters and EU delegations in third countries), the Council of the European Union (COAFR working party in particular) and interactions with Member States
- Excellent written and oral communication in English or French
- Knowledge and experience of working in the thematic of peace, security, human rights, democratisation and natural resources management.

## 4. Application

▶ Application must be sent **by the 30th September 18:00 (Brussels time) at the latest** by email at: [clara.debeve@eurac-network.org](mailto:clara.debeve@eurac-network.org)

The interested applicant should submit a proposition including technical and financial offer which include:

- Methodology: Describe your overall approach and methodology
- Specific expertise: Describe your level of knowledge and expertise with this topic
- Relevant experience: Provide details of similar experience + CV of the consultant
- Timeline: Include a detailed timeline of key activities in accordance with the general timeline mentioned above.
- Budget proposal and financial detailed offer

## 5. Appendix

The useful documents will be shared with the consultant in due time – after the signature of the agreement. Those documents include: EurAc's new 2021-2024 strategy (draft), 2018-2020 strategy and external evaluation; policy and advocacy documents...