

CALL FOR TENDERS

Title: Website redesign, migration and long-term technical partnership (EDP)

Eligibility: Providers able to deliver services in compliance with EU legal and data protection requirements.

Contract duration: 24 months

Starting date: as soon as possible, ideally before summer 2026, subject to completion of the award procedure and contract signature.

Publication date: 12 March 2026

Deadline for submission: 30 March 2026

This call is published on the EDP website and may also be shared through other appropriate channels to ensure adequate competition.

1. About the organisation

The European Democratic Party (EDP) is a centrist European political party bringing together parties and Members of the European Parliament who share the objective of building a Union closer to citizens.

EDP is funded by the European Parliament and conducts its activities in accordance with the applicable legal and contractual framework governing European political parties and the use of Union funds, including its funding agreement and the relevant financial and procurement rules.

2. About this call for tenders

EDP is launching an open and technology-neutral call for tenders to select a supplier for:

- the redesign and rebuild of its public website (democrats.eu)
- the migration of existing content
- the provision of maintenance and support services

The tender intentionally does not prescribe a specific technology (CMS, framework or hosting architecture). Tenderers are invited to propose the solution they consider most appropriate to meet the objectives of EDP.

3. Estimated contract value

The estimated total value of the contract over 24 months is in the range of:
EUR 40,000 – EUR 60,000 (excluding VAT)

This estimate includes:

- website development and redesign
- migration of existing content
- maintenance and support
- an annual package of support and training hours

This range is indicative and does not constitute a commitment by EDP to spend the entire amount.

4. Current situation

The current website is based on a customised WordPress setup.

The EDP website currently contains approximately:

- Approx. 220 articles
- 160 pages

Content is available in four languages (English, French, German and Italian).

EDP publishes regularly and requires a solution that allows fast publication, reliable security and efficient multilingual management.

5. Objectives

The selected supplier must deliver a solution achieving the following mandatory objectives:

- a) **Mobile performance**
The new website must offer a significantly faster mobile experience, with mobile-first usability and performance.
- b) **Editorial autonomy**
The editorial team must be able to publish press releases and news articles quickly and independently, without requiring technical intervention.
- c) **SEO continuity**
Migration must ensure continuity of search engine visibility, preserving existing URLs and implementing appropriate redirect strategies.
- d) **Security and resilience**
The website must provide a robust security baseline, appropriate for a high-visibility European political organisation. EDP has experienced attempts of cyber-attacks in the past, including DoS/DDoS incidents.

The elements identified in this section as mandatory objectives, together with the minimum service levels set out in section 6, constitute minimum requirements of this procedure. Any tender that does not clearly demonstrate compliance with these minimum requirements shall be considered non-compliant and shall not be further evaluated.

Preferred (optional) features

The following features are considered added value but are not mandatory:

- e) **Multilingual workflow**
A multilingual editorial workflow across EN/FR/DE/IT, preferably integrated directly within the CMS.
- f) **AI-enabled translation assistance**
Integration of AI-assisted translation tools (e.g. DeepL or OpenAI) to facilitate multilingual content production.

6. Scope of services

- a) **Discovery and proposal**
The tenderer should provide:
 - description of the proposed technical solution
 - justification of the proposed architecture
 - implementation plan and timeline
- b) **Website development**
The supplier will be responsible for:
 - development of the new website
 - implementation of design templates
 - CMS configuration
 - multilingual structure (EN / FR / DE / IT)
 - editorial roles and permissions
- c) **Content migration**
Migration of existing website content, including approximately:
 - Approx. 220 articles
 - 160 pagesMigration must ensure:
 - preservation of URLs where possible
 - correct redirection strategy
 - preservation of SEO value
- d) **Maintenance, operations and support**
The contract must include:

a. Hosting and monitoring

The supplier must ensure:

- monitoring and alerting
- reliable hosting or managed infrastructure
- regular backups

b. Minimum service levels

The following minimum service levels apply throughout contract performance:

- 24/7 monitoring and alerting
- daily backups
- documented incident response procedures
- restoration of critical website service within the timeframe proposed in the tender, which shall be binding once accepted by EDP
- mitigation measures for cyber incidents, including defacement and DoS/DDoS events
- initial incident response within a maximum of 16 hours.

Tenderers shall describe how these service levels will be achieved and monitored.

c. Support and training

The contract must include an annual support package covering:

- technical maintenance
- minor or major improvements
- assistance to the internal editorial team
- staff training where necessary

The contract should include an annual package of support and maintenance hours. The indicative volume is up to 280 hours per year. Tenderers may propose a different support structure where justified by the proposed technical solution. In particular, where the proposed solution enables a high degree of editorial autonomy for the EDP team (for example, allowing routine content management and basic updates to be performed internally without technical intervention), tenderers may propose a reduced support volume or an alternative support model. Tenderers must also specify the hourly rate applicable to any work requested beyond that annual volume.

7. Deliverables

The contract must result in the delivery of:

- a fully operational website
- staging environment
- migration of existing content
- training for the editorial team
- documentation
- maintenance and support services

8. Exclusion criteria

Tenderers must not be in any of the exclusion situations defined in Annex II, including but not limited to:

- bankruptcy or insolvency
- non-payment of taxes or social security contributions
- fraud or corruption
- professional misconduct

Tenderers must confirm compliance through the Declaration on Honour (Annex II).

9. Selection criteria

Tenderers must demonstrate sufficient financial, technical and professional capacity to perform the contract.

a) Financial capacity

Tenderers must demonstrate stable financial capacity appropriate to the size of the contract. Evidence shall include one of the following:

- the latest approved annual accounts; or
- a statement of annual turnover for the last two closed financial years; or
- for recently established entities, any other appropriate evidence of financial capacity.

EDP reserves the right to request clarifications or supporting evidence where the documents submitted are incomplete or unclear, provided that such clarification does not modify the substance of the tender.

b) Technical and professional capacity

Tenderers must provide evidence of:

- at least three comparable contracts completed in the last five years, including at least one multilingual website or institutional/organisational website project;
- the proposed project team, including roles, relevant experience and CV summaries;
- the proposed delivery methodology, implementation timeline and support model.

c) Legal and regulatory compliance

Tenderers must demonstrate their capacity to provide the services in compliance with:

- Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR), where applicable;
- applicable cybersecurity and information-security standards or equivalent internal procedures.

d) Supporting documents

Tenderers shall submit:

- legal entity / registration details;
- VAT number where applicable;
- references or portfolio for comparable projects;
- team composition and expertise;
- relevant certifications or equivalent evidence.

Only tenders meeting the exclusion and selection criteria will be evaluated against the award criteria.

10. Evaluation criteria

The contract will be awarded to the most economically advantageous tender, based on the following criteria:

Criterion	Weight
Technical and operational quality	40%
Security and resilience	20%
Multilingual approach	10%
SEO continuity approach	10%
Financial offer (24-month total cost)	20%

Each criterion will be scored on a scale from 0 to 10. The weighted total score will be calculated out of 100.

a) Minimum quality threshold

Tenders must obtain at least 60/100 on the combined non-price criteria in order for the financial offer to be taken into account. Tenders that do not reach this threshold will not be ranked for award.

b) Price scoring

The score for the financial offer will be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Financial score} = (\text{Lowest compliant tender price} / \text{Tenderer's total 24-month price}) \times 20$$

c) **Control clarifications and demos**

EDP may invite tenderers to clarification meetings or demonstrations solely for the purpose of better understanding the tenders submitted. Such meetings shall not have the effect of substantially changing the tender documents, the minimum requirements or the award criteria. Equivalent treatment shall be ensured between tenderers, and a written record shall be kept.

11. Evaluation and award procedure

- EDP will prepare an internal evaluation report documenting the assessment of all tenders against the established exclusion, selection and award criteria.
- All persons involved in the evaluation or any clarification phase shall sign declarations of confidentiality and absence of conflicts of interest before accessing the tenders.
- Following the evaluation process, EDP will take an award decision based on the established criteria. All tenderers will be informed of the outcome of the procedure. Unsuccessful tenderers may request additional information regarding the reasons for the decision.
- The contractor acknowledges that the contract and related procedure may be subject to audit, verification or control by EDP and, where applicable, by the European Parliament, authorised auditors, OLAF or other competent control bodies in accordance with the applicable framework. The contractor and any subcontractor involved in contract performance shall retain relevant records and make them available on request in accordance with the contract terms. An opening record will be established for tenders received by the deadline. Tenders received after the submission deadline shall not be evaluated.
- The evaluation report and award decision shall be dated and retained in the procurement file.
- EDP reserves the right to request clarifications where a financial offer appears abnormally low in relation to the services proposed and may reject a tender where the explanations provided are unsatisfactory.

12. Subcontracting

Subcontracting is permitted only if clearly disclosed in the tender. Tenderers shall indicate:

- the identity of any proposed subcontractor;
- the part of the contract to be subcontracted;
- the estimated share of the contract value concerned;
- the justification for the use of subcontracting.

The contractor shall remain fully responsible for performance of the contract. Any subcontractor involved in contract performance shall be bound by the same confidentiality, data protection, security, audit and compliance obligations as the contractor.

13. Tender submission

Tenders must be submitted by email to: procurement@democrats.eu

Subject line: "EDP Website Rebuild – Call for Tenders"

Tenders must be submitted by email in PDF format before the deadline stated in this call.

The time of receipt recorded in the EDP mailbox shall serve as proof of timely submission.

Tenders shall include:

- the technical offer;
- the financial offer using Annex I;
- the Declaration on Honour using Annex II;
- the supporting documents required under section 9.

Tenders received after the submission deadline shall not be evaluated. Tenders missing mandatory annexes or mandatory supporting documents shall be considered non-compliant and shall not be evaluated, subject only to any clarification expressly requested by EDP that does not alter the substance of the tender.

14. Validity of tenders

Tenders must remain valid for 60 days after the submission deadline.
Submission of a tender implies acceptance of the conditions set out in the tender documents.

15. Data protection and hosting

Tenderers shall describe the proposed hosting arrangement, data location, access-management model, backup approach, and incident-reporting process. Where the performance of the contract involves processing of personal data on behalf of EDP, the selected contractor shall enter into appropriate data-processing terms with EDP before the start of processing.

16. Questions

Questions may be submitted by email to procurement@democrats.eu no later than 23 March 2026. EDP will aim to circulate anonymised replies to all known tenderers no later than 26 March 2026.

17. Confidentiality

All information provided by EDP in the context of this procedure must be treated as confidential and used exclusively for the preparation of the tender.

18. Contract governance

The contract will include, at minimum:

- a detailed statement of services and deliverables;
- performance reviews every six months;
- service levels and incident-management obligations;
- confidentiality, data protection and security obligations;
- intellectual property and licence terms, as set out in Annex III;
- exit and transition assistance at the end of the contract;
- audit, verification and document-retention obligations;
- rules on subcontracting;
- termination rights, including termination with two months' notice and termination for material breach.

Annexes

Annex I – Pricing template

Annex II – Declaration on Honour

Annex III – Draft service contract / purchase order terms

Annex I – Pricing template

Call for tenders: Website redesign, migration and long-term technical partnership (EDP)

Tenderer identification:

- Legal name
- Registered address
- Registration number
- VAT number
- Contact person
- Email
- Telephone

Instructions

- All prices must be stated in EUR, excluding VAT.
- Prices must cover the full performance of the contract in accordance with the tender documents.
- The financial offer must remain valid for 60 days after the submission deadline.
- The tenderer must complete all sections below.
- The total 24-month contract price will be used for financial evaluation.

I. Summary price table

Item	Price excl. VAT (EUR)
Discovery and technical proposal refinement	
Website design implementation and development	
CMS configuration and multilingual setup	
Content migration	
Documentation and editorial training	
Hosting / managed infrastructure for 24 months, if included	
Maintenance and support package – Year 1	
Maintenance and support package – Year 2	
Total 24-month contract price	

2. Included annual support package

The tenderer confirms that the total contract price includes an annual support package of 280 hours of technical work per year (or a different number of hours, as specified in point 6 of the call for tenders), covering at least:

- technical maintenance
- minor or major improvements
- assistance to the internal editorial team
- staff training where necessary

Support package element	Included in total price? (Yes/No)	Comments
Technical maintenance		
Minor improvements		
Major improvements		
Editorial support		

Staff training		
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3. Extra work beyond included support

Hourly rate applicable to work requested beyond the included annual support volume:
EUR [amount] per hour excluding VAT

The tenderer confirms that any extra work beyond the included support package shall only be invoiced if requested or approved by EDP in writing.

4. VAT

VAT rate applicable: [rate]
VAT amount on total price EUR [amount]

5. Financial declaration

The undersigned confirms that:

- the prices above are complete and cover all costs necessary for proper contract performance;
- the financial offer is accurate and truthful;
- the tenderer accepts that the Total 24-month contract price is the price used for financial evaluation under the tender;
- the tenderer accepts the conditions set out in the tender documents.

Name:

Function:

Date:

Signature:

Annex II – Declaration on Honour

Call for tenders: Website redesign, migration and long-term technical partnership (EDP)

Tenderer identification:

- Legal name
- Registered address
- Registration number
- VAT number
- Contact person
- Email

I, the undersigned, acting in the name and on behalf of the tenderer identified above, hereby declare on honour that:

1. Exclusion situations

The tenderer is not in any of the following situations:

- bankruptcy, insolvency, winding-up, administration, arrangement with creditors, suspension of business activities, or any analogous situation;
- non-payment of taxes or social security contributions under applicable law;
- conviction by final judgment for fraud, corruption, participation in a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorist financing, child labour, trafficking in human beings, or other comparable offences;
- grave professional misconduct or serious misrepresentation in the context of procurement or contractual performance;
- conflict of interest that could adversely affect participation in this procurement and that has not been effectively remedied;
- significant deficiencies in performance under previous contracts that led to early termination, damages, or comparable sanctions;
- any other exclusion situation applicable under the tender documents.

2. Compliance with tender conditions

The tenderer declares that:

- it has examined the tender documents and accepts their conditions;
- it is able to provide the services requested in accordance with the tender documents;
- it can comply with applicable legal and regulatory requirements, including GDPR where relevant and applicable cybersecurity or information-security requirements;
- the information and documents submitted with the tender are complete, accurate, and not misleading;
- the proposed technical offer and financial offer are genuine and have been prepared independently.

3. Conflict of interest and unfair advantage

The tenderer declares that:

- it has not obtained any undue advantage in the preparation of this procurement;
- it will immediately inform EDP of any actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest that could affect the procedure or the performance of the contract;
- where subcontractors are proposed, their involvement does not circumvent exclusion, selection, or procurement rules.

4. Subcontracting

If subcontracting is foreseen, the tenderer declares that:

- all proposed subcontractors are identified in the tender as required;

- the contractor will remain fully responsible for contract performance;
- subcontractors involved in performance will be bound by the same confidentiality, data protection, security, audit, and compliance obligations as the contractor.

5. Supporting evidence

The tenderer understands and accepts that EDP may request supporting evidence or clarifications, provided that such request does not alter the substance of the tender.

6. Truthfulness of declaration

The undersigned understands that a false declaration may lead to exclusion from the procedure, rejection of the tender, termination of the contract, or other appropriate measures.

For the tenderer

Name:

Function:

Place and date:

Signature:

Annex III – Draft service contract / purchase order terms

Call for tenders: Website redesign, migration and long-term technical partnership (EDP)

1. Parties

This Service Contract is concluded between:

European Democratic Party (EDP)

Rue Montoyer 25
1000 Brussels
Belgium

and

[Contractor legal name]

[Address]

[Registration number]

[VAT number]

2. Contract documents

The following documents form part of this Contract, in order of precedence:

1. this Contract and its annexes;
2. the call for tenders and its annexes;
3. the Contractor's technical offer;
4. the Contractor's financial offer;
5. any written clarification expressly accepted by EDP.

3. Subject matter

The Contractor shall provide services for:

- the redesign and rebuild of the EDP public website;
- migration of existing content;
- maintenance, support, and related technical services;
- hosting or managed infrastructure, where included in the accepted tender.

4. Duration

The Contract enters into force on the date of signature by the last Party.

The performance period shall be 24 months from the start date specified in the signed contract or purchase order.

5. Contract price

The total maximum contract price is:

EUR [amount] excluding VAT

This price covers all services necessary for proper performance of the Contract in line with the accepted tender.

The price includes an annual support package of 280 hours per year (or a different number of hours, as specified in point 6 of the call for tenders).

Additional work beyond the included support package may only be invoiced if:

- requested or approved in writing by EDP in advance; and
- charged at the hourly rate stated in the accepted financial offer.

6. Scope and deliverables

The Contractor shall deliver at least:

- a fully operational website;
- staging environment;
- migration of existing content;
- training for the editorial team;
- documentation;
- maintenance and support services.

The Contractor shall also provide:

- the proposed technical solution;
- the implementation plan and timeline;
- CMS configuration;
- multilingual structure for EN / FR / DE / IT;
- editorial roles and permissions;
- redirect strategy and SEO continuity measures.

7. Minimum requirements and service levels

Compliance with the minimum requirements in the tender documents and accepted tender is an essential contractual obligation.

The following minimum service levels apply throughout contract performance:

- 24/7 monitoring and alerting;
- daily backups;
- documented incident response procedures;
- restoration of critical website service within the timeframe accepted by EDP in the successful tender;
- mitigation measures for cyber incidents, including defacement and DoS/DDoS events;
- initial incident response within a maximum of 16 hours.

8. Acceptance of deliverables

EDP shall review the main deliverables within a reasonable period after delivery.

If a deliverable does not comply with the Contract, EDP may request corrections within a reasonable deadline.

The Contractor shall make the necessary corrections at no additional cost where the issue concerns contractual non-conformity.

Acceptance does not waive EDP's rights in respect of hidden defects, security weaknesses, or later-discovered non-compliance.

9. Governance and reporting

The Parties shall each appoint a contract contact point.

The Contractor shall:

- attend a kick-off meeting;
- provide progress updates during implementation;
- participate in performance reviews every six months;
- inform EDP without undue delay of any issue affecting delivery, security, continuity, timing, or cost.

10. Payment

EDP shall pay the Contractor in accordance with the payment schedule set out in the signed contract or purchase order.

EDP shall pay undisputed amounts within 30 days of receipt of a valid invoice and any reasonably required supporting documents.

11. Changes during performance

No change shall be binding unless agreed in writing by the Parties.

No substantial modification of the Contract shall be made.

12. Subcontracting

Subcontracting is permitted only to the extent disclosed in the accepted tender or later approved in writing by EDP.

The Contractor remains fully responsible for performance of the Contract.

Any subcontractor involved in performance shall be bound by the same obligations relating to:

- confidentiality;
- data protection;
- security;
- audit and access to records;
- compliance with applicable law.

13. Data protection and hosting

Where performance of the Contract involves processing of personal data on behalf of EDP, the Contractor shall process such data only on documented instructions from EDP and shall sign any necessary data-processing terms before processing starts.

The Contractor shall maintain the hosting and security arrangements described in the accepted tender, including:

- data location;
- access-management model;
- backup approach;
- incident-reporting process.

14. Confidentiality

The Contractor shall keep confidential all information received from EDP or generated in connection with the Contract, unless such information is lawfully public.

This obligation continues for five years after the end of the Contract, unless a longer period is required by law or funding conditions.

15. Intellectual property and licence rights

Unless otherwise agreed in writing, all pre-existing materials, tools, methodologies, software components and know-how of the Contractor or third parties remain their property.

EDP shall receive, upon payment, a perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free, worldwide licence to use, reproduce, host, modify, maintain, adapt, further develop and procure third parties to maintain and further develop all deliverables created specifically for EDP under this Contract, for EDP's institutional and operational purposes.

To the extent that any bespoke design assets, documentation, migration materials or project-specific configuration elements are created exclusively for EDP and are legally capable of assignment, the Contractor assigns such rights to EDP upon full payment.

The Contractor shall ensure that any third-party components used under the Contract are properly licensed for EDP's intended use and for continuity of service, including maintenance by a replacement provider where necessary.

16. Audit, verification and record retention

The Contractor acknowledges that the Contract and related procedure may be subject to audit, verification, or control by EDP and, where applicable, by the European Parliament, authorised auditors, OLAF, or other competent control bodies.

The Contractor shall retain relevant records relating to performance of the Contract for at least five years after final payment and make them available on request. The Contractor shall ensure that equivalent obligations apply to any subcontractor involved in contract performance.

17. Conflict of interest and compliance

The Contractor shall take appropriate measures to prevent and disclose any conflict of interest affecting contract performance.

The Contractor shall comply with applicable law relevant to performance, including data protection, tax, employment, and cybersecurity obligations.

18. Suspension and termination

EDP may suspend performance where justified by operational, budgetary, security, or compliance reasons.

Either Party may terminate the Contract for convenience with two months' written notice.

EDP may terminate the Contract with immediate effect in case of:

- material breach not remedied within a reasonable cure period;
- serious or repeated failure to meet minimum service levels;
- breach of confidentiality, security, or data protection obligations;
- undisclosed or unacceptable subcontracting;
- false declaration or exclusion situation affecting the Contractor.

19. Exit and transition

At the end of the Contract, or upon termination, the Contractor shall provide reasonable transition assistance to ensure continuity of service.

This includes, where applicable:

- transfer of content and assets in a usable format;
- secure handover of access credentials;
- transfer of relevant technical documentation;
- reasonable cooperation with EDP or a replacement provider.

20. Applicable law and jurisdiction

This Contract shall be governed by the law of Belgium.

Any dispute not settled amicably shall fall under the jurisdiction of the competent courts of Brussels, Belgium.

**EUROPEAN
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PARTY**

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With the financial
support of
the European
Parliament

21. Signatures

For EDP

Name

Title

Date

Signature

For the Contractor

Name

Title

Date

Signature