

KNOWLEDGE RIGHTS 21 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: NATIONAL / EU INITIATIVES

Explanation KR21 Programme

The [Knowledge Rights 21 Programme \(KR21\)](#) is focused on bringing about changes in legislation and practice across Europe that will strengthen the right of all to knowledge. It is built on a conviction that knowledge is essential for education, research, innovation and cultural participation, and that everyone should have the possibility - in particular through libraries and archives, and digitally - to access and use it.

Description of the assignment

We are requesting proposals for activities to be carried out in order to support the delivery of the goals of the KR21 Programme at the national, regional and/or European levels, as outlined below. These time-bound projects should be directly linked to the delivery of results in line with the desired outcomes of the Programme.

Key themes for work include:

- facilitating access to and lending of eBooks, in particular through stronger legislative guarantees;
- overcoming the challenges that contract override and technological protection measures pose to the enjoyment of copyright exceptions and limitations;
- the promotion of more flexible approaches to copyright (open norms), notably in the context of wider research policies;
- promoting the uptake of rights retention and open licensing policies;
- promoting legislated secondary (parallel) publishing rights;
- barriers to the functioning of the European Research Area (cross-border research) and the role of copyright in the development of digital public infrastructures;
- the contribution of innovation in publicly funded institutions to wider innovation; and,
- other topics where it is possible to make a compelling case for relevance to the Programme's work; see the [Key Objectives page](#) of the KR21 website for more details.

See the annex for the list of projected outcomes from the Programme.

Types of activity that could be covered include the below (or combinations of these), although we encourage inventiveness in proposals:

- targeted research and evidence gathering efforts (using different disciplinary approaches) combined with effective advocacy towards decision makers;
- communications and mobilisation strategies that trigger action; and,
- engagement with policy makers and wider government affairs.

To underline, proposals which involve engagement with policy makers and an engagement in government affairs, and so directly support the delivery of Programme goals, are particularly welcome.

Requirements

We are ready to consider bids from any applicant, but in light of the goals of the programme, it is anticipated that educational establishments, research organisations and/or libraries should be involved in, or related to the research in some way. If a country already has a KR21 national coordinator ([see the list on our website](#)), the grant recipient will be required to work with them on the initiative. In turn, national coordinators bidding will be expected to demonstrate how work on the

proposed initiative is additional to their core activities as a coordinator. National, multi-country and supra-national bids are equally welcome.

Bids are welcome **up to €40 000** (inclusive of VAT where appropriate). However, value for money will be considered as part of the review process – bids for less therefore are welcome. Multi-country and supra-national bids may apply for more money.

Any interviews, collection of personal data, etc. will be based on appropriate grounds for processing and must allow KR21 to use the personal data. Successful applicants will be expected to coordinate communications activities with the KR21 Secretariat.

Duration of assignment

We would expect **activities to be completed by December 2024**, but would welcome earlier completion.

Start date: from **June 2024** onwards

Information Required

You are required to provide the following information. As a guide, your response does not need to be more than three pages long.

- Background about the bidder, including evidence of their ability to perform this work;
- A description of the activity that you plan to undertake, as well as expected outputs and outcomes as well as timings;
- An indication of how they fit with KR21 policy goals;
- An indication of how you plan to carry out this activity, including a budget;
- An indication of how this work would not be possible without this funding;
- Suggested indicators of success; and,
- An assessment of risks, and how these will be managed including any data protection risks.

Communication

For questions and further information please contact: info@knowledgerights21.org

Applicable conditions

The agreement will be concluded with Stichting IFLA Foundation.

General conditions of sale, sector conditions or other conditions of the Tenderer are expressly excluded and do not apply to this Engagement. You will be expected to coordinate with us around communication of your work, in order to ensure that we can profile it adequately on our own channels.

Any remarks about the conditions that apply to this Engagement must be made known with your offer.

Other conditions attached to this request for quotation

- You cannot derive any rights to reimbursement of quotation costs or to obtaining the order from this request for quotation.
- Stichting IFLA Foundation may (temporarily) suspend and/or revoke this request for quotation. In such a situation, you are not entitled to reimbursement of the costs incurred for this request for quotation.
- By submitting a request for quotation, you declare that you meet all the requirements set out in this request for quotation and that you agree to the terms and conditions set.

Stichting IFLA Foundation reserves the right to change the intended time schedule. In the event that Stichting IFLA Foundation proceeds to change the intended schedule, this will be communicated to all parties concerned. Tenderers cannot derive any rights from this intended schedule. The dates

mentioned in this (or the amended) time schedule for the submission of questions and the submission of Tenders are regarded as deadlines.

Stichting IFLA Foundation expects your **written offer by 18:00 CET (Amsterdam Time) on 30 May 2024**, but bids will be assessed as they are received. Please send your offer to: info@knowledgerights21.org

You can also address any questions about the bids to info@knowledgerights21.org.

Evaluation of the offer

- Review of the bids by the KR21 Programme's Committees
- In the context of this review, questions may be asked, and recommendations made for changes in order to accept a bid.
- Candidates will be selected on the basis of the quality of their bid (including value for money), their ability to deliver, as set out in their bid.

We wish you every success in drawing up your offer.

Annex: Projected outcomes of the Knowledge Rights 21 Programme

E-books: At least one country updates or interprets its national laws to allow libraries to digitise their analogue collections and lend them using a form of controlled digital lending, with changes elsewhere in the pipeline. Fifty additional libraries – with or without official government agreement – make content available to users worldwide under controlled digital lending. Furthermore, at least one country updates its national e-Lending rules to allow libraries to buy any eBook and lend it to patrons, in line with the CJEU judgement. In parallel, libraries in other countries achieve more favourable deals with publishers, giving access to much wider ranges of content on reasonable terms.

Contract override: New provisions on contract override and for the effective circumvention of technological protection measures are included in at least two European countries, providing further examples of the potential to apply such provisions more broadly.

Open norms: positive comments by a range of law makers towards fair use as a principle, as measured by monitoring of relevant speeches and proposals. The idea is referred to in European Parliament and other official texts as a means of responding to emerging questions around copyright.

Secondary publishing rights: In addition to the six countries that currently have a secondary publisher right, two more countries in Europe have a re-publication right, with others on the way.

Rights retention: A notable increase in the number of publishers offering an open access (OA)-supportive copyright policy, and a similarly notable increase in the number of national research funding agencies adopting more favourable policies around OA, as well as a significant increase in awareness and endorsement of rights retention among researchers and institutions.

Grassroots mobilisation: In at least 20 countries, there is an active and sustainable network of individuals from the library field and beyond with the confidence and knowledge to engage successfully in efforts to change copyright law. These networks play a central role in achieving the successes set out above, as well as complementing work in Brussels.

Please see the wider [KR21 website](#) for more updates on our work.