



## **EUROPEAN UNION**

Delegation of the European Union to  
the Republic of Lebanon

Beirut, 22 October 2012

### **PRESS RELEASE**

## **The Delegation of the EU launches a call for proposals on "Support to electoral reform in Lebanon"**

The Delegation of the European Union to Lebanon is seeking proposals for the funding of projects aimed at supporting the reform of the electoral framework in Lebanon in line with international standards and the recommendations of the European Electoral Observation Missions.

Under this call, priority will be given to:

- In view of the 2013 parliamentary elections, support for actions that contribute to the adoption of a rights based system and implementation of electoral reforms in line with Lebanon's electoral international commitments, international electoral standards, recommendations of the European Electoral Observation Missions, such as:
  - Measures to support the secrecy of the vote, such as the use of officially printed ballots,
  - Increased women's representation in elected bodies and electoral processes,
  - Greater youth participation in electoral process (e.g. lowering of the voting age through constitutional reform),
  - Enhanced monitoring and supervision of the campaign spending regulations,
  - Promotion of a more rigorous media regulatory framework,
  - Clearer and more effective electoral complaints procedure,
  - Measures to support the implementation of a realistic framework for Out of Country Vote, and
  - Improved accessibility of polling stations for all voters including disabled voters and simplification of voter registration.
- Support for actions that contribute to promote and enhance the role and skills of grassroots civil society organisations as a watchdog of the electoral polls in 2013 such as:
  - Enhanced electoral domestic observation,
  - Publication of public voter information, and
  - Analysis on the electoral process.
- Support for actions that contribute to consolidate civil society as an effective vector for electoral reform beyond the 2013 elections, through all the longer-term electoral cycle such as:
  - Support to the adoption of pending electoral reforms (e.g establishment of an Independent Election Management Body) in line with international standards and the recommendations of the electoral missions expected to be deployed for the 2013 elections,

- Support to allow regional exchanges and best practices on reforming the electoral systems and legislations in the Arab countries, and
- Support to undertake research and policy analysis in electoral related topics.

The overall indicative amount made available under this Call for Proposals is 2 000 000 euros. Partnership is mandatory and there has to be at least one organisation of Lebanese nationality and one organisation with previous experience in managing similar projects.

The full guidelines for applicants are available on the following websites:

[http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/index\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/index_en.htm)

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome>

**The deadline for submission of proposals is: Friday 21st December 2012.**

**An information meeting will be held on Wednesday 31st October 2012 at 11 at the Delegation of the European Union:**

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