

TENDERS Q&A

What is a tender?

A tender is a contract notice published by a contracting authority to invite competing offers.

What are calls for tenders?

With calls for tenders the contracting authority aims to purchase goods, services, works or utilities in exchange for payment of an agreed price.

What are the contracting authorities?

The contracting or awarding authorities for tenders are central government, local or regional authorities, bodies governed by public law, or associations consisting of one or more of these authorities or bodies governed by public law.

What are the public procurement procedures?

In the EU, the public procurement procedures (PPP) must be followed by the contracting authorities to procure works, supplies, services or pass so-called “utilities contracts” in the water, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors.

What is Tenders Electronic Daily (TED)?

TED (Tenders Electronic Daily) is the online version of the Supplement to the Official Journal of the EU (OJS), dedicated to European public procurement.

TED includes the **following contracting authorities** within its scope:

- EU institutions, agencies and other bodies
- European Investment Bank (EIB), European Central Bank (ECB) and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) financed projects
- Countries of the Public Procurement Network: EU Member States, candidate countries, EEA countries (Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein) and Switzerland
- Contracts pursuant to the Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA), concluded within the framework of the GATT/World Trade Organisation (WTO) from Switzerland.

The **following notices are published in TED**:

- notices for public procurement and calls for expression of interest from EU institutions, agencies and other bodies

- notices for public procurement, calls for expression of interest and the annual list of contractors from the countries part of the Public Procurement Network (PPN)
- notices for projects financed by EU financial institutions such as the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Investment Fund (EIF), the European Central Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the External Aid and European Development Fund (ACP countries)
- other types of notices and public contracts for air services.

As per EU procurement laws, all **notices** for procurement procedures by **contracting authorities** above the following **contract value thresholds** must be published in the OJS and hence in TED:

- | | |
|--|--------|
| • Public works | €5350K |
| • Service contracts | €139K |
| • Supplies contracts | €139K |
| • All other supplies and services in the sectors of water, energy, transport and telecommunication | €428K |

Each day, around 1800 notices are published in the OJS (yearly contract value of around € 420 billion).

What is TED eTendering?

TED eTendering is an added-value extension to TED, the online version of the Supplement to the Official Journal of the European Union (OJS).

Which countries are part of the Public Procurement Network (PPN)?

The following countries are part of the PPN:

- EU Member States
- Candidate countries
- EEA countries
- Switzerland

What is SEDIA?

The Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA) is the entry point for participants and experts in funding programmes and tenders managed by the European Commission and other EU bodies.

It provides for the electronic management of EU programmes and tenders and facilitates the related interactions with the EU institutions.

What is esa-star Publication System?



The procurement process of the European Space Agency (ESA) called EMITS has been replaced by esa-star publication on March 23, 2021.

Esa-star publication allows to consult the upcoming invitations to tender (ITT), the current ITT, requests for quotation and information about ESA's procurement process (for all ESA's programs).
