8 November 2026

Norwegian People's Aid

Request for Proposals

Technical and Military Expert for Research on The Risks and Consequences of Reintroducing Anti-Personnel Mines

Reference: RFP26-11 - Research Consultancy Anti-Personnel Mines

1. Background

Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) is a politically independent membership-based organisation working in Norway and in more than 30 countries around the world. Founded in 1939 as the labour movement's humanitarian solidarity organisation, NPA aims to improve people's living conditions and to create a democratic, just and safe society. NPA's international work covers three core areas: Mine Action and Disarmament, Development and Humanitarian Relief Aid. See www.npaid.org for more information.

NPA seeks to commission a technical and military expert to contribute to a research study examining the risks and consequences of reintroducing anti-personnel mines (APMs), including their use in international and non-international armed conflicts and border defense scenarios.

Recent policy developments in some European countries bordering or located near Russia have brought renewed attention to the military role of APMs. These developments raise questions about their military utility and potential wider and longer-term consequences.

The study is intended to provide an objective, evidence-based assessment that will contribute to informed policy discussions, public debate, and protection of civilian efforts.

The research will comprise two complementary components: a comparative analysis of anti-personnel mine use in selected recent conflicts and the feasibility of responsible use, and a technical and military assessment. This request for proposals concerns the latter component.

The successful bidder will examine the military and technical aspects of APMs, including:

- A mapping of the circumstances, objectives and patterns of current APM use, including the types of APMs employed (including new and so-called "smart mines"), their means and methods of delivery, their integration into broader defensive systems, and approaches and techniques to their clearance;
- Emerging technological and methodological developments in the production, delivery, use and clearance of APMs;
- Relevant changes in the conduct of warfare;
- The availability of alternative capabilities;
- The military utility, limitations and risks of APM use;
- Potential implications for future armed conflicts and the scale, nature, and management of explosive ordnance contamination.

2. Deliverables

The selected consultant will be expected to:

- Participate in an initial meeting to agree on the research approach and initial outline, workplan and process, followed by regular review meetings.
- Undertake the technical and military research component of the study, working closely with NPA's research team and editor throughout the process.
- Engage with the comparative research as it develops, contributing relevant technical and military perspectives to its analysis and drawing on its findings in the consultant's own research.
- Produce a substantive written analysis of the technical and military research findings, including revisions based on feedback and discussions with NPA's editor.
- Contribute to the development of the study's overall analysis and conclusions. The final structure and publication format of the research will be determined in consultation with NPA.
- Support the editor in preparing a short summary and visual presentation of the study's findings and recommendations.
- Travel to Geneva to present the study's findings.

3. Qualifications

NPA welcomes proposals from defence research institutions, military academics, think tanks, mine action organisations, technical weapons specialists, and individual experts.

Applicants should demonstrate:

- Relevant expertise in APMs, weapons technologies and military operations.
- Understanding of military utility, operational risks, and relevant technological developments.
- Familiarity with explosive ordnance contamination and mine action challenges.
- Experience in research and analytical writing.
- Ability to work collaboratively within a multidisciplinary research team.

4. Timeline and Deliverables

Work should begin as soon as possible following contract signing, with the substantive written analysis of the technical and military research findings, including revisions, delivered by 15 May 2026 and final outputs expected latest by 30 September 2027.

5. Proposal Submission

Interested applicants should submit:

- A brief description of relevant qualifications and experience, including CV(s).
- Examples of relevant previous research or publications.
- A short proposal outlining the proposed approach and methodology.
- A proposed workplan and timeline.
- A financial proposal specifying fees and other costs, and one travel to Geneva.

Applicants must confirm in their submission that they comply with NPA's Ethical Standards for Investment, Procurement and Marketing.

Proposals should be submitted via email to tenders@npaid.org, with the subject line "RFP26-11 - Research Consultancy Anti-Personnel Mines", no later than **29 November 2026 at 18:00 CET**.

Proposals submitted after this date and time will not be considered. Received bids will be opened thereafter by the appointed opening and evaluation committee.

Submitted proposals shall be valid for 60 days after the submission deadline.

All proposals received will be considered the property of NPA. We will fully protect the confidentiality of all information you provide to us, as we expect you to do the same with all NPA information we provide to you.

NPA makes no commitment to contract for any products or services, or take any other action, including but not limited to, awarding a contract to a company submitting the lowest cost proposal.

Proposal costs or any resources expended by a bidder in responding to this RFP, including any costs incurred in proposal preparation, presentation or meetings are the sole responsibility of the bidder.

NPA reserves the right to change or cancel this RFP without prior notice or responsibility for any bidder if deemed necessary. Any amendments will be communicated in writing to all involved parties.

NPA shall not be responsible for, or held liable for, any errors or omissions that may exist in this RFP. NPA retains the right to amend this RFP to correct any errors or omissions.

A proposal may be withdrawn or amended prior to the proposal due date. To withdraw or amend a proposal, authorized representatives of the bidder must submit a written request to the RFP contact. After withdrawing a proposal, the bidder may submit another proposal at any time up to the defined proposal due date. Bidders are not permitted to alter their proposal after the proposal due date.

6. Evaluation Criteria

NPA's opening and evaluation committee will score the technical evaluation of the bids with the following criteria and weighting:

Organization and methodology	**Maximum points**
Research approach and methods	30
Company profile and resources	20
Total score for organization and methodology	**50**
Research team/competency	**Maximum points**
Key experts, qualifications and skills	30
Quality of previous research publications	20

Total score for research team/competency	**50**
Overall technical score	**100**

Only proposals with the average overall technical score of 75 points or more will be considered technically acceptable and will qualify for the financial evaluation. The best value for money will be established by weighting technical quality against price on a 70/30 basis.

The contract will be awarded to the firm achieving the highest combined technical and financial score. NPA may contact bidders for follow up and clarification, may request bidders to provide additional professional references, and NPA may interview bidders/ proposed experts as a part of the evaluation process.

7. Questions/clarification

Any questions regarding this RFP shall be sent to the RFP contact point, Grethe Lauglo Østern, on gretheo@npaid.org.

We welcome proposals and remain available for clarification.