



**TENDER FOR
THE PROCUREMENT OF A NATIONAL RESEARCHER
(Belgium)**

CAPISCE PROJECT

Co-funded by
the European Union



Background to the CAPISCE project

The CAPISCE project cofinanced by the European commission seeks to enhance the protection of victims of trafficking, more specifically children during criminal investigation and proceedings.

Several existing EU instruments ensure access to justice and the right to be protected in legal procedures for child victims of trafficking in the EU Member states: 2011/36 Directive on trafficking in human beings, 2011/93 Directive on sexual exploitation of children, and the first “*Commission report on the progress made in the fight against trafficking*”. These instruments provide for a comprehensive set of measures to ensure the protection of the rights of child victims of trafficking such as the right to a physical and personal data protection. Among these provisions, the implementation of physical protection measures are of utmost importance not only for the early identification of victims but also to appropriately deal with their case and prevent secondary victimization.

The four countries (Belgium, France, Italy, The Netherlands) concerned by the CAPISCE project have victims exploited in trafficking. Victims may not file a complaint for several reasons: none physical protection, fear of reprisals, fear of sharing personal information, fear of being in contact with the offenders. Victims of trafficking in human beings have, because of their situation, specific rights whose purpose is to guarantee effective protection. Without their victim's right guaranteed, they will not access the protection they need.

The CAPISCE project aims to **ensure victims benefit from an adequate protection during investigation and criminal proceedings.**

The project proposes to undertake research in four Member States focusing on the protection of victims of trafficking during criminal investigation and proceedings. By covering the legal proceedings, the research will study the implementation of the minimum standards established by the Directive EU 2012/29 including: the qualification of “victim”, the sharing of information and the security of the persons, the risk of secondary and repeat victimization, of intimidation and of retaliation by the offender, the right to avoid contact between victim and offender (art. 19), the right to protection of victims during criminal investigations (art. 20), the right to protection of privacy (art. 21), the individual assessment of victims to identify specific protection needs (art. 22). The research will include the study of obstacles for child victims to obtain their rights and will elaborate recommendations based on national or European practices in order to improve the current systems.

The project will produce a research in the 4 countries (Belgium, France, Italy and the Netherlands). The research will be done in each country by the **national legal researcher** selected by ECPAT groups.

Note that the research will be coordinated by a **EU research coordinator (terms of reference: <https://ecpat.be/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/TENDER-FOR-Researcher-European.pdf>)**. The EU research coordinator will be responsible for proposing common research tools to national researchers, analyzing the 4 national reports and elaborating the European report.

1) The role of the national legal researcher

National researchers are appointed to one specific country. The national researcher for Belgium will be responsible for:

- Attending an **initial workshop** in Brussels (1 day - February 2020) to develop a common understanding between the national researchers of the four countries for the goals of the desk research, the variety of systems in each country and the level of details expected. The national researcher may contribute/comment on the questionnaire for the desk review.
- Undertaking **desk research** in relation to the extent to which trafficked child access protection measures (in relation to art. 19 to 22) and obstacles faced. He/she will provide a report based on the questionnaire finalized during the Brussels meeting.
- Attending a **second meeting** in Paris (1 day - March 2020) to compare findings from desk researches in the four countries and discuss the questionnaire and detailed guidance for the field research (fields of research, persons to be interviewed, methodology to be used).
- Undertaking **field research** through interviews and meetings with key stakeholders and child victims of trafficking in order to assess the situation, detect the problems and share good practices. The national researcher will conduct face to face interviews with a minimum of 20 stakeholders in Belgium, preferably composed of 15 professionals and 5 child victims of trafficking (where possible). Telephone interviews could be done when necessary. The national researcher may also attend relevant meetings/conferences or organise their own local roundtables so as to begin with some well-known experts in the field who could share innovative developments, good practice or areas causing significant problems.
- Providing **summary reports/transcriptions** on the main points raised during each interview and meeting (in English)
- Discussing with other researchers (from France, Italy and the Netherlands) to issue recommendations
- Producing the **country report** for Belgium containing findings and recommendations (either in French or Dutch, which will be translated in the other national language). The final report is expected to be of 16 pages developing findings and recommendations specific to Belgium. It will be validated by ECPAT Belgium.
- Assisting / proofreading **the EU report**
- Attending a **European workshop** in Roma (1.5 days – October 2020) to present findings of the research and to exchange on good practices developed in EU Member States regarding child victims of trafficking or other related forms of crimes.

2) Work commitment in days

Description of work / outputs	Estimation of numbers of days	Period/ Deadline (indicative)
Literature review	5 days	January / March 2020
Field research for the country report	20 days	March / June 2020
Elaboration of the country report	7 days	July / September 2020
Proofreading of the EU report	2 days	September 2020

Meetings and conference	6 days	Feb / March / Oct 2020
Total lot 1	40 days	

3) Opportunity to apply for the EU research coordination

National researchers of the four countries can **also** apply for the EU research coordinator position. The terms of reference for the “EU research coordinator” have been published (<https://ecpat.be/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/TENDER-FOR-Researcher-European.pdf>) and/or can be asked to ariane.couvreur@ecpat.be.

4) Person specification

The consultant should have:

- A master’s degree in law or relevant experience in the legal field (mandatory)
- Good command of English, French and Dutch, with excellent writing and editing skills (mandatory)
- Professional expertise in child protection and children’s rights
- Knowledge of trafficking and/or unaccompanied minors
- Knowledge of the legal framework for children’s rights, at European and national level
- Experience in conducting research
- Knowledge of networks of legal professionals

The applicants will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Experience in conducting research (40%)
- Knowledge of trafficking and/or unaccompanied minors (30%)
- Knowledge of the legal framework for children’s rights, at European and national level (30%)

5) Location

The majority of the research will be conducted in Belgium, by phone and skype, starting with a general briefing in Brussels. It is expected that the researchers also spend: 1 day in Paris for a meeting with other national researchers, and 1,5 day in Roma for the European meeting.

6) Remuneration

The budget has been estimated as a daily rate of €350. The researchers are responsible for paying income tax.

7) Contract

The successful candidate will sign a memorandum of understanding with ECPAT Belgium.

8) Tendering process

a. Timescale

Tender opening date:	15 th of November 2019
Tender closing date:	2 nd December 2019
Winning tender announced:	5 st December 2019
Contract signed:	10th December 2019

b. How to apply

Applicants should send a CV and covering letter to ariane.couvreur@ecpat.be by 5pm on the 2nd December 2019. Applicants should explain their suitability for the role, referring to the person specification above.

The selected candidate will be contacted by the 10th of December 2019.