

GENERAL MANAGER,

Filip A. PETCU



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Regarding the procurement of an integrated package of Services for the organization and scientific curatorship of the temporary exhibition "The Fragility of the Eternal. From Pompeii to the Grand Tour to Today"

Principal CPV Code: 92521100-0 - Museum-exhibition services

CHAPTER 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1. Contracting Authority

- **Name:** THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ART TIMIȘOARA
- **Address:** Piața Unirii no. 1, Timișoara, postal code 300085, Timiș County, Romania
- **Fiscal Identification Code (CUI):** 18272040
- **Telephone/Fax:** 0256.491.592
- **E-mail (for communications within the procedure):** office@mnart.museum
- **Contact Persons:** Liliana Cîra-Niculescu, Vasile Puzderie

1.2. Context and Object of the Procurement: The Contracting Authority, the National Museum of Art Timișoara (MNArT), intends to organize, between **November 28, 2025 – March 29, 2026**, a large-scale international exhibition titled "The Fragility of the Eternal. From Pompeii to the Grand Tour to Today."

The curatorial concept of the exhibition (the general curatorship) belongs exclusively to the Contracting Authority. This Terms of Reference document establishes the technical, professional, and financial conditions for the procurement of an integrated package of organizational and scientific curatorship services, necessary for producing the exhibition to the highest international museum standards. The selected Provider will act as a logistical and organizational partner, making available to MNArT its experience, network of contacts, and technical capacity to ensure, on a "turnkey" basis, all operations necessary for bringing the selected artifacts to Romania, exhibiting them, and safely returning them.

1.3. Funding Source and Value: Own budget; 1,315,000 RON;

1.4. Applied Procedure: Simplified own procedure, in accordance with the provisions of Art. 68 para. (1) lit. h) and Art. 111 para. (1) of Law no. 98/2016 on public procurement, with subsequent amendments and additions. The choice of this procedure is based on the fact that the services which are the object of the contract, CPV code 92521100-0, fall into the category of social and other specific services mentioned in Annex no. 2 of Law 98/2016 on public procurement. The procedure will be carried out in compliance with the principles of public procurement, according to Art. 2 para. 2) of Law 98/2016: non-discrimination, equal treatment, mutual recognition, transparency, proportionality, and accountability.

1.5. Type and Duration of the Contract: Service contract. The duration of the contract will be established from the date of its signing until the fulfillment of all contractual obligations, including the safe return of all works and the closure of insurance policies, but no later than **April 29, 2026**.

CHAPTER 2: DETAILED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

The Provider undertakes to provide, cumulatively, the following services, which constitute the object of the contract:

2.1. Project Management

- Close collaboration with the MNArT curatorial team to finalize the final list of works.
- Initiating and managing all communications and negotiations with the museum institutions that own the artifacts.
- Obtaining agreements in principle and managing the entire process of bringing the agreed-upon artifacts to MNArT.
- Managing a detailed schedule (retro-planning) for all project stages.
- Obtaining the owners' consent regarding the right to reproduce the image of the artworks for use in promotional, advertising, cultural mediation, or other informational and scientific training activities.
- Obtaining the owners' consent regarding the right to reproduce the image of the artworks (by having them photographed by the beneficiary's specialized staff) for use in illustrating a catalog or other related publications, or obtaining high-resolution images of the artworks from the owners to be used by the beneficiary in the catalog or specialized publications.
- Participating in the press conference preceding the exhibition's inauguration, with a team consisting of at least one member of the implementation team and the scientific curator of the exhibition, ensuring all costs for the designated persons.

2.2. Scientific Curatorship

- **Specialist Expertise:** Possesses in-depth knowledge of each individual work (provenance, author, technique, historical and artistic significance). The scientific curator is the academic guarantor of the information presented.
- **Specialized Selection:** Finalizes the selection proposed by the general curator—the specific works from Italian collections that correspond to the theme provided by the general curator, arguing the relevance of each piece.
- **Elaboration of Scientific Content:** Writes the specialized texts for the catalog (and related publications) and for the exhibition panels that accompany the pieces for which

they are responsible. These texts are detailed, based on academic research, and provide precise information about each object.

- **Documentation and Research:** Conducts the necessary research to validate and enrich the information about the works. Collaborates with restoration laboratories, archives, and other specialists to ensure the accuracy of the data.
- **Management of the Pieces:** Is the main point of contact for the lending institutions and supervises aspects related to the conservation and correct handling of the works throughout the exhibition.

2.3. Management of Fees and Administrative Formalities

- Covering in full and directly all fees requested by the lending institutions.
- Carrying out all administrative (including the permit from the Italian Ministry of Culture) and customs formalities necessary for the temporary export of cultural goods from their countries of origin and their temporary import into Romania, as well as for the return process.

2.4. Specialized Insurance of Artifacts

- Securing a "nail-to-nail" insurance policy that covers all risks (All Risks) for all loaned works, at the value established by the lending institutions.
- The policy must cover: the period of stay at the museum of origin, packing, round-trip transport, handling, installation, the exhibition period, de-installation, and the period of stay before being taken over by the museum of origin, plus an additional two weeks from the return to the point of origin.
- The insurance policy must be issued by an internationally renowned insurance company specializing in the insurance of works of art and must be agreed upon in advance by all lending institutions.

2.5. Specialized Packing and Transport

- Producing (designing and creating) custom, climate-controlled (where necessary) packing crates, in accordance with international museum conservation standards.
- Preparing condition reports with photo/video documentation at each stage of handling.
- Providing international road transport with specialized, climate-controlled vehicles with pneumatic suspensions, security systems, GPS monitoring, and a crew of at least two drivers.
- Coordinating and covering the costs for the accompanying couriers designated by the lending institutions (transport, accommodation, per diem).

CHAPTER 3: QUALIFICATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

3.1. GROUNDS FOR EXCLUSION OF BIDDERS

- **Personal situation of the bidder:**
 - a) The bidder must not have been convicted of corruption, fraud, money laundering, or other similar offenses.
 - b) The bidder must not have debts to the state budget or local budgets.
 - c) The bidder must not be in insolvency/bankruptcy and there must be no situations of conflict of interest.
- The bidder ranked first after the evaluation of the offers will be required to submit tax and judicial records, in accordance with the standard requirements of the award documentation.

3.2. BIDDERS' CAPACITY

- **a) Capacity to exercise the professional activity:** The bidder must be legally registered and have as its object of activity the provision of services similar to those which are the object of the contract.
- **b) Economic capacity:** The bidder declares that it can support the execution of the contract according to the requirements.
- **c) Technical and professional capacity - SIMILAR EXPERIENCE**
 - The bidder must demonstrate that, within the last **5 (five) years** (calculated up to the deadline for submission of offers), it has successfully provided similar services for a **minimum of 2 (two) international exhibitions**, which **cumulatively** meet the following conditions:
 - Their main object was the **presentation of archaeological artifacts and/or works of art originating from Pompeii and/or the Vesuvian area** (e.g., Herculaneum, Stabiae, Oplontis).
 - They were organized in **art or history/archaeology museums of national or international rank**.
 - The package of services provided mandatorily included: **negotiation of loans, specialized insurance, specialized international transport, related expenses (couriers, curatorship, etc.)**.
- **Proof of similar experience** will be provided by: Presenting a list of the main service provisions and by submitting supporting documents (copies of relevant parts of contracts, acceptance reports, recommendations) for the 2 relevant projects, from which the object of the contract, the beneficiary, and the fulfillment of contractual obligations can be unequivocally determined.

CHAPTER 4: METHOD OF SUBMISSION OF THE OFFER

4.1. Technical Proposal: The bidder will present a detailed document that will include, but not be limited to:

- An **Action Plan (Methodology)** describing the concrete approach for each service requested in Chapter 2.
- An estimated timeline for the project implementation.
- A presentation of the main subcontractors (if applicable), especially for transport and insurance.
- A presentation of the project team, with a list of relevant projects.

4.2. Financial Proposal: A detailed budget will be presented, which will include the costs for each main category of services. The total price will be expressed in RON/EURO, excluding VAT, and will be firm for the entire duration of the contract.

CHAPTER 5: AWARD CRITERION

The contract will be awarded based on the **best quality-price ratio** criterion.

The calculation algorithm and weights are as follows:

1. **Financial Component (Pf): 30 points** $\text{Price_Score} = (\text{Lowest_Price} / \text{Bidder's_Price}) \times 30$
2. **Technical Component (Pt): 70 points**, evaluated based on the following sub-criteria:

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- **Factor 1: Methodology and Action Plan (25 points)** - The quality and relevance of the proposed concept, clarity, coherence, realism of the plan, and risk management will be scored.
- **Factor 2: Experience of the designated Project Team (45 points)** - 15 points will be awarded for each similar international exhibition project (with archaeological/historical heritage) directly coordinated, which exceeds the 2 (two) required to prove similar experience, organized by the bidder or by the project team members. A maximum of 3 projects will be scored.

Total Score = Pf + Pt.

The winning bid will be the one that accumulates the highest total score.

CHAPTER 6: ANNEXES

Annex 1 - Indicative List of Categories of Works and Artifacts

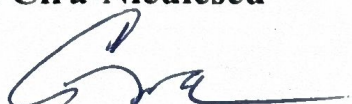
This list constitutes the starting point for negotiating the loans and for the bidder's cost estimation.

- **Category 1: Frescoes detached from walls:**
 - 19 Frescoes: Dating from the 1st century, from Pompeii, from the MANN collection.
- **Category 2: Neapolitan ceramic objects 18th-19th century; Pompeian theme (MANN):**
 - 10 Neapolitan Ceramic Pieces: Ceramics from the 18th-19th centuries with a Pompeian theme, from the Villa Floridiana Museum.
- **Category 3: Sculptures:**
 - 7 Sculptures: 6 marble sculptures and 1 bronze sculpture, all artifacts from the 1st century from Pompeii, also from the MANN collection.
- **Category 4: Paintings:**
 - 9 Paintings: A diverse collection, including works by Clerici, Burri, Marinelli, De Matteis, Tossati, Voltaire, Tischbein, and Duclere, loaned from the GNAM, Certosa San Martino Napoli, and Capodimonte collections.
- **Category 5: Photographic works:**
 - 3 Photographic Works: 2 photographic works on metal by Anselm Kiefer and 1 gelatin silver print (Pompeii artifacts), from the 20th century.
- **Category 6: Graphics:**
 - 31 Graphic Works: Covering the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries, pieces from the Capodimonte, Certosa San Martino, and MANN collections, featuring artists such as Gigante, Dal Bono, Bazzano, Morelli, Veneri, and Cobiانchi.
- **Category 7: Other objects:**
 - 10 Objects: An assortment of 2 bronze candelabra, 7 oil lamps (1st century, Pompeii), and 1 plaster cast (human figure) by Fiorelli.

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