



Tender Announcement: Ethics Expert for the LICORICE Project

Project Overview

LICORICE (Legal and Identity Cybersecurity Oriented Research for Innovative Credentialing in Europe) is a Horizon Europe-funded project (Grant ID: 101168311) focused on strengthening digital sovereignty in Europe through Self-Sovereign Identity (SSI) and Privacy Enhancing Technologies (PETs). The project addresses critical ethical and data protection needs in cybersecurity and healthcare, aligning with the EU's regulatory frameworks and ethical standards.

Tender Objective

The International Data Spaces e. V. seeks to subcontract a qualified Ethics Expert for the LICORICE project. This role entails ensuring ethical oversight, developing ethical frameworks, conducting risk assessments, and maintaining compliance with EU ethical standards over the course of the three-year project (between 01.10.2024-30.09.2027).

Tasks and Responsibilities

The selected Ethics Expert will provide ethical guidance and monitoring in the following areas:

1. Ethics Board Framework

- Establish operational guidelines for the Ethics Board, ensuring effective ethical oversight for both the Cybersecurity and eHealth pilots.
- Review and monitor the ethical use of AI and machine learning within the Privacy-Preserving Cybersecurity Assistant Pilot.

2. Ethical Framework Development

- Design ethical guidelines tailored to the technologies and data types used in LICORICE, focusing on data protection, transparency and user autonomy.
- Develop standards for user-centric data control and privacy-preserving data aggregation within the eHealth Pilot.

3. Risk Assessment

- Conduct risk assessments to identify and address potential ethical concerns, such as bias and data misuse, within both pilots.
- Provide ethical evaluations of federated learning approaches in the eHealth Pilot, emphasizing patient data protection.



4. Reporting and Documentation

- Prepare comprehensive ethical reports, detailing assessments, recommendations and best practices for Privacy Enhancing Technologies (PETs) and federated learning systems.
- Document ethical considerations in the development and deployment of tools across both pilots, ensuring alignment with EU ethical standards.

Eligibility Criteria

Candidates must demonstrate:

- Expertise in applied ethics, particularly within data privacy, cybersecurity and healthcare settings.
- Experience with ethical oversight and compliance in EU-funded projects, preferably within the digital sovereignty, AI or data protection sectors.
- Familiarity with Horizon Europe's ethical guidelines and frameworks.

Submission Instructions

Interested applicants should submit the following documents by 09.12.2024:

1. **CV and Proof of Qualifications.**
2. **Portfolio** showcasing relevant experience in ethics within data-driven or healthcare projects.
3. **Technical Proposal** outlining their approach to the responsibilities listed.
4. **Financial Proposal** detailing fees and payment terms.

Submissions should be emailed to administration@internationaldataspaces.org or submitted via the Electronic Federal Gazette platform for public procurement.

Evaluation Criteria

1. Professional Ethical Background

- **Applied Ethics in Data Protection:** Ideal candidates should demonstrate substantial experience in applied ethics with a strong focus on data protection, AI ethics, and healthcare data management.
- **Specialized Data Spaces and Privacy Knowledge:** Background in ethical frameworks for secure data exchange within data spaces, including alignment with International Data Spaces e. V. principles.



2. Competence in Data Sovereignty and Ethical Compliance

- **Regulatory and Ethical Mastery:** Expertise in European ethical and regulatory standards such as GDPR, as well as familiarity with emerging EU guidelines for AI and data protection.
- **Cross-Jurisdictional Understanding:** Practical insights into ethical data handling in both European and international contexts are preferred.

3. Relevant Career and Academic Experience

- **Advanced Education in Ethics or Related Field:** The ideal candidate should have a strong academic background, such as a specialized master's degree or similar in fields like ethics, data policy or IT law, particularly focused on the responsible use of digital technologies and data sovereignty.
- **Extensive Experience Across Sectors:** Candidates with diverse experience working across nonprofit, academic, public and private sectors, particularly those who have contributed to projects emphasizing ethical data handling and human-centric data management, are preferred. Such a background ensures the ability to navigate and harmonize ethical considerations in complex, multi-stakeholder environments.
- **Leadership in Data Policy and Ethics:** A demonstrated track record in developing ethical guidelines or frameworks, ideally as a data ethics or policy leader, is highly valued. This includes experience shaping data governance policies, advising on ethical considerations for personal data usage and maintaining compliance with international data protection standards.

Project-Specific Competence

- **Ethical Strategy for SSI and PETs:** Capability to develop and monitor ethical guidelines for SSI and PETs in both cybersecurity and healthcare, focusing on privacy, transparency, and data control.
- **Alignment with Horizon Europe Standards:** Familiarity with Horizon Europe project requirements and the ability to implement ethical frameworks that comply with EU-funded project guidelines.

4. Financial Proposal

- The financial offer should be competitive, transparent, and reflect value within public procurement standards, aligning with the budgetary objectives of the LICORICE project.