

MARKET SURVEY NOTICE FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF ECONOMIC OPERATORS TO BE INVITED TO THE NEGOTIATED PROCEDURE WITHOUT PRIOR PUBLICATION OF A CONTRACT NOTICE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 76, PARAGRAPH 4, LETTER A), OF LEGISLATIVE DECREE NO. 36/2023, FOR THE PROVISION OF A SERVICE FOR THE SELECTION AND PRODUCTION OF ANTIBODIES CUP F13C25001050006 - CIG BD1C212E4C

The University of Pavia, within the framework of the project **ERC-2024-ADG Nab-Heart – Prof. Priori – CUP F13C25001050006**, intends to procure a service for the selection and production, through the analysis of specific libraries, of a series of antibodies capable of binding to specific antigens.

Through this notice, the University intends to collect expressions of interest from economic operators active in the market who are able to provide the goods/services covered by the procurement, who meet the requirements set forth herein and who may be interested in being invited to the subsequent negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice pursuant to Article 76, paragraph 4, letter a), of Legislative Decree No. 36/2023.

Expressions of interest are intended solely to inform the University of the applicant's willingness to be invited to the subsequent negotiation. Therefore, this notice does not constitute an invitation to submit an offer, nor an offer to the public pursuant to Article 1336 of the Italian Civil Code, or a promise to the public pursuant to Article 1989 of the Italian Civil Code.

The University reserves the right to suspend, amend or cancel, in whole or in part, the procedure initiated and not to proceed with the subsequent procurement procedure for the supply, without the economic operators who have responded to this notice being entitled to make any claim whatsoever.

1. Contracting Authority and Points of Contact

Contracting Authority: University of Pavia

Website: <http://www.unipv.eu/appalti>

E-mail: gare@unipv.it

Certified Electronic Mail (PEC): amministrazione-centrale@certunipv.it

2. Value of the Service

The maximum estimated amount established by the University for the service in question is **€295,470.00 (VAT exempt pursuant to Article 72 of Presidential Decree No. 633/1972)**, to be understood as the maximum expenditure limit.

The financial coverage is guaranteed by research funds specifically allocated for this purpose.

3. Scope of the Service

The service shall include the following activities:

- 1) Transfer of recombinant proteins and synthetic peptides from Professor Priori's laboratory;
transfer of quality control data from Professor Priori's laboratory;
Purchase of relevant commercial anti-target antibodies and quality control of biotinylated target antigens (ELISA, pull-down);
- 2) 2–3 rounds of antibody panning against the target protein(s)/peptides and off-targets using libraries of humanized VHH antibodies;
Maximum of 6 selection streams;
One Sanger sequencing run and ELISA screening of 48 clones per sample in order to identify the best-performing candidates;
- 3) Cloning of the selected polyclonal samples into a bacterial expression vector and screening of up to 10 96-well plates for the primary assessment of binding specificity (ELISA using recombinant target/off-target proteins), re-arraying and sequencing of VHH antibodies in 96-well plates (RA01), and re-arraying of unique results (RA02);
- 4) Shipment of glycerol stocks of the best selected antibodies (up to 48) to Professor Priori's laboratory;

- 5) Storage of bacterial clones of the best selected VHH antibodies for a maximum period of six months.

The service shall be provided within 12 months from the execution of the procurement contract or from the date on which the service is urgently commenced, where so ordered by the University Administration. For further details, please refer to the Special Procurement Specifications (Capitolato Speciale d'Appalto) attached to this notice (Annex 1).

4. Participation Requirements

General requirements:

- absence of any grounds for exclusion provided for under Articles 94 and 95 of Legislative Decree No. 36/2023;
- absence of any incompatibility situations provided for under Article 53, paragraph 16-ter, of Legislative Decree No. 165/2001;
- absence of any conflict of interest, including potential conflicts of interest, with the University of Pavia;
- registration with the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Agriculture and Crafts, or with the Register of Craft Enterprises, for activities consistent with the subject matter of the procurement, or registration in a professional or equivalent register for foreign economic operators.

Technical and professional suitability requirements:

- possession of a certification or patent relating to the methodology for selecting the best VHH nanobodies from a high number of potential candidates.

5. Procedure and Deadline for Submission of the Expression of Interest

Economic operators interested in participating in this procedure and meeting the above-mentioned requirements shall submit an expression of interest using the electronic platform <https://unipv.ubuy.cineca.it/PortaleAppalti> no later than **14 ottobre 2026 at 12:00 noon**.

Applications or expressions of interest submitted by any other means shall not be accepted. It should be noted that the electronic platform does not technically allow offers to be submitted after **12:00:00 noon** on the specified deadline date.

In order to participate in this procedure, each economic operator shall:

- 1) access the website <https://unipv.ubuy.cineca.it/PortaleAppalti> and register on the Procurement Portal by activating the “Register” function available under the section “Tender Procedures – Economic Operators’ Access”;
- 2) access the “Economic Operators’ Access” section using the credentials obtained during registration on the Portal referred to in the previous point;
- 3) read the instructions for participating in the electronic tender procedure provided in the “Guide to Submitting Electronic Offers”, available at the following link: [https://unipv.ubuy.cineca.it/PortaleAppalti/resources/cms/documents/Presentazione Offerte Telematiche.pdf](https://unipv.ubuy.cineca.it/PortaleAppalti/resources/cms/documents/Presentazione_Offerte_Telematiche.pdf)
- 4) with regard to the person signing the documentation, possess a valid digital signature.

It should be noted that the Platform operates in compliance with applicable legislation and, in particular, with EU Regulation No. 910/2014 (hereinafter, the eIDAS Regulation – electronic IDentification, Authentication and Signature), Legislative Decree No. 82/2005 (Digital Administration Code), Legislative Decree No. 50/2016 and its implementing provisions, in particular Prime Ministerial Decree No. 148/2021, and the guidelines issued by AGID (Agency for Digital Italy).

Use of the Platform entails the tacit and unconditional acceptance of all terms, conditions of use and notices contained in the tender documents, in the aforementioned document, as well as of any information communicated to users through the Platform.

The Contracting Authority shall not be held liable for the loss of documents or data, damage to files or documents, delays in entering data or documents and/or submitting applications, malfunctions, damage or prejudice suffered by the economic operator as a result of:

- malfunctions of the equipment, connection systems or software used by the individual economic operator to connect to the Platform;
- use of the Platform by the economic operator in a manner not compliant with the Tender Specifications and the provisions contained in the Guide to Submitting Electronic Offers.

In the event of failure or malfunction of the Platform, not attributable to the circumstances referred to above, which prevents the proper submission of offers, in order to ensure the widest possible participation, the Contracting Authority may suspend the deadline for submitting offers for the period of time necessary to restore the normal operation of the Platform and extend the deadline for a period proportionate to the duration of the failure or malfunction, taking into account its severity.

For participation in this procedure, the following documentation must be uploaded:

- **Expression of Interest Form**, prepared using the template provided in **Annex 2**.

6. Criteria for the Selection of Participants

The economic operators referred to in Articles 65 and 68 of Legislative Decree No. 36/2023 who have submitted an expression of interest, who meet the technical and professional suitability requirements for the provision of the service, and for whom none of the grounds for exclusion referred to in Articles 94 and 95 of Legislative Decree No. 36/2023 applies, shall be invited to the subsequent negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice pursuant to Article 76, paragraph 4, letter a), of Legislative Decree No. 36/2023.

The subsequent negotiated procedure will be awarded on the basis of the criterion of the most economically advantageous tender.

It is specified that, should only one expression of interest be submitted as a result of this market investigation, or should only one application be deemed suitable, the contracting authority will proceed to negotiate with the sole identified economic operator pursuant to Article 76, paragraph 2, letter b), point 2, of Legislative Decree No. 36/2023, applying a price-only criterion.

7. Further Information

This notice is published on the University's contracting authority profile at the following link:

<https://unipv.ubuy.cineca.it/PortaleAppalti/it/> and on the National Database of Public Contracts (BDNCP) maintained by ANAC (National Anti-Corruption Authority).

Any administrative or technical information and clarification concerning this notice may be requested, including by e-mail, at gare@unipv.it. Where the requested clarification is of a general nature, the relevant response shall be published on the contracting authority's website.

This notice and the receipt of expressions of interest shall in no way be binding upon the University of Pavia.

The person responsible for the procedure is Dr Elvira Perotti, Administrative Coordination Secretary of the Department of Molecular Medicine.

8. Information on the Processing of Personal Data Pursuant to EU Regulation 2016/679

The data provided shall be used by the relevant offices exclusively for the purposes of conducting the procurement procedure in question and for purposes strictly connected therewith. The data shall be processed both through paper-based systems and by means of electronic systems available to the relevant offices;

the provision of the data is mandatory;

any refusal by the data subject to provide the data shall result in the impossibility of participating in the procurement procedure in question;

the personal data provided may be disclosed within the scope of, and for purposes strictly connected with, the procedure relating to the procurement, both within the offices belonging to the structure of

the Data Controller and externally, to the extent required by or provided for under applicable legislation;

the Data Controller guarantees the data subject the rights provided for under EU Regulation 2016/679 and, in particular, the data subject:

- 1) has the right to obtain confirmation as to whether or not personal data concerning him/her exist;
- 2) has the right to obtain information concerning the origin of the personal data, the purposes and methods of processing, the logic applied in the event of processing carried out using electronic instruments, the identification details of the Data Controller and data processors, and the entities or categories of entities to whom the data may be communicated or who may become aware of them;
- 3) has the right to obtain the updating, rectification and, where interested, integration of the data and, furthermore, the erasure, anonymisation, restriction/blocking of the data, as well as certification that the foregoing operations have been brought to the attention of those to whom the data have been communicated or disseminated, except where such fulfilment proves impossible or entails a manifestly disproportionate effort in relation to the right being protected;
- 4) has the right to object, in whole or in part and for legitimate reasons, to the processing of personal data concerning him/her, even where such data are relevant to the purpose for which they were collected;

the Data Controller is the legal representative pro tempore, Prof. Alessandro Reali. For further details, please refer to the following link: <http://privacy.unipv.it/>.

HEAD OF THE PROCUREMENT AND TENDER SERVICE

Dr Sabrina Rognoni

Digitally signed document

Annexes:

- 1) Special Procurement Specifications
- 2) Expression of Interest Form