

21 OCTOBER 2025**INVITATION TO TENDER // CALLS FOR PAPERS FOR 2025**

New Direction – The Foundation for European Conservatism publishes reports, scientific analyses, economic studies, policy briefings and discussion papers each year.

In the coming months, the Foundation seeks to expand its work in a number of areas covering:

- European Conservatism in the Trump Era
- The Future of Liberal Democracy in Europe
- Political Entrepreneurs in Europe and the Czech Republic
- Giorgia Meloni and European Politics
- European Aid to the Czech Healthcare
- The Influence of European Social Policy on the Czech Republic
- The Fight for the European Automotive Industry
- The UN and the EU

We are seeking an academic, institution, think tank or consultancy, to carry out eight (8) research papers on:

1) European Conservatism in the Trump Era

The text will focus on the influence of Trumpism on European conservatism, both in terms of ideology (shifts towards nationalism, populism, culture wars) and practice (style of political communication, campaigns, polarization). It will build on the historical development of American conservatism, its main currents, and changes from Reagan to Trump. The text will compare American and European conservatism, their different traditions, priorities, and current trends in European right-wing parties. The goal is to analyze how exportable Trumpism is to Europe and to reflect on attempts to transfer it to the Czech context.

2) The Future of Liberal Democracy in Europe

An attempt to grasp the current crisis of the liberal-democratic model of Western political communities from the perspective of political philosophy, and specifically as a result of the turbulent relationship between the liberal and democratic “dimensions” of the existing order. This “divorce of democracy and liberalism” produces, on the one hand, a trend of increasing popularity of movements appealing to “illiberal democracy”, often described as “populist”, and, on the other hand, a strengthening of the tendency towards “undemocratic, meritocratic liberalism”. From this perspective, what are the challenges, choices and dilemmas facing the Western conservative right?

3) Political Entrepreneurs in Europe and the Czech Republic

The text will focus on the phenomenon of business politician in Europe and its EU Members States, including in Czech Republic and will analyze their journey from entrepreneur to political leaders. The text will examine the connection between economic and political interests and the potential relationship with the media. The study will highlight the risks of power concentration, the absence of intra-party democracy, and the marketing approach to politics.

4) Georgia Meloni and European Politics

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni is one of the most prominent European politicians. She is going against the grain to a large extent. The text will focus on her victory in the elections and the coming to power of her government, which aroused a wave of resentment and concerns on European soil, which have gradually dissipated. Has Giorgia Meloni's policy changed, or is Europe changing?

5) European Aid to the Czech Healthcare

The aim of the study is to explore how the European Union influences Czech healthcare through legislation, financial subsidies, and coordination mechanisms. It will address the historical development of European health policy, the main institutions and programs, and specific projects in the Czech Republic (hospital modernization, digitalization, the fight against antibiotic resistance). The analysis will cover the benefits of European support (increased quality of care, access to innovation) as well as the main challenges (administrative burden, regional inequalities, dependence on subsidies)

6) The Influence of European Social Policy on the Czech Republic

The study deals with the regulation of social policy at the level of the European Union and its reflection in the Czech environment. It focuses on the historical development, key principles and instruments by which the EU influences the areas of social protection, social services and working conditions. The work includes an assessment of the main impacts of European regulation on the creation of national legislation, the financing system and the practical functioning of social services in the Czech Republic. The final part offers a reflection on the opportunities and challenges that European social policy brings for the further development of the welfare state in the Czech Republic.

7) The Fight for the European Automotive Industry

The text will focus on European legislation that affects the automotive industry. It will proceed chronologically from the first proposals for emission regulation, the so-called EURO standards, to the ban on the sale of cars with combustion engines after 2030. It will look at how European regulation affects the automotive industry and what can be changed to prevent liquidation.

8) The UN and the EU

This study will focus on comparing the functioning of the European Union and the United Nations, especially their goals, values, and methods of decision-making. It will describe the development of cooperation between the EU and the UN and important milestones in this cooperation. It will also focus on how the EU coordinates its activities and actions within the UN. The study examines how the EU is able to promote its interests at the UN and the influence of individual member states, such as France. Finally, it analyzes the EU's stance on current issues at the UN, such as conflicts, climate protection, digitalization, and human rights

Description of the services under this call

* Preparation of a specific qualitative study and paper on the issue of European Conservatism in the Trump Era as described above;

* Preparation of a specific qualitative study and paper on the issue of The Future of Liberal Democracy in Europe as described above;

- * Preparation of a specific qualitative study and paper on the issue of Political Entrepreneurs in Europe and the Czech Republic as described above;
- * Preparation of a specific qualitative study and paper on the issue of Georgia Meloni and European Politics as described above;
- * Preparation of a specific qualitative study and paper on the issue of European Aid to the Czech Healthcare as described above;
- * Preparation of a specific qualitative study and paper on the issue of The Influence of European Social Policy on the Czech Republic as described above;
- * Preparation of a specific qualitative study and paper on the issue of The Fight for the European Automotive Industry as described above;
- * Preparation of a specific qualitative study and paper on the issue of The UN and the EU as described above;
- * Provision of consultancy services in the form of regular interactions and discussions with New Direction staff, if required;
- * Taking part in meetings in Brussels, if required;
- * Presentation of the research papers at a conference or similar event in Europe, if required.
- * All Reports must be drafted in the Czech language with the sole exception of Report 2 (**The Future of Liberal Democracy in Europe**) which must be in English.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

The final papers will have to be original work of research created in response to this call:

Reports should be 50 pages long, in the word format, approximately 400 words on average per page. The reports should be written in the Czech language.

Reports should be submitted according to the following timeline: by November 30, 2025. Earlier submissions are encouraged.

Rephrasing of previously written content, or the use of artificial intelligence, is strictly prohibited and finished reports will be subject to checks. Authors will also be required to sign a Certificate of Authorship when submitting their papers and work-product.

Authors might also be asked to possibly provide consultancy services in the form of regular interactions and discussions on the subject field with New Direction staff (amounting to no more than approximately 30 working hours).

Moreover, at the request of New Direction, authors should also be ready to present their work at a New Direction Conference, followed by comments of discussants and a general exchange of views among participants.

EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- If the bidder has ever made a donation to New Direction or the ECR party in the last two years, the offer will be excluded from the selection;
- If there is any conflict of interest with other bidders, the offer will not be selected for the evaluation;
- If the bidder attempts to influence the decision-making process of the contracting authority during the award procedure.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- The bidder should have the legal capacity to pursue the professional activity needed for performing the contract as required in the tender specification;
- The bidder should submit proof of previous report on EU topics to demonstrate their professional ability;

AWARD CRITERIA

New Direction will select suppliers based on:

- The overall cost and value for money (40%)
- The ability to meet our required timescale – Please do mention a clear timeline for submitting the report (30%)
- Previous experience in similar works (track record of publishing research on issues relating to the subject field) and demonstrable professional standing including if possible the CV of the potential expert in charge of drafting the report. (30%)

Each criteria will be evaluated from 0 to 4 and then weight accordingly with each category as described here above (0=unacceptable, 1= Poor, 2= Acceptable 3=Good 4= Excellent)

* Note that more than one supplier can be selected and that a supplier can win more than one report.

TIMESCALE

The timescale for the delivery of the Reports is by December 10, 2025. Earlier submissions will be welcomed and favorably viewed.

FEE – TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION ARRANGEMENTS

- In accordance with the conditions of the contract New Direction intends to pay a fee of between €10,000 - €20,000 (excluding VAT) per study for research services (paper and consultancy services).

- In addition, with respect to meetings in Brussels, if any, travel and accommodation arrangements will be made by New Direction. In case of co-authorship, New Direction will provide travel and accommodation for each co-author. The author or co-author are allowed to book travel and accommodation themselves only following approval from New Direction.

All prices quoted must be exclusive of VAT, fixed and shall cover all costs borne in performance.

SUBMISSION PROVISIONS

Submission of a proposal constitutes acknowledgment that the candidate accepts all the terms and conditions set out in these specifications and in the contract.

RESERVATIONS

Withdrawal from Process – New Direction reserves the right to withdraw from the tender process described in this document for whatever reason, at any time and even prior to the signing of any Agreement/Contract with any party for the delivery of the goods or services described in this document.

Lowest Cost Proposal – The lowest cost proposal, or any proposal, will not necessarily be accepted.

Negotiation – New Direction reserves the right to negotiate with short-listed tenderers after the nominated closing date for tender submission.

Part Offers – New Direction reserves the right to accept tenders in relation to some and not all of the scope of activity described, or appoint one, more than one or no organization on the basis of the tenders received.

Costs - All costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal are the supplier's responsibility and New Direction is not obliged to award a contract for the goods and services outlined in the tender and reserves the right to withdraw from the procurement process at any stage.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARATION

Tenderers (including their officers, employees, contractors, partners and consultants) must disclose to New Direction any matter or issue which is, may be perceived to be, or may lead to, a conflict of interest regarding their proposal or participation in the supply of the services described. Tenderers must identify and adopt a strategy to avoid conflicts of interest.

FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CAPACITY

By responding to this call, candidates affirm on their honour that they have the financial and economic capacity to deliver their services.

PUBLICATION AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES

New Direction envisages publishing the research papers in a volume collecting all contributions. New Direction will retain the copyright of all papers and it governed by the provisions specified in the contract.

SUBMISSION OF TENDERS

Tenders should be returned no later than midnight on Monday, November 10, 2025. Tenders received after this time will not be considered. The template for tender can be found on <https://newdirection.online/about/privacy-policy-legal>.

The tender submission must be completed as directed and returned via email to peter.costea@newdirection.online

Tenders can be submitted at any time before the submission deadline specified in the document. Submissions can be re-submitted any time before the submission deadline.

Please be advised that incomplete submissions may be rejected.

New Direction is not responsible for transmission delays. It is the sole responsibility of the supplier to ensure that its tender response is submitted in the prescribed manner and by the specified deadline.

All submissions must be in English or French and prices in Euro exclusive of VAT.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Information of a clarifying nature can be requested solely by email at peter.costea@newdirection.online

This document does not constitute an offer to provide goods and/or services to New Direction.

New Direction reserves the right to allocate all the reports to only one supplier or to different providers to ensure equal chances to all bidders.