

CONTRACT OF SERVICES

Report on critical studies and alternative practices to the predominant security model

Background

Public security policies are being questioned locally and globally, from different contexts that present a diverse conflictology. In countries with armed conflict, in countries with chronic violence and also in places where it could be said that there is no context of generalized violence, security is currently a much discussed and debated notion because the strategies deployed in its name are not effectively managing to deal with social conflicts or to prevent violences. On the contrary, they often limit freedoms and the free exercise of human rights, reinforcing existing vulnerabilities or even generating new violent dynamics.

In this context, the classic approaches to security, of a state-centered and military nature, have been challenged by a plurality of schools and academic currents grouped under the name of “critical security studies” (feminist security, human security, green theory, securitization, emancipation, post-structuralism, post-colonialism and decoloniality...). As these critical analyzes have developed, multiple spaces for debate, controversies, and struggles have arisen between different ontological, epistemological and methodological positions, and there is a lack of a space for minimal common and cross-cutting consensus of knowledge.

In this regard, we detect two strategic challenges: the need to facilitate dialogue between different approaches to thinking when reflecting on a new security model and, at the same time, that these approaches be connected to specific practical experiences.

Purpose of the contract

Preparation of a report on the interaction between alternative approaches, both theoretical and practical, that are developed in response to the traditional security model.

Specifically, with this commission, ICIP seeks:

1. The interaction between theoretical approaches. In addition to listing the range of critical theories in relation to hegemonic security, investigating the shared elements and synthesizing them in order to obtain a minimum common denominator of a propositional nature, which facilitates the possibility of dialogue with current structures.

At the same time, the aim is to overcome the current paradox of these alternative approaches: to defend methodological pluralism with the aim of making the security agenda truly inclusive, while underlining the objective of streamlining and materializing this agenda.

2. The relationship between practice and theory. The study of initiatives and experiences that have been carried out or are being carried out with an alternative approach to the reactive, punitive and armed security model. Critical security studies have often been accused of being too abstract and detached from praxis, which does not usually interact with theory either. For this reason, it is imperative to overcome the compartmentalization of thought and action.

Specific objectives

- To study the theoretical and practical meaning of security as proposed by the various critical approaches to this topic, and to present them in an informative manner.
- To identify diverse and contrasted sources of information.
- To delve into the knowledge and study of specific practical cases.
- To identify organizations and professionals working for security from a peacebuilding approach.

Characteristics of the commission and deadlines

The commission will consist of the preparation of a scientific report, of between 30 and 40 pages (written in Catalan, Spanish or English). The delivery dates for the report will be as follows:

- Initial outline: 14 June 2021
- Draft: 19 July 2021
- Final document: 3 October 2021

Budget

The maximum budget for the preparation of the report is 3,000 euros gross.

Payment will be made once the report has been delivered and compliance with the quality requirements has been verified.

Submission of proposals

Those interested in participating in the call must submit their proposals via email to smartinez@icip.cat, to the attention of Sandra Martínez, with “Security Report” in the subject line.

The deadline for submitting proposals is 26 May 2021.

Proposals must include:

- Brief description of the work to be performed.
- CV and summary of experience of the person, team or organization submitting the proposal.
- Budget.

Evaluation criteria

- Conceptualization, according to the proposed objectives: 40%
- Innovative, informative and transformative character: 30%
- Theoretical and practical experience demonstrated in the subject: 20%
- Budgetary appropriateness: 10%

Award

The proposal receiving the best evaluation will be awarded the contract, without prejudice to the possibility of ICIP leaving the contract vacant if none of the proposals submitted meet the minimum required standards.

ICIP will be in charge of the management and supervision of the work and will establish the mechanisms for coordination, follow-up and revision of both the contents and their dissemination. ICIP reserves the right to request improvements or modifications to the work.

ICIP reserves the right to publish, in whole or in part, the resulting document and will be the owner of any copyright derived from it, exclusively, in all languages and worldwide.

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PURPOSE: Economic and financial management

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