Country case: Two-envelope system used in the bids submission phase in the Slovak Republic

Description

Two substantial amendments to the Act No. 25/2006 Coll., on Public Procurement became effective in 2013. In the bids submission phase of the procurement cycle, the one-stage tender process has been replaced by a two-stage tender, involving a “two-envelope system”.

Bids in the tenders are to be submitted in two parts: the “Criteria” part contains the offer with respect to the award criteria, i.e. in most cases only the price; while the “Other” part contains all other documentation and information related to the bid. The “Other” part is opened first and only after evaluation of whether the selection criteria (e.g. technical equipment) have been met can the “Criteria” part of all submitted bids be opened and evaluated. Generally, such a two-stage process should ensure that the price does not influence the technical evaluation of the bid.