

## CLIENT ALERT

### DLA Issues Request for Information on Weapons Systems or Commercial Capabilities for Ukraine Security Assistance

April 29, 2022

As Russia's assault on Ukraine continues, countries around the world are taking action. Relevant to U.S. Government contractors, on April 22, the Defense Logistics Agency ("DLA") issued a Request for Information ("RFI") seeking information on companies' abilities to deliver military and commercial assistance to Ukraine. The RFI states that "the Biden Administration is working around the clock to fulfill Ukraine's priority security assistance requests," and explains that "Russia's unprovoked invasion has highlighted the importance of dialogue between industry and commercial partners and the Department of Defense." To that end, the RFI seeks to fulfill three strategic objectives:

- Delivering critical commercial and military capabilities to Ukraine;
- Enhancing the preparedness of our own forces; and
- Supporting our allies and partners in bolstering their defense capabilities.

Of particular interest to DOD are options that would accelerate production and build more capacity across the industrial base for weapons and equipment that can be rapidly exported, deployed with minimal training, and that are proven effective in the battlefield. Specifically, the RFI seeks information from industry on weapons systems or other commercial capabilities related to air defense, anti-armor, anti-personnel, coastal defense, counter battery, unmanned aerial systems, and communications (e.g., secure radios, satellite internet). Among other things, the RFI asks respondents to "describe the weapon, product, or system you believe could assist the Ukrainian military" and state what delivery timeframe they could meet.

Responses are due by Noon Eastern on May 6, 2022, and should be submitted in accordance with the instructions outlined in the RFI.

As the war in Ukraine continues, Government contractors should be alert for this and similar opportunities to bolster the United States' defenses and assist Ukraine. The FY2022 omnibus appropriations bill – signed into law in March 15 – includes a \$13.6 billion Ukraine aid package, \$6.5 billion of which was earmarked for military support for Eastern European countries, including \$3.5 billion in additional weapons for Ukraine. In addition, on April 21, President Biden announced that the U.S. will provide another \$800 million in assistance to Ukraine, which will include heavy artillery, ammunition, and tactical drones.

For more information, please contact the professional(s) listed below, or your regular Crowell & Moring contact.

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