Request for Proposals (RfP): **Co-Founder(s) wanted + Open-Source Development** of MWP for FASTER and the Helix Protocol

Link to this document

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Issue Date: June 24, 2025
Submissions Due: August 4, 2025
Website (work in progress): https://www.helix-protocol.org/

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1. Introduction & Background

Divizend[1] is the European leader in the field of digital withholding tax reclaims, trusted by major financial institutions and deeply integrated into the ecosystem of European tax compliance and financial reporting. As the new EU directive “FASTER” (2025/50)[2] transforms the withholding tax landscape, we see not merely a compliance obligation, but a historic opportunity to rebuild public finance infrastructure around privacy, openness, and decentralization.

We are spearheading the development of **Helix**, an open-source, zero-knowledge-native protocol for privacy-preserving, decentralized data exchange—beginning with the urgent need of real financial institutions to solve FASTER at scale. Helix is not a product; it is foundational infrastructure for the privacy-focused financial infrastructure of the future.

FASTER on Helix will be our first demonstrator for a truly federated, verifiable communication protocol between the private financial sector and public institutions, starting with solving issues in cross-border dividend taxation.

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2. Project Objective

Divizend is seeking a capable and visionary developer or development team to design and implement a **Minimum Working Prototype (MWP)** of the FASTER solution built on the

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1 https://divizend.com/
2 https://taxation-customs.ec.europa.eu/taxation/business-taxation/faster-directive_en

HELIX Protocol, for which an MWP is needed as well. That individual or team also gets the opportunity to become the long-term co-founder(s) of the Helix organization further down the line. The MWP must meet the following criteria:

- **Full demonstration of a working prototype for FASTER**: Automated dividend reporting, eTRC integration, and reconciliation of beneficial ownership.
- **Privacy-first**: zk-based identity proofs, no centralized storage or exposure of personal data.
- **Bank-integration ready**: Modular, API-driven, containerizable architecture compatible with existing systems.
- **Open by design**: Entirely open-source and designed for long-term interoperability and EU-wide deployment.
- **Regulatory-ready**: Must align with eIDAS, EU Wallet, and ISO 27001 practices.

The MWP will be presented to financial institutions, supervisory authorities, and EU stakeholders as a working demonstration of a new paradigm in cross-border fiscal infrastructure.

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3. Scope of Work

Key Deliverables:

- **MWP Implementation**:
    - fundamentally, certain pieces of information must be connected to the "identity" of individuals
        - 1. tax residency (determined through a new "electronic tax residency certificate", see FASTER for details)
        - 2. "registered owner declaration", i.e. beneficial ownership of a certain payment (e.g. a dividend or an interest payment)
    - Minimal implementation of the "European Certified Financial Intermediary Portal" (see FASTER for details)
        - Dividend reporting module for financial intermediaries
        - Module for last paying agents to calculate amount of taxes they must withhold
        - Web-based user dashboard for citizen/institutional transparency
    - Governance and audit logging module
- **Architecture & Protocol Layer**:
    - Selection and integration of base zk-stack (e.g. Aztec/Noir, Mina, Succinct, OpenVM, Sui, Polygon, Miden, Space and Time, etc.)

    - Decentralized data storage
    - Fully decentralized messaging and ledgering
    - Commons-first wallet architecture (private-key user ownership)

- **Compliance Readiness**:

    - should be ready to be audited by accredited professional security testers
    - ISO 27001 certification alignment (Divizend is already certified)
    - eIDAS integration strategy
    - Taxonomy compatibility (esp. FASTER standards)

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4. Target Audience and Deployment

This MWP is designed for immediate demonstration to:

- Major financial institutions (e.g. Clearstream, Euroclear, major banks)
- EU institutions (DG FISMA, DG TAXUD)
- National governments (e.g. German BMF)
- Industry conferences and associations (e.g., German VAB, Swiss AFBS)
- Infrastructure and compliance vendors (e.g., Swiyu)

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5. Team Profile & Requirements

We seek an experienced individual developer or small team (max. 3 contributors) with:

- Proven expertise in:
    - Network architecture (peer-to-peer, secure messaging)
    - Decentralized ledger technologies (DLT, zk-proofs)
    - Digital identity (DID, eIDAS, SSI)

- Experience developing full-stack distributed applications operating deep within Web3, but also bridging Web2 and Web3
- Commitment to open-source ethics and secure infrastructure
- Willingness to contribute to an EIC Accelerator application

Most importantly, we are looking for a long-term **technical co-founder** (or a co-founding team) for the future Helix organization. Ideally, the person (or team) developing this MWP should also be ready and willing to take on this co-founding position to guarantee long-term success.

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6. Funding and Timeline

- June 24: RFP Announced, Submission Opened
- August 4–11: Open questions are answered
- August 11: Submissions Close
- August 18: Shortlisted Proposal Announced
- August 18 or earlier: Service Agreement Signed
- August 19: Work begins (latest)
- The project will be funded by Divizend (initial budget suggested for MWP development: €10,000 – €25,000) and potentially a **€1M+ EIC Accelerator Grant**.

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7. Proposal Submission

What to include:

- Contact Name
- Contact Email
- Contact Telegram
- Name(s) and Profiles
- Company and Developer References (optional)
- Motivation to Join this Project and in Which Role(s) (especially long-term)
- UX Flow
- Implementation Process
- Estimation of Hours and Cost per Hour
- Timeline for Implementation
- Post-Delivery (testing, bug fixes, warranties, documentation)

Submit your proposal by:

August 4th, 2025
To: helix@divizend.com

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8. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- Technical and architectural vision
- Understanding of zk, decentralized infra, and EU compliance
- Team experience and cohesion
- MWP feasibility and modularity
- Open-source alignment
- Contribution readiness to the EIC grant process

9. Contact & Communication

If you'd be super excited to work on this project but only have knowledge in one of the required areas, please write to me anyway; maybe we'll be able to match you up with someone else, so that you can complement each other.

For further details, questions or exploratory discussions, contact:

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