Question for written answer E-002586/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)

Subject: Completion of construction of Pazin-Učka tunnel-Matulji section of motorway and

compliance of the provisions of the agreement with EU rules

Bina-Istra, the concession-holder for the Istrian Y highway complex, is preparing to complete construction of the motorway at the Pazin-Učka tunnel-Matulji in Istria County in Croatia.

Due to the economic crisis, the commission-holder has had to split the project into two phases of construction.

Financing has been secured for the Pazin-Učka tunnel section. A financing arrangement has been agreed with IFC (World Bank Group) and with three other commercial banks (Société Générale, BBVA and Unicredit/Zagrebačka Banka). The majority of the land required has been purchased: for the section running from Rogović to Cerovlje, more than 95 % has been purchased, while 50 % has been purchased for the remaining section. Bina-Istra has completed all of the construction design documentation and obtained a construction permit.

A condition for starting work is the completion of negotiations with the Croatian Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure on a new annex to the concession agreement, the provisions of which must be fully in accordance with EU rules. This is something which the Commission is currently looking into.

Given the importance of this project for the Istrian economy, I should like to put the following question to the Commission: what is the state of play as regards assessment of the compliance of the provisions of this agreement with EU rules?

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