

**Question for written answer E-004166/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Irregularities in the awarding of local public transport management services in the Municipality of Latina

The company ATRAL S.c.r.l. manages the local public transport service for the Municipality of Latina and has been operating under an extension scheme for almost four years (the contract expired on 31/12/2010), without the launch of any call for tenders to choose a new award recipient.

In January 2015, the Municipality of Latina decided to further extend ATRAL's contract without launching a call for tenders, thus violating the provisions of Directive 2004/18/EC.

According to established case-law of the Court of Justice (see C-458/03), the extension of an award is equivalent to a new award and this principle is applied by analogy also to service contracts, where extension of the final term of the contract without a call for tenders violates the fundamental principles of safeguarding competition in the awarding of public procurement contracts.

Can the Commission answer the following question:

which initiatives have been adopted over the last four years in the aforementioned field and which measures does it intend to take with regard to such a blatant and repeated violation?