Question for written answer E-004015/2017 to the Commission Rule 130 Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Labour legislation and public procurement in the Ministry of Defence

In Resolution 284/2016, dated 15 April 2016, the Central Administrative Court for Contractual Resources approved the offer from the winning company of the public procurement competition for repairing the army's 'Centauro' armoured vehicles and their components. This was despite the fact that the estimated labour cost offered (EUR 2.73/hour) is significantly lower than the minimum hourly wage including social security contributions, because the defence authorities were not required to assess whether this offer was 'reckless'.

The opaque nature of defence programmes has raised numerous questions in previous years, especially following the report from the Court of Auditors on the Special Arms Programmes (No 1155). Additionally, the Commission, for example in its specific recommendations, has repeatedly criticised the lack of transparency in the Spanish State's public procurement.

Does the Commission think that assessing offers which obviously fail to comply with current labour legislation would represent a breach of the relevant regulations on public procurement (cf. Article 18 of Directive 2014/24/EU)?

What measures and additional information will the Commission consider in order to assess compliance with the legislation and the transparency of public procurement in the Ministry of Defence?

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