

**Question for written answer E-000970/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Paul Rübzig (PPE)

Subject: Guaranteeing compliance in tender procedures for projects co-funded by the EU

The public procurement procedure for the construction of Peljesac Bridge in Croatia, which is to be co-financed with appropriations from the EU structural funds (Tender – 2016/S 002-0013743) led to the contract being awarded to a Chinese consortium. European firms that had also submitted a bid were unsuccessful. The award decision taken by the competent Croatian authorities on 12 January 2018 has been contested on the grounds of contradictions in statements relevant to the procedure made by the consortium and its subcontractors, failure to comply with the obligation on the authorities to investigate conspicuously low prices in the bid, and an infringement of confidentiality rules in the procurement procedure. There is likely to be an appeal.

Given that EU money is involved, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Does the Commission have any information on this award decision and on potential errors?
2. What possibilities are open to the Commission in order to guarantee compliance in tender procedures for projects such as this that are co-funded by the EU?
3. What steps will the Commission take to guarantee an objective review of this tender procedure?