

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1284/00

by Gerhard Hager (NI)

to the Commission

Subject: Rescue flight contracts with the main association of Austrian social insurance institutions

Further to my Question No E-0137/00<sup>1</sup> I wish to submit specific supplementary information. As my research has shown, the problem arises in connection with the closed settlement contracts concluded in Austria between the Federal Ministry for Internal Affairs and a private-sector association on the one hand and the main association of Austrian social insurance institutions on the other, not just from the inadequate tendering procedure for those contracts. The problem arises more from the fact that direct settlement between the above bodies has, since 31 March 1995, been concluded without any contractual basis, whereas the option of direct settlement by other suppliers of such services is rejected by the main association of Austrian social insurance institutions. It is against that background that I wish to ask the Commission the following supplementary question:

Does the circumstance that direct settlements between the main association of Austrian social insurance institutions and the said rescue flight undertakings are concluded without any contractual basis not raise doubts in the Commission whether these arrangements are compatible with the provisions of Directive 92/50/EEC<sup>2</sup> of 18 June 1992?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ C

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 209, 24.7.1992, p. 1