

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1750/02

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to the Commission

Subject: Progress made on the consolidation work

For several years, the Commission has been outsourcing work on the consolidation of legal Community texts and their IT development through contracts awarded to external companies. To achieve its aim of introducing modifications into fundamental legislative acts and providing consolidated texts in the various language versions and in different electronic formats within the agreed deadlines, the Commission appears to have devised a reliable plan, which must be observed to avoid jeopardising its institutional commitments, such as improving accessibility to the acts for, among others, those countries that will be joining the European Union.

On page 1 of the notice for the most recent contract No. 1999/S 250-206523, the Commission stipulates, for instance, that 'for the implementation of approximately 4000 modifications – more than 250 000 pages must be analysed – by the contractor – each year during the first three years (after which a reduction in the volume to be processed is envisaged)'.

1. Is the Commission satisfied with the progress made on the consolidation work and confident that it will achieve the abovementioned aims?
2. Could the Commission indicate the percentage of consolidated texts supplied each year by its various contractors in relation to the commitments undertaken?
3. Should the consolidation work fall behind schedule, does the Commission believe that it could still meet its objectives?