

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0174/09
by Guy Bono (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Action to combat disguised contracts in business relations between firms

Some search engine marketing companies with headquarters in the European Union solicit firms, and French firms in particular, by means of bulk mailing campaigns.

During such soliciting, a form is sent out - it is actually a contract - which is intended to mislead recipients as to the extent of their commitment.

The Distance Contracts Directive protects consumers against such practices. Does the Commission intend to act to prevent firms from sending other firms bulk mailings with contracts drafted with intent to deceive and, in all likelihood, not devised and dispatched in good faith?