

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3473/09
by Horst Schnellhardt (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Combating late payment in commercial transactions (COM(2009)0126)

Frequent late payment in connection with public procurement contracts, i.e. the fact that the provisions of Directive 2000/35/EC¹ are not being complied with, is the reason given for the proposal, submitted by the Commission on 8 April 2009, for a directive on combating late payment in commercial transactions (COM(2009)0126). When the directive was published, moreover, a study was quoted according to which 40% of the firms surveyed complained about public authorities' poor payment culture. In the explanatory memorandum accompanying the proposal for a directive, the Commission makes accusations against public authorities. The Commission is asked to give specific instances - from Germany, France and the Netherlands - of public authorities failing to comply with the provisions of Directive 2000/35/EC.

¹ OJ L 200, 8.8.2000, p. 35.