Question for written answer E-9808/2010 to the Commission Rule 117 Jorgo Chatzimarkakis (ALDE)

Subject: July 2010 agreement by Greek football match result forecasting organisation to award contract directly to Intralot

In July this year the Greek football match result forecasting organisation (OPAP) awarded a contract worth more than EUR 100 million to the Greek company Intralot, without issuing a call for international tenders.

The contract with Intralot may breach EU principles of transparency, and could be seriously detrimental to the Greek economy, which is currently under severe stress.

Could the Commission, in conjunction with the Greek authorities, investigate whether this new contract awarded by OPAP is in line with public procurement rules, in order to make sure that there has not been any violation of EU principles of transparency, rules of healthy market competition or fair play?