

**Question for written answer E-003267/2011  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: EPSO recruitment

EPSO - the office responsible for recruiting the European Institutions' staff - has effectively delegated a number of European Union powers to a subsidiary of a US firm, Prometric.

1. Can EPSO give Parliament an assurance as to the confidentiality and security of the databases containing the personal details of applicants for Union competitions? Does the consultancy subsidiary or the parent company have access to those databases?
2. Can the Commission state the reasons for, and number and cost of, the missions to the United States by Mr Bearfield (Director of EPSO), broken down by year?
3. Can the Commission state the cost of each AD or AST recruitment operation based on EPSO's new methods, compare it to the cost under the previous method and show what the added value is for recruitment? Calculations should include the cost of computer-based testing, permanent selection boards and temporary selection boards, etc.