

**Question for written answer E-000414/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Phil Prendergast (S&D)

Subject: Contracts directly awarded due to timeline constraints and public procurement

Could the Commission indicate whether the decision by Irish Water to directly award contracts worth about EUR 50 million to external consultants, which the company claims would otherwise not be delivered on time, owing to technical reasons, falls under acceptable exemptions to the requirement to open such contracts to tenders, as provided for under applicable EU procurement legislation?