

Question for written answer E-001751/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
Tokia Saïfi (PPE)

Subject: Fair competition in international calls for tender

International calls for tender are published on a regular basis and provide significant economic opportunities for European companies, for example in the infrastructure sector.

However, some international competitors are responding to these calls for tender by making very aggressive financial bids – going beyond what is permitted for OECD member countries – in order to support their domestic suppliers, which are themselves sometimes state-owned companies.

This approach is clearly at odds with the principles of fair competition and the idea of a level playing field for all tenderers.

In the light of this situation, can the Commission say:

- what steps it plans to take, and when, to guarantee that international calls for tender are consistent with the principles of fair competition?
- how this issue is addressed in bilateral and multilateral trade negotiations?
- what steps it plans to take, and when, to support European companies participating in international calls for tender?