

**Question for written answer E-001752/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Outsourcing of emergency medical services and possible breaches of European public procurement rules

Some local and national Italian newspapers¹ have recently reported news of the enforcement of the precautionary measure ordering house arrest of the Director General and Sole Project Manager of the Pavia Local Health Authority (Azienda Socio Sanitaria Territoriale – ASST), and the brothers Antonio and Francesco Calderone, who are accused of being the de facto managers of the company First Aid One. The cooperative, which is based in Pesaro and operates throughout Italy, won a procurement contract in 2017 valued at EUR 2 million for the transportation of patients to certain hospitals in Lombardy. To win the contract, the undertaking indicated labour costs for employees far below minimum levels. Despite breaches of contract occurring even during the probationary period, the Pavia ASST did not withdraw the contract.

According to media sources, the Calderone brothers are also linked to another company, Heart Life - Croce Amica S.r.l., which was awarded a EUR 65 million EU contract in Lazio in 2015 for outsourcing of emergency medical services covering non-hospital activities².

Can the Commission say whether it is aware of any infringements of the applicable European legislation following the award of procurement contracts for outsourcing of emergency medical services in Italy and what, if any, follow-up action it considers necessary?

¹ https://milano.corriere.it/notizie/cronaca/21_marzo_18/pavia-appalti-truccati-il-trasporto-ambulanza-quattro-arresti-daf9e51a-87c0-11eb-b36f-34a1dcf4e6aa.shtml<https://www.fanpage.it/napoli/ambulanze-appalti-truccati-pavia-napoli/><https://www.editorialedomani.it/fatti/appalti-truccati-per-gestione-ambulanze-4-arresti-regione-lazio-fratelli-calderone-x2m86zog>

² http://www.regione.lazio.it/binary/rl_main/tbl_contenuti/bandi_x_legislatura/Gare_RL/Ares_118/bando_guue.pdf