

WRITTEN QUESTION P-3859/07  
by Pia Elda Locatelli (PSE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Extension of the deadline for applications to sit Competition AD/94/07

The EPSO/AD/94/07 competition for the recruitment of Administrators in the field of information, communication and the media was advertised in Official Journal C 45A of 28 February 2007, although only in three languages (English, French and German). The failure to advertise the competition in the other 20 EU official languages was regarded as discriminatory and the European Parliament drew attention to this irregularity.

It has recently (on 20 June) been announced that the deadline for applications to sit the competition has been extended, even though the selection tests for candidates who had entered the competition following publication of the notice on 28 February 2007 are already proceeding.

Since the Commission was intending to readvertise the competition, would it not have been better to suspend the selection tests and await fresh applications?

It could be argued that candidates who have already taken the tests have suffered discrimination, on the grounds that they have had less time in which to prepare for the selection tests.

Extending the deadline for applications to sit a competition whilst the selection tests are taking place is an unusual and scarcely transparent practice. Does the Commission not think that it would be wiser to annul the tests which candidates have taken? Why is it that on the EPSO website the announcement was not made promptly (it was not put on-line until four days after it had been published in the Official Journal)?

Since mistakes also occurred in the EPSO/AD/25/05 competition (the answers to no fewer than seven multiple-choice questions in the tests on the EU were wrong), does the Commission not think that it should keep a closer eye on the way in which the EPSO Agency operates?