The Trans-European Services for Telematics between Administrations (TESTA) framework contract is awarded to a Belgian company, British Telecom (BT) Global Services Belgium BV, following a call for tenders launched in May 2019. The Commission would like to point out that the maximum awarded value of the contract for its total duration of 8 years is EUR 333 140 000, plus a 27% reserve for indexation, new EU bodies and unforeseen needs (thus totalling an amount not exceeding EUR 458 067 500).

As per the submitted offer, the United Kingdom-based mother company, BT plc, is not foreseen as entity in charge of service provisioning.

With respect to the processing of personal data, the draft framework contract incorporates model data protection clauses that have been developed by the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS). These clauses contain several safeguards to ensure that any personal data processed under the framework contract remains under the control of the contracting authority.

In particular, they provide that the contractor can only act upon the instructions and under the supervision of the contracting authority. Unless explicitly instructed by the contracting authority, the contractor may only process the data in the territory of the EU/European Economic Area. Moreover, specific safeguards apply in case the contractor would receive a request for access to the data from a national public authority (including of a third country). In that case, the contractor has to inform the contracting authority and may not respond to the request unless specifically authorised to do so.

Finally, the contracting authority itself has the possibility to apply additional technical and organisational measures, such as end-to-end encryption, in order to increase the security and privacy of data circulating through TESTA.