

Priority question for written answer P-002843/2022
to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Rule 138
Alfred Sant (S&D)

Subject: EEAS - Libya

Within the framework of procurement procedure EEAS/DELLBYT/2021/NP/0024 (security services), the Delegation of the European Union to Libya requested an exception to the procurement rules and directly signed a contract with Septimius Security Ltd (award notice No 2021/S 161/421579 dispatched on 13 August 2021).

1. Notwithstanding that several European security providers have delivered the requested services to Member States' embassies to their satisfaction over many years, even to the EU Delegation itself, what justified the agreement with Septimius Security Ltd without following any form of competitive tendering?
2. Given that this procedure was unconventional, what guarantees of a fair and transparent tender can be provided to those tenderers now responding to the current call for tender for security services (EEAS/DELLBYT/2022/CPN/0008)?
3. What lessons have been learnt and what steps has the European External Action Service taken to improve its administrative practices in order to prevent any non-regular award of contracts based on exceptional procedures which do not comply with standard procurement rules?