

**Priority question for written answer P-000674/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Mediator case

A corruption scandal (the Mediator case) has recently been exposed in Spain. It affects the entire country and apparently stems from the Canary Islands.

According to the information in the Spanish press about this investigation, the company Asesoramiento y Servicios de Drones S.L. fraudulently won, at the very least, several contracts relating to the EU programme GAR-SI SAHEL, which is managed by the International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies and has a budget of EUR 41.6 million financed by the Commission. It is alleged that the company fraudulently obtained contracts to supply drones in Niger (EUR 53 000), Mauritania (EUR 37 500) and Mali (EUR 16 940).

In view of the above:

1. Does the Commission know if the reports in the Spanish press are true?
2. Is it aware of any other companies involved in the Mediator case that may have fraudulently obtained contracts financed by EU funds?
3. Will it launch an investigation to examine the implications of the Mediator case in terms of possible irregularities in the award of contracts financed by EU funds and to ensure that those responsible are held accountable?

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