

**Question for written answer E-014540/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Rosa D'Amato (EFDD)

Subject: Service contract with Trenitalia

The Transport Ministry entered into a contract with Trenitalia to provide, in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1370/2007, rail passenger transport services of national interest subject to public service obligations for the period 2009-2014. This contract expired on 31 December 2014. When an additional instrument confirming the second half of the contract period (2012-2014) was signed by the authorities concerned, a clause was added committing Trenitalia to continuing to provide these services until 31 December 2015.

To avoid 84 Intercity train services being cut, the Transport Ministry has now proposed awarding Trenitalia a bridging contract for the two-year period 2016-2017 under which the latter would continue to provide these services on the same terms and conditions.

This would entail a new service contract being awarded without any tendering process. Under Regulation (EC) 1370/2007 the competent authority must therefore forward to the Commission, within one year of the contract being entered into, the public service contract and the factors justifying extending its duration. In view of this, could the Commission confirm whether the procedure adopted by the Italian Government breaches Regulation (EC) 1370/2007 and could it give details of the current state of play of the infringement procedures against Italy concerning rail freight?