

**Question for written answer E-015911/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Raffaele Fitto (ECR)**

Subject: Public contracts and regional policy

According to Report No 10/2015 by the Court of Auditors, widespread problems persist in the way in which public authorities contract out work under cohesion policy, in breach of the principle of free competition. The report also states that in some cases contracts have been awarded to operators who had not submitted the best tenders.

Between 2007 and 2013, EUR 349 billion was allocated to regional policy through the various funds, and a significant part of the total was disbursed by means of public contracts. The Court of Auditors identified errors in some 40% of the projects audited.

What measures will the Commission take to prevent the same thing from happening during the 2014-2020 programming period?