

**Question for written answer E-004157/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Tomáš Zdechovský (PPE)

Subject: Possible irregularities in the implementation of the project 'Support for Schools in the Context of Digitalisation' in Czechia

The project '*Podpora škol v kontextu digitalizace*' ('Support for Schools in the Context of Digitalisation'), implemented by the Czech National Pedagogical Institute (NPI) and financed by EU funds, has raised concerns about possible unequal access to the market, systemic disadvantage for EU-based suppliers, and the potential preferential treatment of third-country providers.

As a member of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection committee, I have been following developments in the European digital market for many years. While it is understandable that contracting authorities may seek economically advantageous solutions, the continued preference for non-EU technologies significantly undermines the competitiveness and strategic resilience of the European internal market and industrial base.

In this context:

1. What tools and safeguards does the Commission have in place to ensure equal and non-discriminatory access for EU-based companies to tenders funded by EU programmes, particularly in the field of education and digitalisation?
2. Will the Commission assess whether this project complies with EU public procurement, competition and funding rules, and, if necessary, refer the matter to the relevant investigative bodies, such as the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) or the European Public Prosecutor's Office?

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