

**Question for written answer E-004504/2025  
to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**Marco Falcone (PPE)**

**Subject:** Concerns over the transparency and procedural fairness of  
COMM/IT/GRANTS/2025, a call for tenders published by the Commission  
Representation in Italy

The Commission Representation in Italy launched a call for proposals in February 2025 (COMM/IT/GRANTS/2025) for communication and media actions to foster dialogue in Italy on the role and activities of the European Union, the political priorities of the Commission and the difference that all of the above make to the lives of EU citizens.

However, several irregularities concerning this tender procedure have come to light: all the deadlines have been postponed, while applicants – who had initially been instructed to use the wrong form – have been asked to submit detailed proposals but also to adhere to a 2 500 character limit, a paltry figure.

In the light of the above:

1. How can the Commission justify requiring all applicants to submit three paper copies of their proposals, an arrangement that runs counter to the EU's sustainability and digital transition objectives?
2. Does the Commission really believe that it is appropriate for proposals for very important calls for tender to be subject to character limits that are so restrictive that they prevent applicants from providing a full technical description of their projects?
3. What steps will the Commission take to correct any discrepancies and ensure that all participants are treated fairly?

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