

Question for written answer E-004884/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

Leire Pajín (S&D), Sandra Gómez López (S&D)

Subject: Risk of patients' rights being breached at Vinalopó University Hospital

Vinalopó University Hospital is the last privately managed public hospital operated by Ribera Salud in the Autonomous Community of Valencia. The contract – signed in 2007 by a representative of Ribera Salud, Pablo Gallart – should have come to an end in May 2025, with the hospital's management returning to the public sector. In 2024, however, the Valencian Government extended the contract to 2030, but failed to carry out the external audit required on quality of care and compliance with public service obligations. Internal company guidelines have also come to light that prioritise economic factors over patient rights, affecting thousands.

1. Does the Commission believe that such practices, which could cause treatment to be denied or delayed for economic profitability reasons, are in line with the high level of protection for human health required by Article 168 TFEU?
2. Does the Commission believe that, in this case – in which no external audit was carried out and no prior call for tenders was made – the rules on reviewing and extending contracts established by Directive 2014/23/EU have been followed?
3. How does the Commission check that private-sector healthcare providers operating under public procurement contracts scrupulously comply with EU public health objectives?

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