

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003791/25
to the Commission
Dolors Montserrat (PPE)
(30 September 2025)**

Subject: Irregularities in public procurement by Red.es uncovered by the European Public Prosecutor's Office

A report by Spain's Comptroller General of the State (IGAE) commissioned by the European Public Prosecutor's Office has detected serious anomalies in contracts worth EUR 8.4 million awarded by the public entity Red.es to companies linked to businessman Juan Carlos Barrabés, who is under investigation in the Begoña Gómez case. It outlines a lack of transparency, unlawful technical criteria, contract specifications in breach of Spain's Public Procurement Law, potential conflicts of interest and possible fraud in the use of European funds.

Under Directive 2014/24/EU on public procurement, Articles 317 and 325 of the TFEU, the Financial Regulation and Regulation (EU) 2021/241 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility, both Member States and the Commission must ensure transparency, equal treatment and the protection of the Union budget.

1. Is the Commission aware of the IGAE report submitted to the European Public Prosecutor's Office?
2. What specifically does it intend it do to enforce EU law in procurement by Red.es, hold the Spanish authorities accountable and ensure the recovery of funds in the event of irregularities, for example through an audit by the European Court of Auditors or investigations by OLAF or the European Public Prosecutor's Office?

Submitted: 30.9.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Minzatu on behalf of the European Commission
(22 December 2025)**

The Commission is aware of the existence of Spain's Comptroller General of the State (IGAE) report and of the ongoing investigations carried out by the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) mentioned in this parliamentary question.

The EPPO is an independent body responsible for investigating and prosecuting crimes against the EU's financial interests, and it operates separately from the Commission.

The Commission cannot interfere with or influence the investigations carried out by the EPPO and will await the results of the investigation once these can be disclosed. As the EPPO investigation unfolds, the Commission will carefully consider the findings and may take any potential necessary steps to safeguard the EU's financial interests.

This may include taking measures, if they are necessary and justified, such as interrupting or suspending payments, applying financial corrections, or recovering funds. If confirmed, all irregularities will give rise to a specific follow-up, and remedial actions needed to tackle the infringements identified, including underlying systemic issues, will be agreed with the programme authorities concerned.
