

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001481/26
to the Commission
Christine Anderson (ESN)
(13 April 2026)**

Subject: Cancellation of competition EPSO/AD/427/26

The website to register for competition EPSO/AD/427/26 was demonstrably unavailable for several hours while the registration period was open.

What is more, information on the number of candidates of certain nationalities became available while the application process was still open, even though this information was obviously confidential.

1. How many complaints have been received so far in connection with competition EPSO/AD/427/26?
2. What does the Commission make of the fact that confidential information was published while the application period was still open?
3. Is the Commission considering cancelling this competition, replacing the external service provider and relaunching the process to guarantee a functioning website and the necessary confidentiality?

Submitted: 13.4.2026

**Answer given by Mr Serafin on behalf of the European Commission
(23 July 2026)**

1. In the context of the open competition EPSO/AD/427/26, the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO) has received more than 14 000 tickets so far. This comprises requests for information as well as admissible and inadmissible complaints. Out of these tickets, 2 015 were admissible complaints linked to the issues preventing some candidates from applying on 9 and 10 March 2026, prior to the application deadline. EPSO analysed all individual complaints and replied to candidates on a case-by-case basis. In line with the Notice of open competition⁽¹⁾, complaints submitted after the application deadline were considered inadmissible.
2. Throughout the application period and following the closure of applications, EPSO compiles and shares relevant information with Member States to help refine their communication campaigns and actions they may wish to implement to support candidates. The breakdown of candidates by nationality does not contain personal data and is not confidential information. Its publication does not impact the rollout of the competition, nor does it provide an advantage or disadvantage to any candidate.
3. As the Appointing Authority, the Director of EPSO is currently considering several options for managing a competition with over 175 000 candidates. Cancellation is not under consideration.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/C/2026/711/oj>.