

Which of the Member States' current rules on arms exports does it consider would provide a reasonable basis for harmonised EU rules on arms exports?

Answer given by Mr van den Broek on behalf of the Commission

(9 March 1999)

The Presidency proposal to establish the Union code of conduct on arms on a firmer legal basis (Common Position under Article 3.2 of the Treaty of the European Union) was discussed at the General Affairs Council on 25 January but did not gain the unanimous support of Member States. The code therefore retains its non-binding legal status.

Matters relating to arms exports are dealt with by the Member States in the context of the Common foreign and security policy (CFSP). The Commission is fully associated with such deliberations. Article 223 of the EC Treaty applies in this area and there exist no Union rules concerning arms exports.

(1999/C 297/208)

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0235/99

by Antonio Tajani (PPE) to the Commission

(12 February 1999)

Subject: Contracts at Leonardo da Vinci airport, Rome

On 21 September 1998 the Aeroporti di Roma company awarded the contract for cleaning and maintenance services at Leonardo da Vinci — Fiumicino airport, divided into three separate lots, to the following companies:

- Linda srl;
- SNAM Lazio Sud srl;
- Bona Dea srl.

Given the airport's importance as an international stop-over, can the Commission state whether the European rules on competition for public contracts have been complied with in this case?

Answer given by Mr Monti on behalf of the Commission

(24 March 1999)

The Commission is collecting the information it needs to answer the question. It will communicate its findings as soon as possible.

(1999/C 297/209)

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0236/99

by Antonio Tajani (PPE) to the Council

(15 February 1999)

Subject: Italian secret services report on the euro's use for money-laundering purposes

Is the Council aware that, in a report which was subsequently published by the daily newspaper 'Il Messagero' on 25 January 1999, the Italian military secret services (SISMI) maintained that the euro could be used to launder proceeds from criminal activities which had not yet entered financial and banking channels?

Does it intend to ask the Italian Government to forward the SISMI report?

What action does it intend to take to prevent computer systems and the Internet from being used for criminal activities?