



# FLASH

Fraktion der Europäischen Volkspartei (Christdemokraten) und europäischer Demokraten im Europäischen Parlament  
Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) and European Democrats in the European Parliament  
Groupe du Parti Populaire Européen (Démocrates-Chrétiens) et Démocrates Européens au Parlement européen

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*Charlotte Cederschiöld and Andreas Schwab (EPP-ED):*

## **Public private partnerships are also public procurement**

Charlotte Cederschiöld, EPP-ED-rapporteur for the public procurement directives (PPP) and Andreas Schwab, EPP-ED-Vice-Coordinator in the Internal Market Committee, have welcomed the outcome of today's vote in the Committee. "As we consider it premature to evaluate the impact of the public procurement directives, the Internal Market Committee has therefore objected to open up these directives", Cederschiöld and Schwab said in Brussels.

The Committee has consequently also rejected the creation of a separate legal regime for PPPs, but considered that there is a need for a legislative initiative in the area of concessions as long as they respect internal market principles by foreseeing thresholds and providing for simple tendering rules. "We would also agree to a clarification with regard to institutionalized PPPs, but without a respective directive as demanded by the PSE", stressed Cederschiöld.

The EPP-ED also takes the view that concessions should be only of limited duration depending on the length of time necessary for the amortization of private investments so that competitors are not excluded for an unnecessary long period of time. "We also think that the duration of partnership relations should be established so that free competition is basically restricted only to the extent needed for the amortization of the investment and an appropriate return on capital" Schwab added.

With regard to the application of in-house criteria both MEPs underlined the widespread legal uncertainty due to existing case-law and thus called upon the Commission to devise criteria that provide the local authorities with "a clear basis for decision-making". "It remains to be seen whether the amendment on interlocal authority cooperation voted today brings enough clarity", Cederschiöld and Schwab concluded.

### **For further information:**

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