

Public Procurement Directives - revision

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

As announced in the Political Guidelines for the next European Commission 2024-2029^[1] and the 2026 Commission Work Programme^[2], the European Commission is preparing a **revision of the EU Public Procurement Directives**. The main objectives of the revision are to make public investment and spending more efficient, while continuing to prevent corruption, to design tools to strengthen economic security and sovereignty and to better align public procurement policy with EU strategic policy objectives.

In preparation of the revision and following the evaluation of the EU public procurement Directives^[3], the Commission is launching this public consultation to gather views from all interested parties.

This public consultation is an opportunity for everyone to share their thoughts, experiences, and ideas on how to improve public procurement in the EU ahead of the planned revision. This will improve the evidence base underpinning the initiative and enable the Commission to take into consideration information and views of citizens and stakeholders.

The questionnaire is **divided into two parts**. The first part is short and requires no detailed knowledge of public procurement law and systems. The second part is more detailed and technical, requiring specialised knowledge. If you have the opportunity to answer the second part, please set aside some extra time to provide your input.

Please note that this consultation does not cover rules related to defence procurement or the EU Remedies Directive. These areas are outside the scope of this review. The public consultation runs in parallel to a call for evidence.

^[1] European Commission, Political Guidelines for the Next European Commission 2024–2029, 2024.

[2] Secretariat-General, 2026 Commission Work Programme and Annexes, European Commission, 21 October 2025.

[3] European Commission, Commission Staff Working Document – Evaluation of Directive 2014/23/EU, 2014/24/EU and 2014/25/EU (SWD (2025) 332 final), 14 October 2025.

About you

*Language of my contribution

English

*I am giving my contribution as

Business association

*First name

Ursula

*Surname

Caturla

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*Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

nucleareurope

*Organisation size

Small (10 to 49 employees)

Transparency register number

Check if your organisation is on the transparency register. It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

42433582-82

*Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

This list does not represent the official position of the European institutions with regard to the legal status or policy of the entities mentioned. It is a harmonisation of often divergent lists and practices.

Belgium

The Commission will publish all contributions to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would prefer to have your details published or to remain anonymous when your contribution is published. **For the purpose of transparency, the type of respondent (for example, 'business association', 'consumer association', 'EU citizen') country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published. Your e-mail address will never be published.** Opt in to select the privacy option that best suits you. Privacy options default based on the type of respondent selected

*Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

☐ **Anonymous**

Only organisation details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself if you want to remain anonymous.

☒ **Public**

Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

☒ I agree with the personal data protection provisions (<https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/specific-privacy-statement>)

Overall objectives

The **evaluation of the 2014 public procurement directives** (SWD(2025)332) concluded that their intended objectives have only been partially met, and several problems remain: legal clarity and flexibility did not improve, new sector-specific rules added complexity to the legal framework, transparency levels increased but corruption risks and data gaps remain, competition levels can be further enhanced, direct cross-border participation remains limited, and environmental, social and innovation procurement uptake, while progressing, remains uneven. At the same time, new priorities such as economic security and strategic autonomy have emerged, accentuated by recent geopolitical developments.

Improving efficiency and transparency of the new rules

In view of the evaluation findings, please rank the importance of the proposed characteristics of the new public procurement legal framework in a decreasing order, starting with the most important:

The forthcoming revision should...

Use drag&drop or the up/down buttons to change the order or accept the initial order.

- ⋮ **make procurement rules more flexible** (e.g. more space for negotiations, more discretion given to public buyers)
- ⋮ **make procurement rules less prone to anti-competitive practices** (e.g. wider use of digital tools to facilitate transparency)
- ⋮ **make procurement rules less detailed** (e.g. focus on high-level concepts, less rules defining procedural steps)
- ⋮ **make procurement rules less prone to litigation** (e.g. more detailed procedural rules to avoid ambiguity)
- ⋮ **prioritise broader policy goals by moving beyond the lowest-cost paradigm** (e.g. to include objectives like sustainability, innovation, social responsibility and *Made in Europe*)
- ⋮ **facilitate SMEs participation** (e.g. division into lots, payment schemes including direct payments to subcontractors)
- ⋮ **reduce administrative burden through full digitalisation** (e.g. digitalisation of the entire procurement process, single digital procurement entry point, data reuse)
- ⋮ **facilitate the aggregation of demand** (e.g. joint procurement by several authorities, reinforcing the role of central purchasing bodies, framework agreements)

Green, social and innovative public procurement

In view of the evaluation findings, please rank the importance of the proposed characteristics of the new public procurement legal framework in a decreasing order, starting with the most important:

The forthcoming revision should...

Use drag&drop or the up/down buttons to change the order or accept the initial order.

- ⋮ **prioritise competition and price savings** (e.g. by avoiding ambitious green and social requirements)
- ⋮ **make procurement rules less detailed** (e.g. focus on high-level concepts, less rules defining procedural steps)
- ⋮ **avoid additional administrative burden** (e.g. limited rules on social and green conditionalities and associated administrative and evidence requirements for companies and public buyers)
- ⋮ **facilitate environmentally friendly purchases** (e.g. facilitated use of ecolabels and standards, set targets for green public procurement)
- ⋮ **prioritise quality over price when seeking value for money** (e.g. wider use of the of best pricequality ratio to support strategic and sustainable procurement)
- ⋮ **facilitate SME participation** (e.g. division into lots, payment schemes including direct payments to subcontractors)
- ⋮ **facilitate purchases of innovative solutions** (e.g. simplifying innovation partnerships, easing access to public procurement for startups)
- ⋮ **facilitate socially responsible purchases** (e.g. improved working conditions, social inclusion)

Economic security and strategic autonomy

In view of the evaluation findings, please rank the importance of the proposed characteristics of the new public procurement legal framework in a decreasing order, starting with the most important:

The forthcoming revision should...

Use drag&drop or the up/down buttons to change the order or accept the initial order.

- ⌵ give **preference to European industry**, products and services **in sectors that are critical to EU economic security or of strategic importance** to secure Europe's independence
- ⌵ give **general preference to European industry, products and services** (*Made in Europe*) to support investment, growth and jobs in the EU
- ⌵ **make procurement rules less detailed** (e.g. focus on high-level concepts rather than detailed requirements on what products, services and works public buyers can purchase)
- ⌵ **make procurement rules more flexible** (e.g. more discretion given to public buyers)
- ⌵ **prioritise competition and price savings** (e.g. by allowing unrestrained access to European markets to firms from outside Europe)
- ⌵ **avoid additional administrative burden** (e.g. minimal rules on the extent to which *Made in Europe* requirements are met)
- ⌵ **make procurement rules less prone to litigation** (e.g. more detailed to avoid ambiguity in case of third countries access)

Expert sections

*The **following sections** deal with **more complex and technical aspects** of public procurement. If you have specialised knowledge or experience with procurement rules and procedures, you may want to respond to these questions. You can also choose not to respond to these questions. In either case, you will be invited to share any general comments you may have on the forthcoming revision of the EU public procurement directives before submitting your response to this public consultation.

- ☐ Yes, I want to proceed with responding to more complex and technical questions.
- ☒ No, I prefer to proceed without responding to more complex and technical questions.

Final comments

Would you like to make any additional comments or provide further information relevant for the revision of the EU public procurement legal framework, including on the impacts of policy choices (e.g. quantify impact in terms of costs and benefits)?

Text of 5 to 3000 characters will be accepted

Nucleareurope, the trade association representing the European nuclear industry, welcomes the European Commission's initiative to revise the EU Public Procurement Rules and appreciates the opportunity to contribute to this consultation, given the strategic importance of the energy sector (and, in particular, nuclear power) in Europe's decarbonisation objectives, security of supply, industrial competitiveness and the overall functioning of the integrated energy market.

In this context, and with a view to ensuring that the revised framework remains proportionate, coherent and supportive of EU policy objectives, the following considerations merit particular attention:

- Respect and extend current exemptions for competitive energy activities: Maintain (and, where appropriate, expand) the existing possibility under Articles 34-35 of Directive 2014/25/EU to exempt electricity (production and supply) and nuclear generation from public procurement rules. Build on Article 9 and Article 34 to allow exclusion of electricity producers, specific energy sources, and sectoral contracting authorities from the Utilities Directive, reflecting the integrated and competitive EU electricity market.
- Ensure voluntary, targeted measures: Where procurement rules remain applicable, use voluntary and incentivised tools (margin-of-preference, transparency and review mechanisms) instead of absolute exclusion of non-EU companies, respecting MS freedom to contract.
- Align procurement rules with EU internal market and decarbonisation objectives: Public procurement should not hinder the functioning of the integrated EU electricity market, investment in new nuclear capacity, or key EU goals such as decarbonisation, industrial competitiveness, and strategic autonomy.
- Safeguard economic and energy security: In the current geopolitical context, procurement obligations can obstruct the protection of critical infrastructure and security of supply. Exemptions are justified under both market-exposure logic and the security exemption (Article 24).
- Recognise market-based incentives and price neutrality: Electricity producers operating in the single EU market already face strong competitive pressure to procure efficiently; procurement rules do not protect consumers from higher prices and instead risk reducing profitability or investment.
- Incentivize economic operators engaged in electrification activities, including those not directly related to the subject of the contract: Public buyers should be enabled to reward companies demonstrating strong decarbonisation commitments and additional social responsibility practices, even when such criteria are not strictly linked to the specific contract, in order to better differentiate offers and promote exemplary corporate behaviour.

Please upload your file(s)

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