

Report to the Federal Parliament:

Public procurement procedures within the Belgian Defence



The Belgian Court of Audit has examined against the applicable regulations a selection of the Defence's public contracts for a total value of 529.3 million euros. As part of this analysis, the Court has also assessed the internal control activities of the Defence purchasing function.

The control environment has been fairly developed and formalised. The Defence control activities have actively contributed to reducing the risks that the purchasing function entails. However, the quality of public procurement data leaves room for improvement.

The Court has noted some irregularities, for example in the observance of the principles of competition and equality in several low-value contracts. For contracts above 30,000 euros, the Court has drawn the Defence's attention to, among other things:

- the transparency of the financial stakes of certain projects towards the decision-making and control authorities at the estimation stage;
- the verification of prices at the awarding stage;
- the evaluation formula of the criterion price;
- the price revision;
- the oversight of modifications approved during the execution of the contract.

The Court has made recommendations to the Defence to help it meet its needs in an effective and efficient way and to ensure that its public contracts comply with the applicable regulations.