

Report to the Federal Parliament

Supervision of the Federal State's concessions for vehicle registration plates



The Court of Audit examined the Belgian Federal State's management of vehicle registration plates through its outsourcing policy, the lawfulness of the second concession contract awarded in 2018 as well as the monitoring and supervising of the concessions between 2017 and 2020.

Although the outsourcing has been prepared, it cannot be demonstrated that it is more economical and efficient than own management and that the fees paid by users are proportionate to the real costs. Furthermore, the regulations on concession contracts have not been fully complied with and the incumbent concession holder appears to enjoy a disproportionate competitive advantage. Finally, even if the concession is generally executed in accordance with the contract, the control of the concession holder's activities is insufficient and does not ensure the correct calculation of the revenues for the Federal State.

The Court of Audit makes recommendations to the Federal State regarding in particular the necessity to assess the economy and efficiency of outsourcing, ensure an effective competition when awarding future concession contracts and strengthen the monitoring and supervising of how outsourced activities are performed.