

**Question for written answer E-007352/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Tania González Peñas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Assessment of the Gijón - Saint-Nazaire motorway of the sea

One of the most ambitious transport strategies is the establishment of powerful multimodal corridors in order to develop routes that are more efficient and sustainable. In this regard, the development of trans-European transport networks, in accordance with the objectives set out in the White Paper on European transport policy, requires a substantial financial effort on the part of the Member States and the EU.

As regards the motorway of the sea between Saint-Nazaire and Gijón, not only has this been well received, but, according to the Port Authority of Gijón, it is viable, since it has an occupancy rate of around 70%.

However, the operator, GLD Atlantique, has decided to end its operation of this sea route – precisely now that the subsidies are coming to an end – on the grounds that it is not profitable. With a view to increasing transparency and control over complex projects which depend on subsidies to private operators, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Will it demand that companies that are awarded contracts be made publicly accountable, in a transparent manner, with regard to the use of the grants received, by submitting a relevant financial report?
2. What was the outcome of the assessment of the project by the Commission and what criteria were applied?