

**Question for written answer E-008984/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL)

Subject: High-speed railway serving Levante, Madrid, Castilla-La Mancha, the Autonomous Community of Valencia and the Region of Murcia

The new high-speed railway serving Levante, Madrid, Castilla-La Mancha, the Autonomous Community of Valencia and the Region of Murcia is co-financed using funds from the ERDF. This finance, provided through the Integrated Operational Programme of the Region of Murcia, comprises EUR 28 500 000 for work to construct the track bed and tracks into the city of Murcia, and EUR 67 600 000 for the five-year period between 2007 and 2013 for the track bed, supplies, track installation and facilities (Operational Programme 'Region of Murcia' CCI 2007ES051POOO9).

This financing was bolstered by a state, regional and municipal collaboration protocol, published in the Official Gazette of the Region of Murcia on 21 July 2006. The purpose of this protocol was to establish the urban integration of the railway in the city of Murcia by placing tracks underground where the railway passes through the city and constructing an intermodal station.

However, the Official State Gazette of 16 October 2014 stated that trains would arrive in the city of Murcia as surface trains, at a planned cost of EUR 87 000 000, which is less than the total of EUR 96 100 000 financed by the EU, thereby breaching the ERDF conditions and the compulsory environmental impact declaration.

Is the Commission planning to take action regarding this situation? What specific measures is it planning to adopt?