Question for written answer E-006069/2015 to the Commission

Rule 130

Tania González Peñas (GUE/NGL) and Pablo Iglesias (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Financial viability of the high-speed train (TGV)

PODEMOS is concerned about the financial viability of the TGV in the Basque Country due to the cumulative cost overruns incurred by the works for the so-called 'Basque Y', which make the project ever more dubious and uncertain. These cost overruns have occurred when the huge investment required for the infrastructure, the superstructure, the approaches to the provincial capitals, the stations along the line and the end of the line is still pending. We therefore consider it reasonable for an opportunity cost analysis to be carried out with respect to the option of withholding the remaining funds to complete the project, taking into account all the costs, including the construction and operating costs and the environmental, territorial and social ramifications, involved in completing it.

In this regard, bearing in mind that France has suspended the construction of the Bordeaux – Hendaye line, would the Commission consider it appropriate to commission an independent study on the financial viability of the 'Basque Y', including a general cost/benefit analysis, and on whether or not this project should continue to receive public funding?

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