

**Question for written answer E-001125/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: European accounting standards curbing major investment in public works projects in Belgium

For the third time in a row, Eurostat has issued a negative opinion on the tram plans for Liège.

It looks as though the same will apply to the planned tunnel repairs in Brussels, while work to improve the Antwerp ring road is also posing problems.

This shows the impact that European accounting standards are having on vital, large-scale investments in three regions whose debts are under control.

This will ultimately not only affect those regions' ability to address transport challenges, but it will also have an impact on urban development, society-based activities and economic development.

Is the Commission intending to look into how it might avoid curbing the development of such projects at a time when the social and economic recovery is still weak and could really benefit from large-scale investment in public works?