

**Question for written answer E-007033/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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**Subject:** Ratification of the bilateral agreement between Italy and France to launch final work on the cross-border section of the new Turin-Lyon railway

On 15 September 2016, the Italian Council of Ministers approved the bill ratifying and implementing the bilateral agreement between Italy and France to launch final work on the cross-border section of the new Turin-Lyon railway. This agreement, which was signed on 8 March 2016 in Venice, brings previous understandings up to date, and focuses on three issues in particular: the rules for contracts and anti-mafia regulations, the certification of costs for the project and an update to the financial plan. Italy has committed to ratifying the agreement by January 2017, which is the deadline set by the European Union for Community funding for the new railway line.

Given that 40% of the overall cost of the project is being funded by the EU (EUR 3.3 billion) and considering the continual delays to the project, which suggest that it is not urgent:

- What is the final deadline for the Italian Parliament to approve the above-mentioned text?
- What action will the Commission take if the Italian Parliament delays the approval of the text?