

**Question for written answer E-007965/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Francesc Gambús (PPE)

Subject: MidCat project

According to the Spanish media¹, the French authorities may be holding up work on the projected the MidCat gas pipeline connecting the Pyrenees with the north-south French grid. This is a crucial project, not only for Catalonia and Spain but for the EU as a whole, since it offers the possibility of secure and diversified gas supplies to the European continent. The initial phase of the project covers the construction of a pipeline around 235 km long requiring an investment of EUR 470 million, EUR 150 million for the Spanish section and EUR 320 million for the French section. Nevertheless, despite the importance of this project, very little progress has been made in recent months.

In view of this:

- Does the Commission have any information regarding progress made on the gas pipeline connecting Spain and France?
- What action is the Commission taking to end the delay in carrying out this major energy infrastructural project?

¹ <https://www.capitalmadrid.com/2016/10/24/44022/las-grandes-industrias-acusan-a-francia-de-bloquear-la-conexion-del-gasoducto-midcat.html>