

**Question for written answer E-000994/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Francesc Gambús (PPE)

Subject: Construction of the Mediterranean Corridor

On 13 November 2013, Parliament gave final approval to a map of EU priorities, which included the Atlantic and Mediterranean rail corridors. The latter corridor will link the south-west Mediterranean region to the Ukrainian border, covering the 3 000 km which include Priority Projects 3 and 6 and providing a multimodal link from the ports of the western Mediterranean to the centre of the EU.

The Mediterranean Corridor comprises two branches (Algeciras–Alicante–Valencia–Tarragona and Algeciras–Madrid–Zaragoza–Tarragona).

1. Does the Commission have any progress reports for the Atlantic and Mediterranean projects (two variants for the latter)?
2. In the case of the Mediterranean Corridor, does the Commission believe that one of the two variants should be prioritised, or that the project should be developed in parallel, in case one of the two branches fails to be completed on schedule or is blocked by a lack of funding. And what mechanisms would the Commission have to avoid that in good time?
3. How does the Commission view the decision to construct a two-way third rail to combine goods trains, passenger trains, local trains, regional trains and high-speed trains, instead of the European-gauge double platform referred to in the decision by Parliament and the Council?