

**Question for written answer E-004742/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Support for the ERTMS and public investment

The railway sector is crucial for the EU, not only for the sake of mobility and as a response to environmental challenges, but also as a provider of jobs (as many as 400 000 jobs are directly linked to the sector).

Within the sector, the promotion of the European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS) seems vital for linking up the European rail network and for creating jobs.

In the Resolution approved by Parliament in June 2016 on the competitiveness of the European rail supply industry, the Commission is called on to help with further harmonised deployment of the ERTMS, in cooperation with the European Railway Agency (ERA), within the EU and to promote ERTMS outside the EU.

Can the Commission say exactly how it is planning to further promote the ERTMS, in particular through the Connecting Europe Facility and the European Fund for Strategic Investments?

Does it not take the view that the limits imposed on public investment in the context of austerity policy could have serious repercussions for the development of the ERTMS, and therefore for mobility within the EU?