

**Question for written answer E-005464/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Jordi Solé (Verts/ALE) and Josep-Maria Terricabras (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: Bailout of Spanish motorways

The Spanish Court of Auditors announced in July that the bailout of the Spanish motorways filing for bankruptcy will cost the State at least EUR 3 718 million<sup>1</sup>.

For the first time, an official body has quantified the amount needed for this bailout, which will transfer the debt of the enterprises holding concessions to the public sector. In addition, it notes that the consolidated report contains no information on the judicial risks involved. Although the Spanish government had stated that the bailout of the motorways will have no impact on public finances, the Minister of Public Works has finally admitted that it could cost as much as EUR 5 billion<sup>2</sup>.

1. Does the Commission consider that it is appropriate to use public money in this way to bail out private enterprises because of mismanagement?
2. Does it not agree that, as in other cases in Spain, such as the failed Castor gas company, the administration's asset liability clause is a way of securing the private sector against business failure at the State's expense?
3. Will the Commission examine this bailout in order to assess whether it entails granting State aid under the terms of EU legislation to commercially exploited infrastructure?

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.elmundo.es/economia/2017/07/07/595e8f04e2704e6f0e8b45c4.html>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.lasexta.com/noticias/nacional/inigo-de-la-serna-admite-que-bajar-de-los-5500-millones-para-el-rescate-de-las-autopistas-sera-difcil\\_201612155852c31d0cf20341e403d57b.html](http://www.lasexta.com/noticias/nacional/inigo-de-la-serna-admite-que-bajar-de-los-5500-millones-para-el-rescate-de-las-autopistas-sera-difcil_201612155852c31d0cf20341e403d57b.html)