

**Question for written answer E-005926/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL)**

**Subject:** Construction of an underground section for the high-speed rail line in Murcia - ERDF funds under the OP-Murcia 2014-2020

As part of work to develop infrastructure for the high-speed rail line to Murcia, the Spanish Ministry of Public Works promised – through the agreement signed on 22 June 2006 between the ministry, the autonomous community and Murcia city council – that tracks would be built underground to maintain the physical separation between the high-speed rail line and around 100 000 residents in the districts of Nonduermas, Barriomar, Pío X, Santiago el Mayor, Ermita del Rosario, Barrio El Progreso and Patiño. As things stand, the Spanish Ministry of Public Works, acting through ADIF (a state-owned company), is planning to place only a short section of tracks underground and is postponing even this small-scale project to an undefined time in the distant future.

Bearing in mind that the ERDF and the operational programme (OP) 2014-2020 for Murcia are providing a significant share of funding for the project's implementation:

1. Can the Commission provide information on the specific use to be made of these budget appropriations for rail infrastructure?
2. Does the breakdown of the ERDF OP 2014-2020 for Murcia include a requirement that some of these appropriations be used to place this section of track underground?
3. If so, what is the time-limit for opening a tender procedure, awarding a contract and carrying out this project with ERDF funding?