

**Question for written answer E-010516/2012
to the Commission**
Rule 117
James Elles (ECR)

Subject: UK High Speed 2 (HS2) rail link - rail policy

With reference to the proposed HS2 project, could the Commission provide answers to the following questions relating to rail policy:

1. In the Commission's view, does the set of proposals known as HS2 qualify as a TEN-T rail project?
2. Has the Commission reviewed the progress made by the UK in the implementation of common technical standards and the deployment of the European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS), a command and control system recommended for the European railway network?
3. Has the Commission reviewed whether the timetable for the further deployment of the ERTMS in the UK is reasonable, given the wider programme of upgrades to this standard across the EU?
4. Has the Commission received any information from the UK Government indicating what line speed improvements could be achieved on major rail lines in the UK through the further roll-out of the ERTMS?