Question for written answer E-006504/2020 to the Commission Rule 138
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Subject: TEN-T and the Mediterranean Corridor

According to Regulation (EU) No 913/2010 concerning a European rail network for competitive freight¹, the Union and its Member States are to build a rail Network covering the entire continent (i.e. the Trans-European Transport network (TEN-T)). In the Iberian Peninsula, completion of the Mediterranean Corridor section of the network has been delayed until 2030².

Although businesses (especially small and medium-sized enterprises) and Catalan and Valencian civil society have been pushing for the Spanish Government to invest in this key infrastructure, the Spanish Minister for Infrastructure was recently unable to confirm that this corridor will be fully operational in 2025.

According to Article 56 of Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network, the Commission may ask Member States to provide reasons if there are significant delays in completing work on the core network. It can also launch infringement procedures. According to the Court of Auditors' report 10/2020 on EU transport infrastructures³, 'The Commission has not yet used the Article 56 procedure as it considers that there are other more effective tools to "induce the Member States to plan and implement these infrastructures more quickly", for example, the work of the Coordinators, implementing decisions, etc.'.

- 1. Will the Commission trigger Article 56 if the Mediterranean Corridor is not completed on time?
- 2. When does it think the Mediterranean Corridor will be fully completed?

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/ES/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32010R0913

² https://elcorredormediterraneo.com/estado-de-las-obras/

³ https://www.espo.be/media/ECA%20Transport%20Projects%20Report.pdf