

**Question for written answer E-001242/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Compliance of TEN-T Regulation on the Mediterranean Corridor between Tarragona and Barcelona

The current design of the Mediterranean Corridor project between Tarragona and Barcelona will not guarantee compliance with the TEN-T Regulation in terms of interoperability and capacity of the rail network in this key section of the corridor. It will create a bottleneck¹ at the confluence of two important railway corridors in an urban node and will not generate any European added value. There is already a high density of passenger train traffic on the same tracks and the saturation point will be reached soon². The dual use of tracks for the transport of passengers and goods (many of them highly dangerous³) in the densely populated area of Tarragona breaches environmental regulations (Article 36 of Regulation 1315/2013), in particular the fundamental rights to health and life, and the spirit of the Seveso Directive (Article 13).

1. What measures does the Commission intend to take to ensure that the implementation of the project complies with EU environmental regulation, the spirit of the Seveso Directive and citizens' fundamentals rights?
2. How will the Commission guarantee that funds from the Connecting Europe programme will be allocated solely to the Trans-European Transport Network and comply with environmental and operational requirements?

¹ Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network.

² FERRMED study of traffic and modal shift optimisation in the EU:
<http://www.ferrmed.com/activity/newsandevents/annual-ferrmed-conference-wias-held-16th-november-streaming>

³ Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances.