

**Question for written answer E-002040/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Carles Puigdemont i Casamajó (NI), Clara Ponsatí Obiols (NI), Antoni Comín i Oliveres (NI)

Subject: Completion of the Mediterranean Core Network Corridor in Spain

The pace of the implementation of the Mediterranean (MED) Core Network Corridor project in Spain will not ensure that the rail freight traffic connections between the ports of Algeciras, Valencia, Tarragona and Barcelona will be completed by 2030, as mandated by the Trans-European Transport Network requirements¹².

The Spanish Government recently announced³ that it is using EU funds to prioritise and complete high speed lines (not specifically for transport) of the central interior branch of the MED corridor, and not the coastal line that will ultimately ensure that all ports are connected to the rail network⁴. This raises concerns about whether there is proper accountability for the use of EU funds and about the government's commitment to achieving the 2030 objectives.

1. How will the Commission ensure that the allocated EU funds will suffice for the completion of the coastal branch of the MED corridor?
2. How will it track and monitor the Spanish Government's investments so that the network along the MED corridor achieves full compliance by 2030?
3. Will it ask the European Court of Auditors to carry out performance audits of specific budgetary areas linked to the MED Core Network in Spain?

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/inea/sites/default/files/cefpub/cef_transport_2020-corridor-c_mediterranean_metadata.pdf

² https://www.eurosudteam.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/4th_workplan_med.pdf

³ <https://valenciaplaza.com/el-gobierno-prioriza-los-fondos-europeos-del-corredor-mediterraneo-para-el-tramo-que-pasa-por-madrid>

⁴ 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 and repealing Decision No 661/2010/EU, OJ L 348, 20.12.2013, p. 1.