

**Question for written answer E-002052/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (Renew)

Subject: Exclusion of Basque roads from the recovery plan in Spain

The Spanish Government has excluded Basque roads from the distribution of the EUR 700 million provided by the sixth component of its recovery plan. In accordance with the Statute of Autonomy of the Basque Country, the maintenance and construction of roads in the Basque Country fall within the competence of the Autonomous Community. The failure to include this network in the allocation of EUR 343 million to upgrade tunnels gave rise to a complaint from the institutions of that autonomous community. The aim is to call for a review and to be included in the distribution of the remaining EUR 300 million to combat noise pollution from the use of these roads. Unfortunately, this exclusion was replicated despite the measures taken by the Basque Country to prevent it.

With the above in mind:

1. Does the Commission consider this type of dysfunction to be compatible with the partnership principle enshrined in Regulation (EU) 2021/241?
2. Does the Commission consider that ownership of an infrastructure can be a reason for exclusion under the recovery and resilience plan?
3. Does the Commission consider that the existing checks are sufficient to validate the multilevel dialogue that must be carried out before national plans are approved?

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