## Question for written answer E-000669/2024 to the Commission

**Rule 138** 

Ana Miranda (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Spain's CIAF rules out an independent investigation into the Angrois accident

Following a meeting on 15 February 2024, Spain's Railway Accident Investigation Committee (CIAF) announced that it had ruled out a new investigation into the rail accident that took place in Santiago on 24 July 2013 and resulted in 81 deaths, in spite of the Commission's requests.

According to CIAF, opening a new investigation into an event already investigated would be unfounded in the absence of new evidence or unaddressed factors from which to draw new lessons and recommendations for improving the safety of the railway system. This is a regrettable decision constituting a lack of respect for victims.

What is more, in 2016, the European Union Agency for Railways stated in its report on this accident that CIAF's 2014 investigation was not independent and did not address the root causes of the accident or safety factors. The agency called for changes to be made.

In 2017, the Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport called on CIAF to carry out an independent investigation.

- 1. Can the Commission confirm whether it has contacted the competent Spanish authorities about CIAF's decision?
- 2. Will it call on CIAF, once again, to carry out an independent investigation, as Commissioner Violeta Bulc did previously?

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