

ORAL QUESTION H-0153/05
for Question Time at the part-session in March 2005
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure
by Ana Mato Adrover
to the Commission

Subject: Reclassification of the Mintra company (Spain)

The autonomous region of Madrid, currently one of the regions in the vanguard of economic growth and job creation in both Spain and Europe, has for the last ten years been making a major and ambitious commitment to public transport, and, in particular to the metro system. Madrid has a metro network of 405 km with 450 stations, which by 2007 will have become a major world landmark in the field.

1999 saw the creation of Mintra, a company combining executive, holding and management functions with responsibility for the new regional rail infrastructures. In February 2003, Mintra was provisionally classified as a non-financial company.

Eurostat has now decided to classify Mintra in its public administration category, a decision which will have obvious consequences for the funding of the extension of the Madrid metro.

Can the Commission explain the grounds for this reclassification of Mintra, given that since 2003, when the company was provisionally classified as a non-financial company, there has been no change in either the criteria established by Eurostat or the circumstances and characteristics of Mintra itself?

Tabled: 24.02.2005
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