

ORAL QUESTION H-1041/07
for Question Time at the part-session in February 2008
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure
by Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines
to the Commission

Subject: Construction of underground stretch of high-speed rail line near the Sagrada Familia church (Barcelona)

As is universally known, the construction of an underground stretch of a high-speed rail line in Barcelona has led to numerous cases of buildings collapsing or subsiding, endangering both housing and major edifices, including the Sagrada Familia church and other historic buildings.

Since this an EU-subsidised project, can the Commission provide information on the prior environmental impact assessments carried out under Directive 85/337/EEC¹, and state whether those studies have assessed the risks to the Sagrada Familia and other historic buildings?

Do the dossiers which have reached the European institutions include the study carried out by the Universitat Pompeu Fabra, which advised against the underground option in view of the overall risks involved?

Tabled: 17.12.2007
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¹ OJ L 175, 5.7.1985, p. 40