

**Question for written answer P-004761/2013/rev.1
to the Commission
Rule 117
Emine Bozkurt (S&D)**

Subject: Pelješac bridge

Can the Commission confirm that it has agreed with the Croatian Government to draw up a strategy to improve connections with Croatia's southern territory (the Dubrovnik region)?

If this is indeed the case, will the Commission answer the following questions:

1. When is the strategy expected to be finalised?
2. What are the proposed solutions?
3. Will EU funding be used for these purposes?
4. Is one of the solutions the construction of the Pelješac bridge?
5. In the event that the bridge is to be built, will it be financed or co-financed by the EU?

The future bridge between Croatia's mainland and its Pelješac peninsula would bypass a stretch of the coast at Neum, where Bosnia and Herzegovina has access to the Adriatic Sea.

6. Neighbouring Bosnia and Herzegovina claims that the bridge would limit its access to the sea and territorial waters. How is the Commission dealing with these concerns?
7. To what extent does the Commission consider open bilateral border disputes to be a potential obstacle to Bosnia and Herzegovina's accession process?