

**Priority question for written answer P-001000/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Annalisa Tardino (ID)

Subject: TEN-T review: inclusion in the core network of sections and nodes in southern Sicily

On 14 December 2021, the Commission published its revised proposal on the TEN-T networks. Under that proposal, the Scandinavian-Mediterranean core network corridor does not include any sections or nodes in southern Sicily, which are of strategic and functional importance – not least for the other nodes already identified.

Sicily is already paying the price of being an island and of the recent COVID-19 pandemic, while its southern ports play a key connecting role with shipping routes across the Mediterranean from the Suez Canal to the seas of Northern Europe.

It would nevertheless seem important to factor this region into passenger and freight flows, with its considerable growth potential if included in the core network, and to allow it to benefit from suitable investment both in road and rail sections and for port nodes, with synergies and innovation in mind.

In the light of the above, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. What criteria were used to establish which routes and nodes – and particularly port nodes – should be included in the core network, and which in the comprehensive network?
2. Can it provide an estimate of freight and passenger flows in southern Sicily and weigh these up against the criteria selected for establishing the core network?

Supporters¹

¹ This question is supported by Members other than the author: Marco Campomenosi (ID), Massimo Casanova (ID)