

**Priority question for written answer P-002938/2022  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Radan Kanev (PPE)**

Subject: IGB gas supply

The Greek-Bulgarian interconnector (IGB) is a project of common interest for the EU, mainly financed from the EU budget and European Investment Bank loans. After the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Gazprom cut off the gas supply to Bulgaria and the RePowerEU plan was adopted, so the project became an even higher EU priority and a crucial component of the Bulgarian national security framework. After more than a decade of delays, work on IGB was accelerated by the Bulgarian government as a matter of highest priority, and the technical aspects of the project were finalised in the beginning of May 2022.

During the past week, the new Bulgarian caretaker government sent out highly concerning signals, including the withdrawal of the necessary legal paperwork for the project company ICGB, which might lead to a dangerous delay in the final approval and licensing of the interconnector. Neither the Bulgarian nor the Greek governments have provided satisfactory answers to citizens' concerns.

Given this:

1. Is the Commission closely following the finalisation of the IGB as a matter of priority?
2. Does the Commission have valid explanations for the recent delays by the Bulgarian and Greek governments?
3. Is the European Public Prosecutor's Office investigating possible deliberate obstruction of the finalisation of the process?