

Question for written answer E-001670/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Nikola Minchev (Renew)

Subject: Delay in the implementation of the CrossBo project and impact on cross-border connectivity

The Aiming at Improving Cross-Border Accessibility (CrossBo) project, financed under the Interreg V-A Greece–Bulgaria Programme (2014–2020), includes the construction of the Rudozem–Xanthi border crossing point. All activities on the Bulgarian side were completed within the agreed timeframe. However, the delay on the Greek side poses a serious risk to the commissioning of the border crossing and the effectiveness of the investment made with EU funds.

In view of the above:

1. What control and monitoring mechanisms does the Commission apply within cross-border programmes, such as Interreg V-A, to ensure the balanced and timely implementation of projects by all partners, and what actions have been taken regarding the CrossBo project?
2. In cases where one party (in this case, Bulgaria) has fulfilled all its obligations on time but the other is lagging behind, what measures can the Commission take to ensure that the infrastructure built with public funds is put into operation, and how is the overall funding affected?
3. Given that the 2014–2020 programming period has ended, what deadlines and eligibility rules for potential extension apply to projects that have not been completed within the original timeframe?

Submitted: 24.4.2025