

**Question for written answer E-002496/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Jaume Asens Llodrà (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Eje Transversal Ferroviario ('Crosslink Railway Corridor')

The Eje Transversal Ferroviario ('Crosslink Railway Corridor'), or ETF, is a strategic piece of infrastructure to connect Lleida with Girona and France via the interior of Catalonia, with branches to the ports of Tarragona and Barcelona. Designed for passenger and freight transport, it would ease congestion on the Catalan coast, which is currently saturated by mixed traffic on the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) Mediterranean Corridor. The ETF would allow freight trains to be diverted from densely populated areas to a more efficient route compatible with local mobility. It would contribute to territorial rebalancing by giving a boost to inland districts and reducing the concentration in Barcelona.

The project has had an approved plan since 2010, with estimated investment of EUR 7 000 million and phased development. The Catalan Parliament agreed to start a preliminary study. A number of institutional and social actors are calling for the project to be taken forward in the drive for more sustainable transport.

In light of the above:

1. Would the Commission welcome it if the ETF made it possible to separate passenger and freight transport and promote the shift from road to rail, in line with the objectives of the EU's 2020 sustainable and smart mobility strategy as part of the European Green Deal?
2. Could the ETF be eligible for EU funding through the Connecting Europe Facility (Mediterranean Corridor framework)?

Submitted: 23.6.2025