

Question for written answer E-002730/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: A much-needed push for results in the European Rail Traffic Management System project

It has been nearly 10 years since the ambitious European Rail Traffic Management System project was introduced and, in particular, its integral component the European Train Control System (ETCS). From the outset, the project has had the praiseworthy vision of creating a single train signalling and control system in Europe. The expected benefits include smoother operation, fewer local specifics, a reduction in the number of signalling systems needed per unit (or locomotive) and increased track capacity. However, the implementation is facing significant challenges, including significantly higher than anticipated costs and a current lack of demonstrable benefits.

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

1. What specific steps are being taken to ensure that the original vision materialises and delivers benefits to the railway sector, including both railway undertakings and infrastructure managers?
2. What measures are being taken to ensure that burdensome local specifics, such as an abundance of ETCS system compatibility tests per track, are avoided?
3. By which year will there be a sufficient set of complete and equipped international corridors that allow railway undertakings to reduce the national signalling systems on their units (or locomotives) and their associated cost?

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