

Question for written answer E-003433/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Piotr Müller (ECR)

Subject: France's compliance with EU fiscal rules and the equal application of the excessive deficit procedure to Member States

Under EU fiscal rules, Member States are required to keep the government deficit and public debt within defined limits.

France has been maintaining a deficit well above the allowed levels for several years (over 5% of GDP in 2024). As the ECB President Christine Lagarde herself points out, France is not pursuing an effective strategy to consolidate public finances. At the same time, the financial markets are signalling an increased risk concerning the issuance of French treasury bonds.

Given the above:

1. Does the Commission intend to open an excessive deficit procedure against France and what action is currently being taken in this regard?
2. How is the Commission responding to allegations of double standards, with greater understanding shown towards large Member States – such as France – compared to smaller countries, which have had disciplinary procedures applied against them more quickly?
3. Can the Commission provide a timetable for action and criteria against which it assesses the fiscal risks of individual Member States in order to ensure that EU rules are interpreted equally and transparently?

Submitted: 4.9.2025