

**Question for written answer E-003670/2025**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**Dolors Montserrat (PPE)**

**Subject:** Corruption and the rule of law in Spain with regard to the bailout of Air Europa

The Spanish Office for Conflicts of Interest (OCI), a body under the Ministry of Digital Transformation, has ruled that Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez was under no obligation to abstain with regard to the Air Europa bailout, despite the fact that national courts had required a thorough investigation into Sánchez's EUR 474 million bailout for a company sponsoring his wife's business. This case raises questions about the independence and impartiality of a body that must rule on the conduct of the head of government when it is hierarchically dependent on the government itself.

European case law and GRECO standards recommend that bodies responsible for preventing conflicts of interest should be truly independent, in order to avoid situations where the political power rules on its own cases.

1. Does the Commission consider the fact that the OCI in Spain is a government department to be in line with the independence and impartiality required under European rule of law?
2. What action will the Commission take to ensure that investigations into conflicts of interest in Member States are fully autonomous and effective?

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