

Question for written answer E-004062/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Elena Kountoura (The Left)

Subject: Greece's possible infringement of EU law on the independence of the railway infrastructure manager

According to a recent parliamentary question to the Greek Parliament¹, a person who holds a senior management position in STASY (Greece's public railway operator)² has also been appointed to the board of directors of the new company 'Railways of Greece' (the country's railway infrastructure manager). This creates a situation with a potential conflict of interest undermining the independence of the railway infrastructure manager.

EU law dictates the legal, organisational and decisive independence of the manager from railway undertakings³, prohibits the holding of concurrent positions in the governing bodies of both companies and any decisive influence of those exercising essential functions⁴, as also set out under national law⁵.

Having regard to: (a) the explicit prohibition in the institutional framework for the members of the infrastructure manager's board of directors to provide services to another railway undertaking; (b) the recognised legal nature and operational competence of STASY as a dedicated railway undertaking, which makes the appointment of one of its directors to Railways of Greece's board of directors institutionally incompatible; and (c) the infringement procedure initiated by the Commission against Greece (INFR(2023)2036), will the Commission say:

1. Does it recognise the necessity of the legal, administrative and operational autonomy of the railway infrastructure manager, in accordance with Directive 2012/34/EU and Directive (EU) 2016/2370, as regards its leadership?
2. What further action does it intend to take to address the possible incompatibility of a person holding concurrent leadership positions at an infrastructure manager and a railway undertaking, in the context of the ongoing infringement procedure, in order to ensure Greece's full compliance with EU law?

Submitted: 15.10.2025

¹ <https://syryza.gr/erotisi-voulefton-syryza-ps-me-to-kalimera-asymvivasta-kai-methodefseis-ston-neo-ose/>

² The company has held a 'licence for the performance of rail transport services', granted by the Railway Regulatory Authority ('RAS'), since 2012 (RAS Decision 59/12.10.2012). It is also registered on the European platform ERADIS as one of the undertakings providing railway services in Greece (licence register No 482611/B/01/109). In 2022, the RAS, as the competent authority, reviewed the terms and conditions for granting the railway licence to STASY and decided to proceed with its renewal, given that the company fulfils the necessary conditions.

³ Directive 2012/34/EU, Article 7(1) and (3).

⁴ Directive (EU) 2016/2370, Article 7a(2b).

⁵ Law 5131/2024, Article 40.