

Question for written answer E-004468/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Failure to include southern Italy in the TEN-T high-speed network

An analysis of the European infrastructure plan up to 2030¹ shows that the regions of southern Italy, and particularly Calabria, Basilicata, Puglia and Sicily, have been excluded from high-speed rail network development priorities. This is liable to widen the territorial divide and restrict the socio-economic cohesion of the Union.

This exclusion appears to conflict with Article 170 TFEU, which sets out the EU's obligation to promote cohesion and the connection of island, peripheral and less developed regions, and with Regulation 2024/1679 on TEN-T guidelines, which sets completion of the core network at 2030 and of the extended network at 2040, and provides for active participation by all regions.

The failure to include southern Italy could jeopardise local economic development, sustainable mobility and full realisation of territorial cohesion objectives, and is liable to create a 'two-speed Europe'.

In view of the above, can the Commission state:

1. What objective criteria were adopted when establishing the priorities for the core TEN-T network and how do these reflect Article 170 TFEU and the principle of territorial cohesion?
2. Are updates planned to the mapping of the core corridors and the extended TEN-T network that include strategic infrastructure in southern Italy?
3. What concrete measures does the Commission intend to take to ensure equal infrastructure opportunities and prevent the creation of a two-speed Europe?

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¹ <https://www.lacnews24.it/economia-e-lavoro/alta-velocita-anche-leuropa-si-ferma-a-eboli-nel-piano-fino-al-2030-il-sud-e-tagliato-fuori-s791gmkw>