

Question for written answer E-004628/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Independence of the Independent Authority for Fiscal Responsibility and the reliability of pension reform assessments in Spain

The Spanish Independent Authority for Fiscal Responsibility (AIReF) has publicly warned that the government is compromising its independence by instructing it to conduct a new review of the sustainability of the pension system outside of the regulatory timeframe, using a formula that does not align with its own Organic Law. The institution maintains that the assignment is ill-conceived and requires an 'exclusive' use of its funds that affects its capacity to objectively supervise all the administrations. The government also conditioned the previous report through methodological changes that raised concerns at the Commission. The AIReF believes that this new mandate is not only legally questionable, but also that it could make it a 'state agency', thus compromising the standard of fiscal governance required by the EU.

Considering the above:

1. Does the Commission believe that the Spanish Government's new mandate to the AIReF respects the principles of independence and the functioning of independent fiscal institutions as required by the EU fiscal framework?
2. Does the Commission intend to ask the Spanish Government to explain the potential misuse of the AIReF and the impact that this situation could have on the credibility of assessments linked to the recovery plan and to the sustainability of the pension system?

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