

**Question for written answer E-004099/2026/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Nikolas Farantouris (S&D)

Subject: Systematic late payments and surge in the Greek State's arrears

On 1 October 2026, the European Commission sent Greece a letter of formal notice¹ for failing to comply with the judgment of the CJEU of 19 June 2025², which found the country to be in breach of Directive 2011/7/EU³ due to excessive delays in payments by public hospitals to their suppliers. In fact, according to the most recent available figures, in August 2026 the State owed private businesses more than EUR 3.8 billion. Hospitals continue to top the list of debtors, followed by social security funds, local authorities and other public legal entities⁴.

These delays carry a heavy financial toll for suppliers, most of whom are small and medium-sized businesses, compromising their functioning, growth and liquidity and triggering a chain reaction in the economy. Meanwhile, the Greek Government is stepping up its scheme to recover money owed to the State.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. What specific compliance measures is it demanding that the Greek Government take to address these systematic delays?
2. What is its assessment of the Greek Government's measures so far and does it consider that the recently announced digital platform Synepeia⁵ is enough to put an immediate stop to systemic late payments?
3. What protection measures does it plan to put forward to ease the suffocating pressure on private businesses resulting from the Greek State's failure to pay its bills on time?

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¹ [INFR(2019)2298], https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf_26_1760.

² Case C-317/24, https://infocuria.curia.europa.eu/tabs/document/C/2024/C-0317-24-00000000RD-01-P-01/ARR_COMM/302866-EN-1.html.

³ Directive 2011/7/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 on combating late payment in commercial transactions (recast), <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32011L0007>.

⁴ <https://www.dnews.gr/eidhseis/oikonomia/615151/sta-3-8-dis-evro-sta-fesia-tou-dimosiou-ektinaksi-552-ekat-evro-mesa-se-enan-mina>.

⁵ <https://www.cnn.gr/politiki/story/550901/pierrakakis-i-proodos-tis-oikonomias-anoigei-ton-dromo-gia-to-epomeno-vima-platforma-synepeia>.