

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002162/24  
to the Commission  
Fernando Navarrete Rojas (PPE), Dolors Montserrat (PPE)  
(18 October 2024)**

*Subject:* Spain's 2025-2028 medium-term fiscal-structural plan

Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1263 establishes the need for the fiscal-structural plan to include the impact of reforms, paying particular attention to the impact on fiscal sustainability through future government revenue, expenditure and potential growth, based on sound and data-driven economic evidence. Spain's 2025-2028 medium-term fiscal-structural plan includes a reform of pensions which will 'gradually increase the resources of the social contributions system' (Section 5.5.5.). Although the plan includes an estimate of its impact on government revenue, it does not cover its impact on reducing employment and, therefore, on potential GDP, as required by the regulation.

Given that the estimate of the pension reform's impact fails to include the negative consequences for employment and potential GDP, what impact could the estimate's insubstantial nature have on the Commission's assessment of the plan? In particular, what repercussions could it have in the event of a request to extend the adjustment period or with regard to the significance of deviations from the Commission's four-year reference trajectory?

Submitted: 18.10.2024

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Regulation (EU) 2024/1263 provides for:

- i) the importance of involving national parliaments and stakeholders to ensure national ownership (Recital 4 and Article 11(4));
- ii) the obligation to consult regional authorities prior to the submission of the national fiscal-structural plan (Article 11(3));
- iii) and the requirement to mention the state of play of the consultation of the national parliament and other interested parties (Article 13(g) (vi)).

1. In light of the above, what is the Commission's view on the Spanish Government disregarding the requests of the Congress of Deputies to discuss the draft plan, failing to present it to the Autonomous Communities at the corresponding sectoral conference, and not mentioning any of this in the plan itself?

2. How will the Commission ensure that the Spanish Government complies with all of the above requirements and/or inform the Council thereof?

3. What does the Commission think about the failure to comply with these requirements undermining national ownership and the credibility of the new EU fiscal governance framework?

Submitted: 18.10.2024

**Joint answer given by Mr Dombrovskis on behalf of the European Commission  
(22 January 2025)**

Spain submitted its medium-term fiscal-structural plan on 15 October 2024. The Commission's assessment of the plan finds that it does fulfil the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2024/1263 <sup>(1)</sup> and it recommended that the Council endorse the plan on 26 November 2024.

In its assessment and prior guidance to Spain submitted on 21 June 2024 <sup>(2)</sup>, the Commission took into account already implemented reforms and in particular their impact on fiscal sustainability through future government revenue, expenditure and potential growth, in line with the regulation and following the commonly agreed methodology. This includes already legislated revenue increases that occur in the future, like is the case for the Spanish pension reform.

<sup>(1)</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1263/oj/eng>

<sup>(2)</sup> [https://economy-finance.ec.europa.eu/document/download/1d44833a-6435-4f02-94f9-543777d4036b\\_en?filename=Commission\\_prior\\_guidance-spain\\_en.pdf](https://economy-finance.ec.europa.eu/document/download/1d44833a-6435-4f02-94f9-543777d4036b_en?filename=Commission_prior_guidance-spain_en.pdf)

While the pension reform is a part of the measures in the Spanish plan, it is not part of the reforms and investments underpinning an extension under Article 14 of the regulation and as shown in Annex II of the Commission assessment.

The Commission services have provided constant guidance to all Member States on how to ensure that their plans comply with the requirements of the regulation.

The Commission has assessed all the Member States' plans' compliance with the provisions of the regulation, on the basis of common, transparent methodologies.

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