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Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
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The EU has strengthened the legislative framework regarding the protection of critical infrastructure, notably with the entry into application in October 2024 of the Directive on the Resilience of Critical Entities¹, that enhances the resilience of critical entities that provide essential services for vital societal functions or economic activities. ProtectEU² stresses the importance of timely transposition and correct implementation of this Directive. The EU Preparedness Union Strategy³ provides a comprehensive approach to preparedness, cutting across all policy areas, governance levels and stakeholders, grounded on an all-hazards whole-of-government, and whole-of-society approach. The focus of preparedness should be on solutions that address complex crises with cascading effects, while maximising risk reduction and optimising resources.

The EU investment in dual-use infrastructure on the Trans European Network (TEN-T) aims at boosting connectivity across all modes of transport, offering significant benefits for civilians in peacetime while also serving as deterrent against potential military crises. By building or upgrading existing transport infrastructure, dual-use projects have ensured that infrastructure is capable of upholding higher traffic volumes, including transportation of military capabilities as well as civilian traffic. The EU has provided around EUR 1.7 billion in support since 2021, funding 95 dual-use projects in 21 Member States.

ProtectEU embeds in its core the respect for the rule of law and fundamental rights. The Strategy promotes a whole-of society approach, as well as security mainstreaming for security considerations to be integrated in all EU legislation, policies and programmes.

¹ Directive (EU) 2022/2557 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 on the resilience of critical entities and repealing Council Directive 2008/114/EC.

² Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on ProtectEU: a European Internal Security Strategy; COM/2025/148 final.

³ Joint Communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the European Preparedness Union Strategy, JOIN/2025/130 final.