

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001902/25
to the Commission
Dolors Montserrat (PPE)
(13 May 2025)**

Subject: Misuse of funds from the Recovery and Resilience Facility in Spain

The reply to questions E-000571/2025, E-000570/2025, E-000572/2025 and E-000573/2025 ⁽¹⁾ on the use of the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) by RTVE only makes reference to a digital training project and defers its assessment to a later date. Taking account of the results of the European Court of Auditors' report on the RRF, which identifies structural weaknesses that need to be addressed if a performance-based funding model is to be consolidated:

1. How does the Commission intend to ensure that Recovery and Resilience Facility funds actually reach the final recipients, especially in countries such as Spain, where a lack of traceability, delays in implementation and poor assessment of the impact of the reforms financed have been identified?
2. How does it intend to prevent the opaque use of funds within RTVE, bearing in mind that this could open the door to bad practices, corruption or favouritism, thereby eroding public trust in the institutions?

Submitted: 13.5.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto on behalf of the European Commission
(23 July 2025)**

In line with the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) Regulation ⁽¹⁾, final recipients are defined as the last entity receiving funds that is not a contractor or sub-contractor. Public authorities such as Radiotelevisión Española (RTVE) can therefore be the final recipients of RRF funds.

Since many RRF measures are geared towards improving the provision of public goods, which typically represent more costly, large-scale investment projects, public authorities are many times the final recipients.

This does not mean that these entities will hold onto the funds, but that they are implementing measures for which such funds are also required, and which therefore will reach citizens and businesses.

Regarding the risk of fraud, the Commission remains confident that the audit and control settings of the RRF are robust. Recent cases show that *ex-post* audits and controls at EU level can identify instances of fraud, corruption or conflicts of interest.

The RRF Regulation provides for a primary responsibility for the Member States to ensure prevention, detection and correction of fraud, corruption and conflict of interest and double funding for the use of RRF funds.

This is in line with the nature of the instrument based on performance-based payments at EU level and implementation of the RRFs by the Member States.

The Commission undertakes checks on the adequacy of national systems and can recover funds in specific cases of serious breach of the Financing Agreement signed with the Member State and of fraud, corruption, or conflict of interest if the Member State fails to correct the situation. The Commission has not been notified of such specific cases regarding RTVE.

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-000570-ASW_EN.html
⁽¹⁾ RRF Regulation (EU) 2021/241.