

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003316/25
to the Commission
Jorge Buxadé Villalba (Pfe)
(27 August 2025)**

Subject: Landing of a Mauritanian Air Force aircraft in Spain without police checks

On 7 August 2025, an aircraft belonging to the Mauritanian Air Force landed at an aerodrome in Soria, Spain.

National media reports indicate that the plane landed at a facility that did not have border officers to carry out checks in accordance with Article 8 of the Schengen Borders Code, to enter data on foreigners into the Entry/Exit System and to ensure compliance with the Union Customs Code in the case of goods transportation.

The aircraft's flight plan shows that Nouakchott was its point of departure and that three people were declared to be on board, although only the identities of two Spanish nationals are currently known.

Given Pedro Sánchez's recent visit to Mauritania and the history of serious breaches of security at the external borders of the Spanish Government, including the case of Delcy Rodríguez's landing in breach of the Schengen entry ban imposed by the Council:

1. Is this case being monitored by the Commission?
2. If so, what measures could be taken to prevent corruption from affecting the security of the EU's external borders?

Submitted: 27.8.2025

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(7 October 2025)**

The Commission was not informed of this specific incident.

Annex VI of the Schengen Borders Code ⁽¹⁾ provides clear provisions on the procedures for checks in aerodromes. All persons must be checked in accordance with the rules on border checks at airports, including where the airport does not hold the status of international airport under the relevant national law.

When the volume of traffic is low, border guards do not need to be present at all times, provided that they can be deployed in good time, in which case the manager of the aerodrome must give adequate notice to the border guards about the arrival and departure of aircrafts on flights from or to third countries.

The Commission monitors the correct application of the Schengen *acquis* in the Member States, including the rules on the management of the external (air) borders through the Schengen Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism ⁽²⁾.

Spain was evaluated in 2022 and is in the process of implementing the action plan to address the deficiencies which were identified.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code), OJ L 77, pp.1-52, as amended by Regulation (EU) 2024/1717.

⁽²⁾ Council Regulation (EU) 2022/922 of 9 June 2022 on the establishment and operation of an evaluation and monitoring mechanism to verify the application of the Schengen *acquis*, OJ L 160, pp. 1-27.