EN
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Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis
on behalf of the European Commission
(16.10.2025)

France has been subject to an Excessive Deficit Procedure (EDP) since July 2024. On 21 January 2025, the Council adopted a recommendation for France with a net expenditure path aimed at correcting its excessive deficit by 2029. France should report on the effective action at least every 6 months[1]. France submitted its first Annual Progress Report in April 2025. Following the Commission's assessment, the Council concluded[2] that the projected deviation from the recommended net expenditure growth in 2025 was small (below 0.3% of GDP) while the cumulative growth rate of net expenditure, when taking 2024 and 2025 together, was projected to be below the recommended maximum growth rate. Thus, the EDP for France was held in abeyance. The next assessment will take place with the Commission's opinion on the French Draft Budgetary Plan, to be submitted by 15 October 2025.

The Commission is conducting fiscal surveillance of Member States based on the agreed legal framework, adhering to the principles of equality and transparency. The provisions governing the implementation of the excessive deficit procedure are laid down in Article 126 TFEU and further specified in Regulation (EC) No. 1467/97. The effective action will be assessed based on the net expenditure indicator and its deviations from the net expenditure path to which France committed. The excessive deficit procedure will be abrogated once France brings its headline deficit durably below 3% of GDP.

[1] Council Recommendation 5033/1/25 of 21 January with a view to bringing an end to the situation of an excessive deficit.
[2] Council Recommendation 10970/25 of 1 July 2025 on the economic, social, employment, structural and budgetary policies of France.