

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003792/25
to the Commission
Dolors Montserrat (PPE)
(30 September 2025)**

Subject: Clarification of the Commission's reply E-003034/2025

In its reply E-003034/2025 ⁽¹⁾, the Commission merely states that the general scheme was approved in line with the TFEU. This answer falls short: in accordance with Articles 317 and 325 TFEU, Regulation 2018/1046 on financial rules, Article 22 of Regulation 2021/241 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility and Regulation 2017/1939, the Commission has a legal duty to protect the financial interests of the Union and to act in the event of irregularities, conflicts of interest, fraud or corruption which may affect the proper implementation of the Community budget.

In the Plus Ultra case, in which the company was bailed out to the tune of EUR 53 million after it was considered a 'strategic company' — despite its marginal relevance in the sector and the existence of larger companies — there is ample public information pointing to political pressure, conflicts of interest and possible discriminatory treatment. This evidence would be grounds for a specific audit by the European Court of Auditors and for OLAF and the European Public Prosecutor's Office to potentially open an investigation.

In light of the above:

1. How does the Commission justify the passive stance it has taken by limiting itself to confirming the scheme in the abstract and not examining this specific case?
2. Does it intend to refer the file to the relevant institutions, in line with its legal obligations?

Submitted: 30.9.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné on behalf of the European Commission
(31 October 2025)**

As explained in the reply to Question E-003034/2025 and in the relevant Commission Decision referred to therein, the aid scheme of the Solvency Support Fund for strategic enterprises was financed from resources of the State budget of the Kingdom of Spain and only individual recapitalisations exceeding EUR 250 million needed prior individual notification to the Commission.

The reply also explains that the Commission and other competent institutions of the EU carry out controls, audits and investigations according to their competences to ensure the protection of the EU budget. The individual granting of recapitalisation aid with resources from the budget of the Spanish State to specific beneficiaries of the Solvency Support Fund such as Plus Ultra airline is, therefore, unrelated to the proper implementation of the EU budget.

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-003034-ASW_EN.html.