

(English version)

Question for written answer E-003981/25
to the Commission
Fernando Navarrete Rojas (PPE)
(9 October 2025)

Subject: Submission of annual budgetary plans under Regulation (EU) No 473/2013

According to information published on 9 October 2025 ⁽¹⁾, sources from Spain's Ministry of Finance have allegedly confirmed that the Commission had informed Member States that it was possible not to submit their budgetary plans by the scheduled date of 15 October. If confirmed, this would run counter to Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No 473/2013, which lays down the requirement for euro area Member States to submit their draft budgetary plans by that date, a requirement that the Commission itself upholds in its recent proposal for a reform of the economic governance framework.

Spain did not submit its budgetary plan in 2024, which the European Parliament expressly regretted in its recent report on the European Semester ⁽²⁾, underlining that timely submission of the plans is a precondition for the credibility and effective implementation of the new fiscal rules.

In view of this state of affairs:

1. Can the Commission confirm that it has informed Member States that they are not required to submit their budgetary plan on 15 October?
2. Does the Commission intend to require Spain to submit the draft budgetary plan in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 473/2013?

Submitted: 9.10.2025

Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis on behalf of the European Commission
(23 December 2025)

Article 6 of Regulation 473/2013 requires all euro area Member States to submit by 15 October to the Commission and to the Eurogroup a draft budgetary plan for the forthcoming year. This deadline allows the Commission to issue an Opinion on the submitted draft budgetary plan as soon as possible and in any event by 30 November. This timeline allows EU's policy guidance to be appropriately integrated in the national budgets before those are finalised ⁽¹⁾.

The above provision is consistent with the budgetary timeline envisaged by the same Regulation (Article 4) that requires that '...The draft budget for the forthcoming year for the central government and the main parameters of the draft budgets for all the other subsectors of the general government shall be made public annually not later than 15 October...'.

The submission of a draft budgetary plan to the Commission is meaningful only when it corresponds to a draft budget at the national level. On 2 October 2025, the Commission proposed to amend Regulation 473/2013 ⁽²⁾. The amending regulation proposed by the Commission specifies that the submission of a draft budgetary plan at unchanged policies is not needed in case a government is not in a position to prepare a draft budget law for adoption by the national parliament.

The Commission expects that the Spanish Government will submit its draft budgetary plan for 2026 as soon as a draft budget law is prepared for adoption by the national parliament. The Commission keeps monitoring fiscal developments in Spain, and has considered all relevant policy measures when preparing its Autumn 2025 forecasts.

¹ <https://www.articulo14.es/economia/bruselas-da-margen-a-espana-al-no-exigirle-el-plan-presupuestario-el-15-de-octubre-20251009.html>.

² https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/A-10-2025-0022_EN.html.

⁽¹⁾ Pursuant to Article 7(2) of Regulation (EU) No 473/2013 in case of particularly serious non-compliance of the draft budgetary plan with the budgetary policy obligations laid down in the Stability and Growth Pact the Commission opinion shall be issued within two weeks of the submission of the draft budgetary plan.

⁽²⁾ Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and Council amending Regulations (EU) No 1173/2011 and (EU) No 473/2013 (COM(2025) 591 final).