(English version)

Question for written answer E-004522/25
to the Commission
Moritz Körner (Renew)
(13 November 2025)

Subject: Spain & SAFE

The Commission has welcomed Spain's intention to apply for loans under the new Security Action for Europe (SAFE) instrument, which aims to deploy up to EUR 150 billion in investment through EU debt.

1. What is the Commission's view of the fact that Spain has already been a major beneficiary of the EU's solidarity mechanisms, particularly NextGenerationEU, and yet is showing very little solidarity when it comes to the NATO target of 5%?

2. What is the Commission's view of the fact that Spain will have access to favourable SAFE funding, even though it does not want to meet the NATO defence spending target of 5%?

3. When allocating SAFE funding, does the Commission intend to take into account the Member States' actual defence efforts, including their fulfilment of international commitments and their willingness to show European solidarity?

Submitted: 13.11.2025

Answer given by Mr Kubilius on behalf of the European Commission
(26 January 2026)

The Security Action for Europe (SAFE) Regulation ([1]) is meant to provide financial assistance to Member States, enabling them to carry out urgent and major public investments in support of the European defence industry in response to the current crisis situation.

The regulation does not foresee an *ex-ante* allocation of resources. It requires Member States to express an interest in receiving financial support.

Once it received expressions of interest from Member States during the summer 2025, the Commission allocated tentatively the loan amounts to the Member States by applying the principles of equal treatment, solidarity, proportionality and transparency.

The Commission agreed on the tentative allocation of loan amounts on 9 September 2025 ([2]). Member States were requested to present a formal request for financial assistance, accompanied by a European defence industry investment plan by 30 November 2025, describing the plans to use the funds and ensure compliance with the provisions of the SAFE Regulation.

The Commission is assessing Member States' requests and how the conditions laid down in the regulation would be fulfilled, in particular when it comes to the conditions to use the SAFE instrument and its eligibility rules.

Member States remain responsible for their defence planning and defence procurement decisions, as well as for respecting international commitment taken in fora other than the EU.

([1]) https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/1106/oj/eng/pdf.
([2]) https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/document/download/704924ae-3aa2-4bd3-9675-e9cf1e5dfb96_en?filename=communication-to-the-college.pdf.