

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004586/25
to the Commission
Borja Giménez Larraz (PPE), Pilar del Castillo Vera (PPE)
(18 November 2025)**

Subject: Commission guarantees as to delays in electricity interconnection projects between Spain and France

The Iberian Peninsula remains one of the EU's least interconnected regions, with an electricity exchange capacity of less than 3%, far behind the 15% target set for 2030.

The cross-Pyrenean Navarra-Landes and Aragón-Pyrénées Atlantiques projects, initially planned for 2030, have been pushed back until for 2036 and 2041 respectively, despite their status as projects of common interest (PCI) and do not feature in France's schedule of electricity infrastructure works for 2025-2035.

The Europe-wide debate on network resilience and energy market integration has included various proposals to prevent critical cross-border infrastructure from being blocked by unilateral decisions and to provide these projects with a coherent EU-level regulatory and financial framework.

Given these projects' importance for energy security and the integration of the internal market:

1. Is the Commission looking into possible legal instruments to strengthen the European governance of cross-border interconnections and ensure their completion within a reasonable timeframe?
2. Does it intend to strengthen its capacity to intervene vis-à-vis Member States that are delaying critical PCIs such as the Aragón-Pyrénées Atlantiques interconnection?
3. What financial or regulatory measures is the Commission considering to ensure that regions generating large quantities of renewable energy, such as Aragón, can be fully integrated into the European electricity system?

Submitted: 18.11.2025

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(9 March 2026)**

By supporting the construction of the necessary infrastructure, the EU helps to better integrate the Iberian Peninsula into the European power system, lower power prices and increase resilience.

The Commission is working with the Member States, transmission system operators and national regulatory authorities in the framework of the High-Level Group on Interconnections in Southwest Europe to accelerate the implementation of interconnection priority projects in the region, including the Trans-Pyrenean projects.

Project implementation is progressing. The interconnection between Spain and Portugal ⁽¹⁾ will increase the interconnection capacity level to 3.2 GW and the Biscay Bay electricity interconnection, it will double the interconnection capacity between France and Spain to 5 GW ⁽²⁾ when commissioned in 2028 ⁽³⁾.

The importance of the Trans-Pyrenean projects is recognised through their status as Projects of Common Interest ⁽⁴⁾. The Trans-Pyrenean project Navarra-Landes was awarded a Connecting Europe Facility grant for preparatory studies in 2025 ⁽⁵⁾.

Additionally, the Commission designated these projects as one of the eight critical energy highways that the Commission is committed to fast-track through enhanced political coordination.

The Commission adopted in December 2025 a Grids Package ⁽⁶⁾ consisting of measures to accelerate the development of secure, cost-efficient and reliable energy infrastructure, including interconnections, and to make the most effective use of existing infrastructure ⁽⁷⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Portugal — Spain interconnection between Beariz — Fontefría (ES), Fontefría (ES) — Ponte de Lima (PT) and Ponte de Lima — Vila Nova de Famalicão (PT), including substations in Beariz (ES), Fontefría (ES) and Ponte de Lima (PT).

⁽²⁾ Compared to 2.5 GW today.

⁽³⁾ With support from the Connecting Europe Facility and from the European Investment Bank. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-241-eib-supports-with-eur1-6-bn-the-strategic-bay-of-biscay-electricity-interconnection-between-spain-and-france>.

⁽⁴⁾ Through the High-level group on Interconnections in Southwest Europe.

⁽⁵⁾ These preparatory studies are currently ongoing.

⁽⁶⁾ Communication on a European Grids Package — COM(2025)1005 final.

⁽⁷⁾ The Package includes proposals to create a more robust process for cross-border infrastructure planning, speed up permitting, ensure more effective mechanisms to share costs and benefits and enhance the resilience and security of key energy infrastructure projects.