

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004927/25
to the Commission
Dolors Montserrat (PPE)
(12 December 2025)**

Subject: Preventing fraud and money laundering in Spain following arrests at Plus Ultra

In July 2020, the Commission approved the FASEE scheme and Spain subsequently awarded EUR 53 million to the airline Plus Ultra. While the CJEU confirmed that the strategic aid scheme was legal, it did not rule on each company.

The Spanish National Police has now searched the headquarters of Plus Ultra and arrested the airline's president and CEO in connection with a legal investigation into alleged money laundering. The operation is part of proceedings relating to possible irregularities in financial operations in the period during which state aid was granted.

In view of the above:

1. Will the Commission examine whether the facts currently under investigation, including the arrests and searches mentioned above, could require an a posteriori check to ensure Spain met the requirements of the approved scheme and the aid granted to Plus Ultra was in line with Article 107 and 108 TFEU?
2. Is the Commission assessing whether or not these events could have an impact on Spain's obligations regarding fraud and money laundering prevention, including those under Regulation (EU) 2020/2223, and protection of the EU budget?

Submitted: 12.12.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné on behalf of the European Commission
(6 March 2026)**

The Commission fully trusts the Spanish judicial system to pursue the ongoing investigations. The fact of such investigations being underway does not establish in itself any granting of unlawful and incompatible aid in breach of state aid rules in the granting to Plus Ultra airline of individual recapitalisation aid through the Solvency Support Fund for strategic enterprises.

As explained in the reply to Written Question E-003034/2025 and in the relevant Commission decision referred to therein, the aid scheme of the Solvency Support Fund was financed from resources of the State budget of the Kingdom of Spain. The granting of aid with resources from the Spanish State budget is, therefore, unrelated to obligations under Regulation (EU) 2020/2223, and protection of the EU budget.
