

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000254/26
to the Commission**

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(22 January 2026)

Subject: Irregularities in the EU-co-financed renovation works on the railway line where the Adamuz accident occurred

According to recent press reports, the state of the infrastructure was decisive in the tragic derailment and collision of two trains in Adamuz, which resulted in more than 40 deaths,.

The stretch of track concerned had recently been renewed. According to public information, some of the successful bidders are being investigated in Spain for alleged irregularities in the awarding of public works contracts in the Koldo case.

In addition, the record shows that various projects to modernise the Madrid-Seville line have received EU co-financing through cohesion funds or the RRF.

In view of the possible impact on railway safety and the financial interests of the Union, it is essential to provide clarity regarding the use of European funds and the control mechanisms applied.

In light of the above:

1. What *ex ante* and *ex post* controls were applied to ensure compliance with standards for public procurement, integrity and quality of work carried out?
2. Is the Commission concerned about the judicial investigations in Spain into possible corrupt practices in the awarding of EU-co-financed public contracts by the socialist government?
3. In the event that serious irregularities, inadequate controls or safety risks were to be detected, does the Commission intend to suspend the payment of new funds or to recover misappropriated EU funds?

Submitted: 22.1.2026

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto on behalf of the European Commission

(17 March 2026)

Both *ex ante* and *ex post* controls are applied to ensure compliance with EU standards in projects funded by the Cohesion Policy Funds and the Recovery and Resilience Facility.

These controls include monitoring mechanisms, reporting requirements and audits to verify that EU funds are used appropriately and in line with EU rules.

However, the primary responsibility for preventing, detecting and correcting irregularities lies with Member States. Member States are required to establish effective management and control systems, including anti-fraud measures.

The Commission's role is supervisory, ensuring that Member States fulfil their obligations and intervening when deficiencies are identified.

Regarding the judicial investigations in Spain, the Commission is aware of the allegations of irregularities in the awarding of public contracts in the Koldo case.

While the investigation and prosecution of such cases fall under the competence of Spanish judicial authorities, the Commission is cooperating with national authorities to safeguard the financial interests of the EU. The Commission monitors developments closely and takes action when appropriate.

In cases where inadequate controls or irregularities are detected, the Commission can take measures such as suspending payments or recovering EU funds wrongly used.

The Commission remains committed to ensuring the integrity and transparency of EU financial resources.
