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Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas
on behalf of the European Commission
(28.4.2026)

Under the EU railway safety Directive (EU) 2016/798¹, the responsibility to assess the status of the infrastructure of the Rodalies network falls under responsibility of the national safety authority, in this case the Agencia Estatal de Seguridad Ferroviaria (AESF).

If the AESF, in the framework of its supervision role, finds that an infrastructure manager no longer satisfies the conditions for its safety authorisation, according to Art 17.5 of the Rail Safety Directive it shall restrict or revoke that authorisation, giving reasons for its decision.

In case the Commission becomes aware of a potential lack of compliance, it may request to the European Union Railway Agency (ERA) to provide evidence on the state of implementation and application of Union legislation on railway safety and interoperability, according to Art 33(5) of Regulation 2016/796 on the European Union Agency for Railway². On that basis, the Commission could take further steps, using the appropriate instruments under the Rail Safety Directive that aim to guarantee the highest levels of safety and ensure that each actor fulfils its responsibility towards it.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2016/798/oj/eng>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/796/oj/eng>.