

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000779/26
to the Commission
Sandra Gómez López (S&D)
(25 February 2026)**

Subject: Assessing the fulfilment of Recovery and Resilience Facility milestones in relation to low-emission zones

Under Regulation (EU) 2021/241, which establishes the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), the Commission is responsible for monitoring the effective fulfilment of milestones and targets linked to EU-funded structural reforms, including measures to reduce air pollution in urban spaces.

EU funding has supported investments implementing low-emission zones, which aim to achieve tangible emissions reductions in line with EU regulations, including Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe.

In this context:

1. How does the Commission assess the fulfilment of milestones in relation to implementing low-emission zones when tangible investments have been made but the necessary legal framework for them to function effectively is not fully in force?
2. What verification mechanisms does the Commission apply to ensure that RRF-funded investments have a tangible environmental impact?
3. Under what circumstances could delays or lack of effective implementation lead to a review of compliance with the obligations under Regulation (EU) 2021/241?

Submitted: 25.2.2026

**Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis on behalf of the European Commission
(23 April 2026)**

The Commission assesses the fulfilment of milestones and targets under the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) ⁽¹⁾ against the specific requirements defined in the Council Implementing Decision approving each national Recovery and Resilience Plan.

The same methodology is applied when assessing milestones and targets related to low-emission zones, thereby verifying whether the elements required, such as the completion of physical investments or the adoption and entry into force of enabling legislation, have been achieved.

Where the defined requirements are met, the milestone or target may be considered satisfactorily fulfilled, irrespective of progress on other milestones or targets linked to the same reform or investment.

RRF funds are only released following the satisfactory fulfilment of the relevant milestones and targets by the Member States. Article 24(6) of the RRF Regulation ⁽²⁾ provides for a full or partial suspension of the financial contribution where the Commission assesses that the milestones and targets have not been satisfactorily fulfilled.

Member States are responsible for ensuring that measures under the RRF are implemented in compliance with applicable EU and national law, including environmental legislation.

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/recovery-and-resilience-facility_en.
⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/241/oj/eng>.