

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002944/26
to the Commission
Stefano Cavedagna (ECR)
(15 July 2026)**

Subject: Construction of the NRRP-funded Bologna tram network and the implications of potential cost increases and delays

The project to build the city of Bologna's tram network is being funded by Italy's National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), which is itself being supported by the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF).

According to recently published news reports and municipal documents, Bologna Town Council approved a budget increase of around EUR 23 million in order to cover the project's rising costs. Doubts also persist concerning whether the tram network will be completed in time.

In view of the above:

1. Is the Commission aware of this project's rising costs, and does it believe that they could jeopardise compliance with the commitments made under the Italian NRRP?
2. What monitoring and verification tools is the Commission using to ensure that the EU resources allocated to the Bologna project are being deployed properly and that the relevant milestones and targets are being met?
3. What would the financial implications be for Italy and the tram project's funding arrangements if the undertaking were to encounter significant delays or fail to meet the objectives set by the NRRP?

Submitted: 15.7.2026

**Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis on behalf of the European Commission
(14 September 2026)**

This project is part of investment M2C2.I4.2 of the Italian Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP), *Development of rapid mass transport systems*. The final milestone of this measure (M2C2-26), concerning the completion of the activities supported by the investment and, in particular, of 186 km of public transport infrastructure at national level, will be assessed in the second half of 2026 in the context of the 10th payment request.

The Commission will assess milestone M2C2-26 following the requirements included in the annex to the Council Implementing Decision on the approval of the assessment of the Italian RRP ⁽¹⁾. The Commission will assess the fulfilment of the national milestone of 186 km, which may include the Bologna project.

If, at the end of the assessment, the Commission finds that a milestone has not been achieved (partially or in full), the Commission will launch a reduction procedure set out in Article 24(8) of the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) Regulation ⁽²⁾, as explained in the Guidelines for Member States on operational aspects related to the final phase and closure of the RRF of April 2026 ⁽³⁾, and calculate the affected amount in line with the methodology set out in Annex II to its communication of 21 February 2023 ⁽⁴⁾.

⁽¹⁾ https://reforms-investments.ec.europa.eu/recovery-and-resilience-facility-1/country-pages/italys-recovery-and-resilience-plan_en.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02021R0241-20230301>.

⁽³⁾ https://reforms-investments.ec.europa.eu/document/download/3d001b2d-e81b-47c4-afdf-f5ec7e92a1b5_en?filename=C_2026_2647_1_EN_ACT_part1_v3.pdf.

⁽⁴⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2023-02/COM_2023_99_1_EN.pdf.