

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003069/26
to the Commission
Roman Haider (PfE)
(22 July 2026)**

Subject: State of play in the tripartite dialogue on Brenner-related issues in the run-up to the high-level meeting with Commissioner Tzitzikostas

The Commission has often moderated or supported trilateral talks and discussions between Italy, Austria and Germany. These ad hoc discussions on Brenner-related issues (transport, the Brenner Base Tunnel and transport restrictions), initiated by the Commission and overseen by the transport ministries of the three Member States and the federal states of Tyrol and Bavaria and the South Tyrol/Trentino region, have so far failed to bear fruit.

Since these talks have yielded no major results in years, one may be forgiven for thinking that the Commission is using this as a pretext to avoid taking more effective measures — such as opening infringement proceedings against Germany for the ongoing delays in upgrading the northern access route. Italy has already taken action and initiated legal proceedings against the Republic of Austria for this reason.

1. Is there any formal mandate, agreement or established working procedure governing this tripartite dialogue (e.g. regular meetings at technical or ministerial level)?
2. Which specific stakeholders are involved (ministries, the federal states of Tyrol and Bavaria and the South Tyrol/Trentino region, EU coordinators and other interested parties)?
3. What specific results have been achieved and what measures taken to date, and are there any final documents, agreements or progress reports?

Submitted: 22.7.2026

**Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas on behalf of the European Commission
(20 October 2026)**

The Commission, with the support of the European Coordinator for the Scandinavian-Mediterranean European Transport Corridor, Pat Cox, brought together representatives of Italy, Austria, Germany and of the local authorities along the corridor (Bavaria, Tyrol, South Tyrol, Trento and Veneto) in 2018 and 2019, to sign the memorandum of understanding on the Brenner Action Plan.

The Memorandum and the action plan give a mandate to the Brenner Corridor Platform to work on solutions for the harmonisation of the infrastructural and operational aspects of the railway line Munich to Verona.

Work in the Corridor Platform is continuously ongoing at technical level with experts from the stakeholders concerned, and the outcomes of its working groups are publicly available ⁽¹⁾.

In addition, between 2022 and 2023, the Commission mediated talks at the highest technical level between the national authorities of Italy, Austria, and Germany, primarily on the road aspects of the Brenner stretch. No formal mandate or working procedure was established.

The measures discussed at technical level did not receive the political support from the Member States concerned needed for their implementation.

In the absence of agreement, no final documents or progress reports were produced. Case C-524/24 Italy v Austria (Brenner and Inn Valley motorways) is currently pending before the European Court of Justice (ECJ). The ECJ judgment is expected to be delivered in the next months.

The Commission remains ready to facilitate discussion on a common solution as soon as there is the political will in the three Member States to reach an agreement.

⁽¹⁾ <https://www.bcplatform.eu/corridorstudies/>.