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E-003155/2026

Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas
on behalf of the European Commission
(21.9.2026)

The Commission is aware of the difficulties faced by Greece with the European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS) deployment, which are common in many Member States. Given the complexity of this process, the European Union Agency for Railways, at the request of Greece, is supporting the Greek stakeholders in developing an effective ERTMS deployment plan taking into account the applicable deadlines set out in the revised trans-European transport network (TEN-T) Regulation¹.

Greece is currently preparing the above-mentioned ERTMS deployment plan which will be formally notified to the Commission in the coming months. The plan is expected to include dates by which ERTMS will be put into operation on specific lines.

The infringement proceeding case INFR (2023)2036² concerns failure to comply with the requirements of the Rail Safety Directive³. The deployment of European Train Control System (ETCS), key part of ERTMS, is not in the scope of this proceeding. The Commission also notes that although deployment of ETCS on the network contributes to the improvement of rail safety, it is possible for the railway system to operate safely without it, provided that appropriate alternative risk control measures are implemented.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2024/1679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network, amending Regulations (EU) 2021/1153 and (EU) No 913/2010 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1679/oj>.

² Press release: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf_24_6006.

³ Directive (EU) 2016/798 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on railway safety (recast), ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2016/798/oj>.