

Question for written answer E-001567/2024

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Further delays to the reopening of the Fréjus Rail Tunnel

On 28 August 2023, a landslide in the municipality of Saint-André (Savoie, France) led to the closure of the Fréjus tunnels, halting all road and rail traffic between France and Italy.

The motorway reopened several weeks later, but the railway remains shut. On 31 July 2024, following a number of delays, the Department of Savoie made it known that the reopening of the Fréjus Railway Tunnel had been postponed until the first quarter of 2025.

The disruption is causing major inconvenience for logistics and transport operators. The problem affects Italy above all, as some estimates indicate that around 60 % of Italian goods exports pass through the Alpine crossing points, but it also concerns other Member States. The Frejus Tunnel is an important crossing point in the context of the Mediterranean corridor of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T).

Can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Is it aware of this state of affairs?
2. Is it in contact with the French and Italian authorities with a view to reaching a swift solution to this problem?
3. What will it do, in cooperation with the French and Italian authorities, to ensure that the new deadline is met, to prevent further delays and to keep logistics operators and the public up to date?

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