

**Question for written answer E-003496/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Maria Angela Danzi (NI), Tiziana Beghin (NI)**

Subject: Concession for the management of the Great St Bernard Tunnel

The Great St Bernard Tunnel<sup>1</sup> is a strategic link between the Valle d'Aosta and the Canton of Valais and an important road used every day by border workers and tourists and to transport goods from Italy to northern Europe and vice versa.

It is now even more important, given the closure periods planned for the Mont Blanc Tunnel<sup>2</sup>.

In 2017, it became clear that the tunnel's ventilation ceiling needed to be renovated. Switzerland has already allocated its share of the requisite funds, but Italy is lagging behind, as the Swiss President pointed out in October 2023<sup>3</sup>.

With a view to covering the requisite amount, the Italian Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport<sup>4</sup> invited Sitrab, the concessionaire for the tunnel's management, to submit a proposal for a conventional review that would incorporate a 16-year extension of the concession, in the absence of additional profits. The proposal in question is currently being scrutinised by the Commission to ensure that it conforms to the EU's competition rules.

What is the state of play with regard to the Commission's assessment, and if the proposal fails to get the green light, is there EU funding available for the work?

Submitted: 29.11.2023

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<sup>1</sup> <https://letunnel.com/en/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.tunnelmb.net/en-US/news/autumn-2023-total-closure-for-a-duration-of-9-consecutive-weeks>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.tvsvizzera.it/tvs/qui-svizzera/riparazioni-al-tunnel-del-gran-san-bernardo--italia-in-ritardo/48867320>

<sup>4</sup>

<https://documenti.camera.it/leg19/resoconti/commissioni/bollettini/pdf/2023/11/23/leg.19.bol0206.data20231123.com09.pdf>