

**Question for written answer E-015513/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Marina Albiol Guzmán (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Underground solution for Palencia rail link

In the town of Palencia the traditional droving road (vía pecuaria) known as the Camino Viejo de Fuentes de Valdepero is crossed by the railway at various locations, in contravention of the corresponding legislation and both inconveniencing and endangering local residents.

In accordance with the Council report of 6 October 1999 on the integration of the environmental requirements and sustainable development in transport policy, one of the aims of the European rail policy should be to ensure consumer protection. Moreover, Article 11 of Directive 2001/16/EC requires Member States to ensure compliance with health and safety rules and rules protecting consumers and all citizens governed by the rulings of the European institutions.

Is the Commission aware of what is happening in Palencia and the closure of the droving road occasioned by the launch of the high-speed rail service?

Does it feel that the state is guaranteeing citizens' rights in this specific situation? Will it intervene if this is not the case?

Given that the environmental impact statement was based on plans for an underground solution, which finally was not adopted, should not this statement have been re-drafted based on the final plans and before the overground high-speed rail link was launched?