

**Question for written answer E-002499/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Morten Messerschmidt (ECR)

Subject: Unfair treatment of Danish drivers as a result of the German minimum wage in the transport sector

Germany has introduced a statutory minimum wage of EUR 8.50 per hour for the transport sector, which also covers drivers transiting through Germany, including drivers working for Danish hauliers who, owing to Germany's status as a transit country, can hardly avoid driving in Germany.

I note the German law on the minimum wage, and while I am aware that the Commission is proposing to send a letter to Germany concerning the new rules as part of the 'pilot process', I would stress that the German legislation triggers many questions relevant to hauliers and drivers working in Denmark, who will be faced with severe administrative burdens, as in future they will have to specify the identity of the driver, the chosen route and the documentation showing that the driver complies with current German law on the minimum wage.

Does the Commission consider that the German rules applying the statutory minimum wage to foreign drivers transiting through Germany entails restrictions on international transport and thus on the free movement of workers and goods, in that Danish hauliers are subjected to unreasonable burdens as a consequence?

Does the Commission consider it fair – supposing that Germany's legislation is upheld – that a Member State such as Denmark was earlier given to understand that the authorities are not permitted to impose requirements on the working conditions of foreign drivers, and if so will the Commission look more favourably on any Danish legislation concerning the working conditions of foreign drivers?