Question for written answer E-004478/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)

Subject: Obligation to re-register cars as a barrier to the mobility of EU citizens

One of the greatest advantages of the Single European Market is a free movement of persons, which contributes to, among other things, the increased mobility of EU citizens.

Unfortunately, numerous regulations in force in Member States significantly restrict that freedom. These include, amongst others, the obligation to re-register a private car if the owner stays in another EU state for a specific period of time (generally 6 months, but sometimes much shorter). This involves the need to complete time-consuming and expensive formalities, e.g. a change of registration plates, additional MOT check, change of insurer, payment of VAT etc.

The performance of procedures of this kind is, for very mobile persons, e.g. those working on short-term contracts in various countries, both onerous and very expensive.

Above all, however, it is contradictory to the objective of creating a common market and a free flow of persons, goods and services. There is no rationale for imposing the obligation to carry out MOT checks on cars that have already undergone such checks, or to change the insurance company. The need to re-register private cars every few months or so is also incomprehensible.

Therefore, I am asking the European Commission whether the Commission is considering the possibility of changing the regulations affecting the laws of Member States restricting the mobility of EU citizens in this respect?

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