

**Question for written answer E-010116/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Bart Staes (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Bike ban on European trains

Almost a decade after Regulation (EC) No 1371/2007 on rail passengers' rights and obligations was adopted many railway companies are still not complying with Article 5 on taking bicycles onto trains.

For example, on the majority of high-speed trains connecting Europe, it is still not possible to take your bike with you. This is in spite of the fact that cycling tourism is on the rise all over the continent.

Within the train manufacturing industry we see the tendency to build new trains in a modular fashion. This allows the railway companies to easily convert trains according to their wishes. By using economies of scale to their advantage, European trains could be adapted to allow the transport of bicycles in a cost-efficient manner.

Will the Commission press the Member States to include bicycle provisions in their public tenders (which has not been the case for high-speed trains up to now), or in the context of public management contracts?

Will the Commission take other steps to ensure full implementation of Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1371/2007 across European railway companies?