

**Question for written answer E-010555/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Franck Proust (PPE)

Subject: Road transport - 44-tonne limit

Under the terms of a decree which came into force on 1 January 2013, road haulage vehicles with more than four axles can operate with a laden weight of between 40 and 44 tonnes, irrespective of the goods being transported.

The same rule applies in Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Germany, Italy, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

EU legislation, meanwhile, imposes a limit of 40 tonnes on road shipments between two Member States, even those which have set a domestic limit of 44 tonnes. This inconsistency is posing a serious obstacle to trade between countries which have a 44-tonne limit. In keeping with the subsidiarity principle laid down in Directive 96/53/EC, some Member States, such as the Benelux countries, have concluded bilateral agreements authorising cross-border shipments at 44 tonnes.

Does the Commission plan to revise the EU legislation currently in force?