

**Question for written answer E-005085/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Marie-Christine Arnautu (ENF)

Subject: New provisions applicable to foreign lorry drivers operating in France

On 16 June, the Commission opened infringement proceedings against France on the basis that it is breaching European law by imposing its minimum wage on foreign lorry drivers and requiring them to carry their work contracts and a 'posting certificate' with them as of 1 July 2016. Germany took similar measures last year, leading to proceedings being launched by the Commission in May 2015.

The Commission considers that France and Germany have adopted discriminatory rules which hinder the free movement of goods within the European Union.

In its defence, the French government emphasises the distortions of competition that exist in the sector at European level. In effect, the social dumping engendered by the appalling working conditions of drivers from countries in Central and Eastern Europe is largely responsible for the high levels of unemployment among French lorry drivers.

Can the Commission:

- report on the progress of the proceedings launched against Germany in 2015?
- specify how the French provisions contravene European regulations?

In addition, does it intend to introduce measures in order to re-establish fair competition in the transport sector?