

Question for written answer E-006307/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)

Subject: Application of Italian provisions on the posting of workers in the international transport services sector

On 17 July Italy adopted decree No 135 implementing EU arrangements on posted workers. According to this document, the Italian provisions on the posting of workers are also supposed to be applicable to international transport workers. However, the scope of the Posted Workers Directive does not cover drivers involved in international transport or carrying out cabotage services. The application of these provisions would therefore represent the imposition on hauliers of disproportionately large burdens and would significantly restrict their operations on the EU market.

The new provisions also introduce a requirement to provide all documentation in Italian, to appoint a company representative as a contact person with the Italian labour inspectorate, to register working time and the payment of salaries and to keep the required documentation for two years. Failure to fulfil these requirements on the part of hauliers will result in a fine or even in the mandatory suspension of operations.

The Italian decree, together with similar provisions currently in force in France and Germany, is harmful to everybody but will in effect lead to the liquidation of small and medium-sized enterprises or to such enterprises being pushed towards operating in the informal economy. Moreover, ideas of this kind harm EU citizens and undermine the concepts behind the European Union, thereby fuelling the arguments of its opponents.

In this connection, could the Commission say what steps it plans to take to evaluate the compliance of the Italian decree with EU law, and when it will do so?