

**Question for written answer E-003224/2017**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)**

Subject: German provisions banning truck drivers from resting in vehicle cabs

Fair competition is indispensable to ensuring a free market and dynamic development. It is, however, being distorted by a large number of factors, in particular protectionist measures and special requirements of various kinds, which are having an adverse effect on the common market. In recent years, the trend has been particularly evident in the road transport sector.

In January 2015 a minimum wage was introduced in Germany for drivers providing cabotage services and international transport services to and from that country. Now the time has come to tighten other regulations. Following in the footsteps of France and Belgium, Berlin is currently considering a ban that would make it illegal for drivers to have their regular weekly rest inside vehicles. Transport companies would have to document rests taken by each driver outside the vehicle, and high and disproportionate financial sanctions would be applied for failure to comply. New requirements would be extremely burdensome for companies providing cabotage and international transport services, as they would have to revise their approaches.

This confirms once again that the scale of protectionist measures in the EU is on the rise. Such regulations may be used as tools against free competition in the transport sector. In light of the above: What actions will the Commission take to bring an end to policies pursued by a number of Member States which are incompatible with the rules of the single market?