

**Question for written answer E-003565/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Application of minimum wage to foreign drivers in some Member States

Unfair competition is rife in the road haulage sector, with a proliferation of letter-box companies and a variety of arrangements for cutting labour costs. Numerous haulage companies are established or located more or less fictitiously in low-wage Member States thus enabling them to practice social dumping.

Many road freight companies continually exploit the body of rules on cabotage, in particular, so that they can use mostly Eastern European truck drivers, rather than Western European, including French, drivers.

In response to this situation, some Member States have decided to apply their minimum wage to all truck drivers doing cabotage work on their territory, and have also banned the practice of drivers' spending their 45 hours' weekly break time in their cabs.

A Commission transport initiative is expected shortly but trade unions are claiming that, far from clamping down on the fraudulent practices in question, it will seek to legalise them all.

Is it the Commission's intention to combat these unfair practices and, if so, how?