

**Question for written answer E-000615/2019  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Danuta Jazłowiecka (PPE)**

Subject: Oversize transport - red tape

Oversize transport

An administrative court in Mannheim has ruled that the drivers and crew of oversize haulage vehicles or combinations of vehicles must be able to speak German. This ruling means that in order for authorisation to be granted to carry extra-long, extra-wide or extremely heavy loads in Germany, the drivers concerned must have a command of German.

Does the Commission take the view that this requirement is consistent with EU law? Does it not unduly restrict the freedom to provide transport services in the EU?

Representatives of haulage firms have also told me that the requirement is being abused by the inspection authorities. The ruling states that, for the entire journey, there must be a person present who has 'a sufficient command of German'. It is often the case, however, that the entire crew (not just one person) is required to have a perfect command of German. Is the Commission aware of these practices? Has it received similar reports?

Oversize transport is not regulated at European level, so hauliers have to contend not only with requirements that differ depending on the Member State concerned, but also with a great many administrative barriers. Is the Commission planning to take action in future to regulate this sector or to assess the administrative requirements in place in the Member States?