

Question for written answer P-008234/2014
to the Commission
Rule 130
Alberto Cirio (PPE)

Subject: Concept of technical life of cableway installations designed to carry persons

Directive 2000/9/EC sets out the 'essential requirements' to ensure high safety standards for cableway installations designed to carry people. The Directive was transposed in Italy by means of Legislative Decree No 210 of 12 June 2003, bringing about a substantial improvement in technical regulations for the sector. Nonetheless Ministerial Decree No 23 of 2 January 1985 continues to specify a maximum technical life for installations of this kind which varies from 30 to 60 years depending on the typology of the installation. At the end of said period the installation concerned must be replaced. This concept of a technical life adds time-based obligations which the EU directive did not provide for, to the safety requirements mandatory in all countries.

1. Could the Commission say whether similar obligations still exist in other Member States?
2. Does the Commission consider this concept to be in line with the spirit of the Directive? Or is it more a case of an unnecessary burden from when the Directive was transposed?
3. Would the Commission not agree that such an additional requirement renders companies using cableway installations for transporting people less competitive, even though the costs thereof are not offset by any gains in safety?