Question for written answer P-003183/2015 to the Commission Rule 130

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Subject: Occupational accidents suffered by commercial drivers

With a view to improving the health and safety of people at work, Council Directive 89/391/ECC states that every employer in the EU is to 'draw up, for the responsible authorities and in accordance with national laws and/or practices, reports on occupational accidents suffered by his workers' (Article 9 (1) (d)).

In the UK, occupational injuries or deaths must be recorded by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE), the independent regulator for work-related health, safety and illness.

However, commercial drivers who are injured or killed at work are excluded from the reporting procedure (Regulation 14 (3) of the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013). Consequently, workplace injuries and fatalities of commercial drivers are neither recorded nor independently investigated by the HSE.

Instead, such accidents are recorded by the UK Department for Transport, which found that between 2008 and 2013 some 3 493 people were killed in an accident involving a driver or rider driving for work.

- Given that this high fatality rate is not subject to investigation by the UK's independent regulator, does the Commission believe that the UK has met its obligations to improve the health and safety of commercial drivers under Directive 89/391/ECC?
- 2. Furthermore, will the Commission consider taking additional action to reduce fatalities and injuries of commercial drivers in the EU?

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