

**Question for written answer P-002844/2019  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Billy Kelleher (Renew)**

Subject: Commission support for Irish road hauliers affected by a no-deal Brexit

According to industry figures, there are 2 300 Irish-based haulage companies, many of them SMEs, operating 13 000 trucks internationally. With over 130 000 individual journeys taken by these trucks every year over the UK land bridge to mainland Europe, the implications of a hard or no-deal Brexit are deeply concerning.

1. Does the Commission believe that contingency measures, including financial aid, should be made available to road hauliers operating from Ireland that are reliant on the UK land bridge to transport goods to mainland Europe in the event of a hard or no-deal Brexit?

Such measures could include aid to procure additional ferry capacity to allow hauliers to bypass the UK while negotiations are ongoing between the British Government and the European Union. While transiting between Ireland and France may deal with the capacity issue, there is concern that travel times will double, and in some cases, triple — thereby increasing costs.

2. What options would be available to the Commission to provide support to Irish hauliers, and what will the Commission do to ensure as little disruption as possible for Irish traders exporting to the rest of the Union?