



Plenary sitting

A9-0263/2022

27.10.2022

RECOMMENDATION

on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine on the carriage of freight by road
(11050/2022 – C9-0299/2022 – 2022/0200(NLE))

Committee on Transport and Tourism

Rapporteur: Marian-Jean Marinescu

Symbols for procedures

- * Consultation procedure
- *** Consent procedure
- ***I Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)
- ***II Ordinary legislative procedure (second reading)
- ***III Ordinary legislative procedure (third reading)

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the draft act.)

CONTENTS

	Page
DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION	5
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT	6
PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE	8
FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE	9

DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine on the carriage of freight by road (10407/2022 – C9-0299/2022 – 2022/0200(NLE))

(Consent)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the draft Council decision (10407/2022),
 - having regard to the draft Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine (10151/2022),
 - having regard to the request for consent submitted by the Council in accordance with Article 91 and Article 218(6), second subparagraph, point (a), of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (C9-0299/2022),
 - having regard to Rules 105(1) and (4) and Rule 114(7) of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the recommendation of the Committee on Transport and Tourism (A9-0263/2022),
1. Gives its consent to the conclusion of the Agreement;
 2. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and the Commission and to the governments and parliaments of the Member States and Ukraine.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Following the unjustified invasion of Ukraine by Russian Federation and subsequent blockade of Ukrainian ports by Russian armed forces, all exports from Ukraine by sea have been stopped. In addition, the Ukrainian airspace has been closed for civilian transport. In an effort to find alternative routes by road for Ukraine to export its stocks of grain, fuel, foodstuffs and other relevant goods, the current agreement is liberalising the transport of freight by road between the Union and Ukraine in relation to bilateral operations and transit and contains specific clauses related to driving licenses. Given the extraordinary circumstances in which it is negotiated and implemented, it is limited in time and renewable.

Procedure

On 2 June 2022, the Council authorised the opening of negotiations with Ukraine and the negotiations were successfully concluded on 14 June 2022. Given the urgency of the situation, the agreement has been provisionally applied from the moment of its signature, however, in order to conclude the Agreement the Council needs the consent of the European Parliament as required by Article 218 TFEU.

In accordance with Rules 105 and 114(5), (7) and (8) of Parliament's rules of procedure, the committee responsible shall submit a recommendation for the approval or rejection of the proposed act. Parliament shall then take a decision by means of a single vote, and no amendments to the Agreement may be tabled. Amendments in committee shall be admissible only if their aim is to reverse the recommendation proposed by the rapporteur.

Reminder of the main provisions of the Agreement

The road freight transport between the European Union and Ukraine is currently governed by two main mechanisms namely bilateral transport agreements between EU Member States and Ukraine and permits granted in the framework the ECMT multilateral quota system within the International Transport Forum. Both these mechanisms impose quotas on hauliers from both sides, regarding transit and bilateral trade.

Since the increased use of the number of transport operations by road compared to normal times would exceed the quotas set out in the bilateral agreements between Member States and Ukraine and given via the ECMT within the International Transport Forum, this Agreement on road transport between the European Union and Ukraine would therefore replace existing bilateral transport agreements between Member States and Ukraine and facilitate the use of alternative transport by road for operators, as bilateral operations and transit would be liberalised between the two Parties.

In addition, following the start of Russia's war with Ukraine, many Ukrainian drivers are no longer able to follow the administrative procedures related to driver documents such as international driving permit applications or issuances of new documents in the event of lost or stolen documents. This Agreement will enable the two Parties to address these issues under exceptional circumstances. It is thus important to provide for measures that exempt drivers from the requirement to present an international driving permit, recognise decisions taken by Ukraine to extend the administrative validity of driver documents and facilitate the exchange of

information between the competent authorities of the two Parties with the aim of combatting fraud and forgery of driver documents.

Rapporteur's position

Your Rapporteur believes it is a step forward in unblocking the current situation at the EU-Moldova/Ukraine borders and for the expansion of the transport relations between EU and Ukraine.

The Commission should ensure that Parliament is kept fully informed and consulted about the work of the Council given the significance of its work for European citizens and companies.

In the light of the above, your Rapporteur suggests that the TRAN Committee should give a favourable recommendation on the conclusion of the Agreement.

PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

Title	Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine on the carriage of freight by road
References	11050/2022 – C9-0299/2022 – 2022/0200(NLE)
Date of consultation or request for consent	27.7.2022
Committee responsible Date announced in plenary	TRAN 12.9.2022
Committees asked for opinions Date announced in plenary	INTA 12.9.2022
Not delivering opinions Date of decision	INTA 14.7.2022
Rapporteurs Date appointed	Marian-Jean Marinescu 17.5.2022
Discussed in committee	10.10.2022
Date adopted	26.10.2022
Result of final vote	+: 46 –: 0 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Andris Ameriks, Erik Bergkvist, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Paolo Borchia, Marco Campomenosi, Ciarán Cuffe, Jakop G. Dalunde, Karima Delli, Anna Deparnay-Grunenberg, Ismail Ertug, Gheorghe Falcă, Carlo Fidanza, Mario Furore, Isabel García Muñoz, Jens Gieseke, Elsi Katainen, Kateřina Konečná, Elena Kountoura, Peter Lundgren, Benoît Lutgen, Elżbieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska, Marian-Jean Marinescu, Tilly Metz, Caroline Nagtegaal, Jan-Christoph Oetjen, Philippe Olivier, Rovana Plumb, Dominique Riquet, Massimiliano Salini, Vera Tax, Barbara Thaler, István Ujhelyi, Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi, Kosma Złotowski
Substitutes present for the final vote	Vlad Gheorghe, Ondřej Kovařík, Dorien Rookmaker, Andreas Schieder, Annalisa Tardino, Jörgen Warborn
Substitutes under Rule 209(7) present for the final vote	José Manuel Fernandes, José Gusmão, Peter Jahr, Dan-Ștefan Motreanu, Theresa Muigg, Luisa Regimenti
Date tabled	27.10.2022

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

46	+
ECR	Carlo Fidanza, Peter Lundgren, Dorien Rookmaker, Kosma Złotowski
ID	Paolo Borchia, Marco Campomenosi, Philippe Olivier, Annalisa Tardino
NI	Mario Furore
PPE	Gheorghe Falcă, José Manuel Fernandes, Jens Gieseke, Peter Jahr, Elżbieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska, Benoît Lutgen, Marian-Jean Marinescu, Dan-Ștefan Motreanu, Luisa Regimenti, Massimiliano Salini, Barbara Thaler, Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi, Jörgen Warborn
RENEW	Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Vlad Gheorghe, Elsi Katainen, Ondřej Kovařík, Caroline Nagtegaal, Jan-Christoph Oetjen, Dominique Riquet
S&D	Andris Ameriks, Erik Bergkvist, Ismail Ertug, Isabel García Muñoz, Theresa Muigg, Rovana Plumb, Andreas Schieder, Vera Tax, István Ujhelyi
THE LEFT	José Gusmão, Kateřina Konečná, Elena Kountoura
VERTS/ALE	Ciarán Cuffe, Jakop G. Dalunde, Karima Delli, Anna Deparnay-Grunenberg, Tilly Metz

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Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention