

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3939/03
by Elisabeth Jeggle (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Failure by drivers of refuse and gritting lorries to comply with the rules on driving and rest periods when carrying out public service tasks

Over the Christmas period and during the winter the workload facing drivers of refuse and gritting lorries, whose duties in Germany include some public service tasks, is such that they are unable to comply with the rules governing driving and rest periods for drivers of heavy goods vehicles.

This state of affairs prompts the following questions, which concern both public-sector employers and the employees in question in Germany:

Can derogations be granted from the rules governing driving and rest periods when drivers are performing public service tasks?

If so, by how many hours can maximum driving periods be exceeded in such cases?