

**Question for written answer E-004750/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Abuse of cabotage rules in road haulage

A German association of lorry drivers, 'Krautfahrer-Club Deutschland', has drawn our attention to the fact that road haulage cabotage rules are being illegally and intentionally circumvented in Germany.

A typical case has been reported to us in which a lorry is used, for example, to carry out cabotage operations in Germany for a week. After a week, a replacement driver arrives by car, bringing a new number plate plus the relevant registration certificate and other documents. In the lay-by where the changeover of drivers takes place, the lorry's identity is changed, with the digital tachograph card also being replaced in order to modify all relevant data.

1. Is the Commission aware of this practice?
2. What is the Commission planning to do to prevent road haulage cabotage rules from being circumvented?
3. What action is planned to prevent unfair competition and social dumping within road haulage and to press ahead with the harmonisation of social standards across Europe?