

**Question for written answer E-007890/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Ole Christensen (S&D), Karoline Graswander-Hainz (S&D), Jan Keller (S&D), Kateřina Konečná (GUE/NGL), Bogusław Liberadzki (S&D), Jiří Maštálka (GUE/NGL), Georgi Pirinski (S&D) and István Ujhelyi (S&D)

Subject: Status of the infringement procedure against France and Germany regarding a minimum wage

The Commission decided last summer to take legal action against France and Germany on account of the consequences of the application of their respective minimum wage legislation to the road transport sector.

While fully supporting the principle of a minimum wage, the Commission in its infringement procedure considered that the systematic application of their minimum wage legislation by France and Germany to all transport operations affecting their respective territories restricts in a disproportionate manner the freedom to provide services and the free movement of goods.

1. Is the Commission aware that France has already started to fine underpaid truckers?

According to different media reports, truckers (and not the employer!) are fined in France if the trucker is not being paid enough by his or her employer. In practice, this means that victims of social dumping are punished twice: once by the employer for not receiving a decent wage and secondly by French law as a result of the employer not respecting the law.

2. What is the general status of the infringement procedure launched by the Commission last summer?

3. How does the Commission want to protect social fairness for truckers driving in the EU on the one hand and guarantee the free movement to provide services on the other?