

**Question for written answer E-002319/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Tom Vandenkendelaere (PPE)

Subject: Legal certainty regarding the cross-border sale and registration of used vehicles

Given that cross-border transport is essential for the EU internal market, it is regrettable that European truck leasing companies are facing difficulties in obtaining registration documents following the conclusion of European cross-border used vehicle sales agreements. Leasing companies seeking to purchase tractor and trailer units in other Member States often face legal uncertainty regarding used vehicle ownership claims.

Databases in Member States frequently have no legal value and the information contained thereon is for information only. On purchasing vehicles, companies frequently find themselves involved in legal disputes regarding actual ownership, for which purpose more exacting standards are applied to them as commercial entities. For example, Belgian courts require the parties to verify the title deeds, without providing any additional guidance on how this should be done.

Luckily, the Commission is also aware of the need for a solution at European level, the exchange of registration details being one of the evaluation objectives of the directives on periodic roadworthiness tests, technical roadside inspections of commercial vehicles and vehicle registration documents.

1. Does the Commission consider that the lack of harmonisation in this area is effectively hampering to the free movement of goods and services in the EU?
2. How does it plan to ensure the inclusion of greater harmonisation in the revision of the above-mentioned Directives?