

**Question for written answer E-002661/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Commission guidance of 13 July 2022 allowing the transport of sanctioned goods by rail between the Russian mainland and Kaliningrad

On 13 July 2022, the Commission published guidance to the Member States¹ allowing sanctioned goods between the Russian mainland and Kaliningrad to be transported across EU territory by rail. With this decision, the Commission has eased the sanctions regime on Russia, allowing rail transport of sanctioned goods based on volumes of the last three years.

1. Can it be surmised from the Commission's guidance that railways can transit sanctioned goods through the EU?
2. If the guidance does refer to the authorisation of the transit of sanctioned goods through EU territory, on which provision(s) of Council Regulation (No) 833/2014 is this authorisation based, particularly the authorisation for railways to have an exclusive right to transport sanctioned goods?
3. On what basis does the guidance distinguish rail transport from other modes of transport (other than transport by road)?

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/business_economy_euro/banking_and_finance/documents/faqs-sanctions-russia-export-import-guidance_en_0.pdf