

**Question for written answer E-004127/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Alfred Sant (S&D)

Subject: Evaluation of the Consortia Block Exemption Regulation (CBER) post COVID-19

The maritime transport sector was significantly affected by COVID-19. It faced continuous and unexpected demand shocks: a massive surge in demand led to the world's container ships being fully deployed while landside infrastructure was unable to cope with the massive changes. This created erratic market conditions that resulted in abnormally sharp price hikes followed by an even bigger price fall the following year.

1. Has the Commission used economic data captured during the pandemic to assess the CBER?
2. Does the Commission believe it pertinent, under the 'better regulation' principle, to propose regulations based on totally abnormal, and now outdated, market conditions?
3. Would the Commission consider it more prudent to wait for the market to fully recover before assessing the CBER and only then take decisions regarding its extension?

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