Question for written answer E-002162/2023 to the Commission Rule 138

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Subject: Free movement of goods along the Brenner motorway

At the Council of Transport Ministers on 1 June, at the joint request of Germany and Italy, the 'Free movement of goods along the Brenner motorway' was discussed. Germany and Italy, with the support of five other countries, stressed that the problem of the free movement of goods at Brenner was one that concerned the whole of Europe. The European Commission itself expressed strong doubts about Austria's readiness and willingness to find a solution to overcome the current deadlock.

Already back in 2015, the Commission warned Austria by initiating procedure INFR(2015)4229 regarding double night tolls on the Brenner axis in breach of EU legislation on the maximum toll limit laid down in Directive 1999/62/EC.

It should be noted that the Brenner axis, the heart of the Scan-Med corridor, is the main entry and exit point for Italian and German goods and is an essential hub of the single market.

In the light of the above:

- 1. What will it do to restore full compliance with EU law along the Brenner motorway?
- 2. Should any further mediation attempt fail, will it initiate infringement proceedings against Austria?
- 3. Will it proceed with the aforementioned infringement procedure?

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