

**Question for written answer E-000210/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Roman Haider (ID)

Subject: Making rules in the occasional passenger transport sector more flexible

The European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF) is criticising the proposed revision of the driving and rest time rules for occasional passenger transport services, calling it 'a step backwards in ensuring a fair and safe working environment' for the bus and coach sector^{1,2}.

Drivers in the occasional passenger transport sector have additional tasks, such as cleaning their vehicles, which often have to be carried out during rest periods or breaks, making it even more difficult to record and monitor working hours properly. The European Parliament has included the digitalisation of control documents in its report and, according to the ETF, this is one of the first steps towards addressing problems in enforcement.

According to the ETF, the solution to the sector's current driver shortage 'is not flexibilization, but improving working conditions and wages'.

1. What is the Commission's view of the ETF's criticism that the proposed changes will lead to longer working hours and shorter breaks, and that not enough attention is being paid to the problem of driver fatigue, which also has a negative impact on road safety?
2. Is the Commission planning to introduce additional measures with regard to working hours?
3. Is the Commission also planning to introduce new rules on working conditions and wages?

Submitted: 24.1.2024

¹ <https://www.etf-europe.org/etf-criticizes-approved-flexibilization-rules-in-bus-and-coach/>

² <https://www.etf-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/ETF-Position-Paper-on-the-Proposed-revision-of-driving-and-rest-time-rules-for-occasional-bus-and-coach-operations.pdf>