

**Question for written answer E-001076/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Elena Kountoura (The Left)

Subject: Violations of EU law in 'imports', trade, registration and circulation of used goods vehicles from EU Member States

The Greek government recently adopted and implemented legislation¹ and administrative practices imposing additional and disproportionately burdensome conditions on traders of used goods vehicles² imported from EU Member States. This legislation introduces discrimination within a segment of the EU market in the used goods vehicle trade sector, imposing less favourable measures for imports of the commercial goods in question into Greece and the registration of these goods. This results in the introduction of quantitative restrictions on imports of intra-Community traded goods and damage to intra-Community trade, it discourages trade in the goods in question and causes irreparable financial loss to traders in the sector, in violation of both EU law and CJEU case law^{3,4}. These measures strengthen the market segment comprising new and non-imported used goods vehicles and provide for the recycling of the existing fleet rather than its renewal.

Bearing in mind that, under the Treaties, the Commission has the obligation to intervene immediately to remedy this distortion⁵, can it answer the following:

1. How does it view the discrimination against and the quantitative restrictions imposed on imports of used goods vehicles from EU Member States, the trade in these vehicles and their registration?
2. Is EU law on the free movement of goods being violated?
3. Does it intend to raise the issue with the Greek government and ask for the discriminatory legislation in question to be amended?

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¹ Legislation: Ministerial decision 12922/16-1-2024 of the Minister and Deputy Minister (GG II 311 17.1.2024), Law 4784/2021 (GG I 40 16.3.2021) and Article 84 of Law 5039/2023.

² Vehicle categories N1, N2, N3, O1, O2 and O3.

³ Specifically, the adoption and implementation of this legislation violates the provisions of Article 34 et seq. TFEU. See CJEU judgments C-112/00 - Schmidberger, EU:C:2003:333, paragraph 56, C-110/05 - Commission v Italy (2009), ECLI:EU:C:2009:66, paragraph 56, C-297/05 - Commission v Netherlands (2007), ECLI:EU:C:2007:531, paragraph 63 and 4/75 and ECLI:EU:C:1975:98.

⁴ For a new public use vehicle licence to be issued, commercial vehicles must be fitted with a Euro 6d engine and traders are given 20 days to upload a large number of supporting documents to a register of imported used cars for each vehicle they 'import'.

⁵ Please note that traders have already submitted a complaint to the Commission (DG GROW- complaint ref. No CPLT(2024)00002).