

**Question for oral answer O-000029/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 136

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Subject: Poor sanitary conditions, low levels of security and lack of parking places in rest areas for truck drivers

Road transport is a strategic sector in the European economy, responsible for the efficient functioning of the single market in the European Union. Unfortunately, due to the poor state of infrastructure and the low level of safety, especially in rest areas and parking areas, fewer and fewer people are willing to take up a job as a truck driver.

The obligation to take rest periods outside the cab forces drivers to spend the night in very poor standard hotels, often without access to clean toilets or showers and without adequate guarantees for their personal safety and that of the cargo being transported. Legislative measures taken in recent years have had no effect and in some Member States the situation for drivers has even worsened, increasing costs and leading to more overcrowded rest areas.

- 1) Is the Commission aware of the steadily deteriorating sanitary and safety conditions for truck drivers at rest areas in countries such as France, Belgium and Germany?
- 2) What action has the Commission taken since the adoption of the Mobility Package to encourage Member States to invest more in parking areas, hotels and rest areas with the necessary sanitary facilities on major transit routes?
- 3) Is the Commission aware of the problem of the shortage of drivers in the road freight transport sector and does it accept that the very low safety standards and the poor state of rest areas in Western Europe are discouraging people from taking up this profession?

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Lapses: 8.9.2023