

**Priority question for written answer P-004198/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Inadequate border infrastructure between the EU and Ukraine

The introduction in 2017 of a visa waiver has led to a huge increase in road transport between Ukraine and the neighbouring Member States, with the border crossing points with Poland and Hungary the most heavily used. Along the border with Hungary, five road crossing points endeavour to deal with a volume of traffic which has multiplied, and the long-awaited new crossing points have yet to materialise. Travellers wishing to cross by car might have a wait of 8 to 10 hours. Pedestrians face 4-6 hours of waiting at peak times in the summer, which is unbearable, particularly for families with children in tow.

The number of Ukrainian citizens entering the Schengen Area increased by 15% in the three months following the introduction of the visa waiver as compared with the same period in the previous year (2016). According to data for 2020, Ukrainian citizens had travelled to Member States more than 40 million times since June 2017.

The problem of the excessive burden on crossing points would be solved if new crossing points were set up and the existing ones enlarged/modernised, thereby also increasing mobility and the movement of goods between the EU and Ukraine.

1. Is the Commission keeping track of the problems caused by inadequate border infrastructure at crossing points along the EU's external borders?
2. How could the Commission promote the establishment of new crossing points along the EU's external borders – particularly along the Hungarian-Ukrainian border – in order to solve the problem outlined above?
3. Might the Commission incentivise Ukraine to come up with the requisite political will to tackle the construction and opening of new border crossing points?