

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on Petitions

19.12.2007

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Subject: **Petition 0412/2006 by Jan Luteran (slovaque), on his problems with the registration in Slovakia of the second-hand car he purchased in Germany**

1. Summary of petition

The petitioner purchased a 1996 Nissan Micra from a dealer in Germany. The road traffic office of the district of Prešov demanded a conformity certificate, which the petitioner then applied for from Nissan Budapest. Nissan stated that they only had such certificates for cars built in 1997 or later. The petitioner requested a technical certificate confirming that the vehicle type was approved for use in Slovakia and, once he had received this, applied for an import permit from the district road traffic office. However, even though the car had been subject to a technical inspection (for which he had to pay a fee) and the technician confirmed that the car met all the requirements, the district road traffic office refused to issue a technical approval certificate. This decision was upheld by the regional road traffic office. The petitioner informed the transport ministry about his problems having his car registered, but without success. He regards the certificate of conformity as unnecessary and sees it merely as a source of corruption in Slovakia. He calls on the EU to help put an end to this practice in Slovakia.

2. Admissibility

Declared admissible on 28 September 2006. Information requested from Commission under Rule 192(4).

3. Commission reply, received on 28 February 2007.

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The petitioner claims that the Slovak authorities require unnecessary documents at the moment of the registration of used vehicles imported from other Member States. According to the petitioner such requirements create obstacles to the importation of these goods.

The Commission is aware of the problems presented by the petitioner. The Commission has opened an infringement procedure against the Slovak Republic for an alleged violation of the principle of free movement of goods and to that effect sent a letter of formal notice to the Slovak authorities on 12 October 2006. In this letter, the Commission presented the view that the Slovak legislation imposes more stringent conditions on registration of used vehicles imported from other Member States than on domestic ones, which is susceptible of violating the principle of free movement of goods.

The Commission asked the Slovak authorities to reply within two months from the receipt of the letter. Depending on the analysis of the Slovak reply, the Commission will take further steps deemed necessary

4. Further Commission reply, received on 19 December 2007.

On 29 June 2007, the Commission sent a Reasoned Opinion to the Slovak authorities. In this opinion, the Commission presented the view that the Slovak legislation imposes more stringent conditions on registration of used vehicles imported from other Member States than on domestic ones, which is susceptible of violating the principle of free movement of goods. On 6 September 2007, The Slovak authorities replied, presenting the new legislation which should rectify the infringement. The responsible service is examining the legislation at issue in detail. A proposal for the amendment to Act No 725/2004 was promised to be presented to the National Council of Slovak Republic in September. According to the proposal, new rules will enter into force on 1 January 2008.