

**Question for written answer E-003332/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi (PPE)

Subject: Discrimination among transit vehicles travelling through Serbia

Serbia recently introduced a new law banning vehicles above 3.5 tonnes from transiting through certain sections of the country's road network. This has made life very difficult for professional drivers and transport companies in Greece.

The law in question limits the circulation of heavy transit vehicles for the purpose of relieving traffic congestion. However, the same limits do not apply to vehicles transporting goods to and from Serbia (chiefly Serbian vehicles). Meanwhile, the same limits do not apply to equivalent sections of the road network connecting Croatia with Serbia, with vehicles from Croatia crossing the border into Serbia as normal.

Given that Serbia is a major route for the transportation of international goods between Greece and Western Europe and that these limits pose a real obstacle to international routes from Serbia, increasing operational costs for drivers, can the Commission answer the following?

1. What alternative solutions can it suggest to ease the transit of vehicles and minimise the problems caused by the implementation of Serbia's new law?
2. How can a balanced solution be found that takes into account the need to reduce traffic congestion on the one hand, while ensuring the smooth flow of goods from Serbia on the other?

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