

**Question for written answer E-001082/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Isabella Adinolfi (PPE)

Subject: Divergence between legislation for taxis and for private hire vehicles (PHVs): implications for the European single market

In Italy non-scheduled public transport, including taxis and private hire vehicle (PHVs), is regulated by Law 21/1992, as updated by Decree-Law 135/2018 and Law 12/2019. This legislation provides for different penalties for similar infractions: taxi drivers, who are covered by Article 86 of the Highway Code, can be fined between EUR 86 and EUR 338. PHV drivers however, falling as they do under Article 85, are subject to the same penalties but also risk losing their vehicle registration card and operations licence for between two and eight months.

There are significant differences in their tax obligations and administrative requirements: PHV drivers must provide tax documentation for each service they provide and complete a service logbook with details such as passenger name, date, departure and arrival address, and keep the logbook for at least 15 days. This could constitute a breach of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Taxi drivers, on the other hand, are under no such obligations, with payments often made in cash with no need to use the meter for journeys.

Can the Commission therefore say:

1. Whether it is aware of these legislative divergences and whether it believes them to constitute a potential distortion of the single market, which could favour taxi drivers to the detriment of PHVs?
2. Whether it considers these regulations to discriminate between these professional categories, with disproportionate penalties that could restrict the freedom to do business?
3. Whether it believes action to be needed to remedy these discrepancies, also in view of the need to comply with data privacy rules?

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