



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 17.7.2017  
C(2017) 4947final

*Dear Chair,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Assemblée nationale for its conclusions on the Commission's public consultation on the enhancement of the social legislation in road transport.*

*Social legislation in road transport is one of the important pillars of the road initiatives which have been adopted by the Commission on 31 May 2017<sup>1</sup>.*

*The Commission received more than 1400 responses to the public consultation which ended on 11 December 2016. The summary of this consultation is available on the Commission website: [https://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/road/road-initiatives/fair-competition-workers-rights\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/road/road-initiatives/fair-competition-workers-rights_en). These responses, as well as responses to subsequent targeted consultations of Member States' authorities, European and national stakeholders and, in particular, social partners, have been thoroughly analysed. They served as basis for defining key issues and, assessing them within an impact assessment, which helped to determine balanced legislative proposals.*

*The Commission welcomes the conclusions expressed by the Assemblée nationale. In particular, it welcomes the request for clarification and simplification of the current rules as expressed in point 8. The Commission is very supportive of this request in the context of its better regulation agenda.*

*The Commission also supports the request for a more uniform implementation of the social rules in road transport as well as to make a better use of digital tools, including the smart tachograph, and a better cooperation between Member States. This is indeed essential to ensure that road transport operators are subject to, and respect, the same rules in all Member States. The Commission proposals address comprehensively these issues of enforcement and enforceability of the rules.*

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<sup>1</sup> COM (2017) 275 to 283 final.

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*As regards different interpretations by Member States of the Posting of Workers Directive in relation to road transport, the Commission welcomes the request of the Assemblée nationale to define specific rules applicable to mobile workers.*

*The Commission supports the principle of national minimum salaries and wants to guarantee the protection of rights of workers. At the same time, it is important for the transport sector to have uniform rules which are proportional and adapted to the characteristics of the sector. This approach is reflected in the proposal for sector specific conditions for applying posting rules to the international road transport sector.*

*The Commission takes note of the request to formally prohibit drivers from spending the weekly rest in cabins and the request to limit the number of cabotage operations. Views expressed during the consultation activities have been much divided on these issues, which called for a balanced solution. The Commission believes that it found such a balanced solution, both on the issue of weekly rest conditions and as regards conditions to carry out cabotage.*

*The Commission hopes that the responses provided address the issues raised by the Assemblée nationale and looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Violeta Bulc  
Member of the Commission*