

Str. Ienăchiță Văcărescu, nr. 60, CP 040157, Sector 4, București-ROMÂNIA
Tel: (+40-21) 336 77 88; (+40-21) 330 14 25
Fax: (+40-21) 335 48 25; (+40-21) 337 48 53
www.untrr.ro; e-mail: office@untrr.ro

No. 4376/13.09.2018

European Commission
Mrs. Violeta BULC, Commissioner for Transport

Ref.: request for EC immediate intervention to stop French and Belgian abusive controls of regular weekly rest

Dear Mrs. Bulc,

Thank you for your letter JF/ARES(2018)4464352 of 30.08.2018 concerning UNTRR interventions on the abusive controls of regular weekly rest in the cabin in France and Belgium. In this respect, please find attached the penalty reports imposed to 3 Romanian road hauliers in France and Belgium. **We kindly ask the European Commission to undertake the necessary measures for the urgent clarification of French and Belgian procedures to control regular weekly rest and to stop the French and Belgian abusive controls against Romanian road hauliers.**

Concerning UNTRR request for the lists of safe and secure parking areas in EU Member States, we consider that national lists with sufficient safe and secure parking areas across the EU should become a compulsory requirement for each Member State, before introducing the ban on regular weekly rest in the cabin – as a measure guaranteeing that this ban is enforceable, not raising impossible barriers for European road transport industry. UNTRR addressed direct requests to French, German and Belgian governments to provide us with their national lists of safe and secure parking areas and we received worrying replies from Germany and France (annexed hereby). While the German Ministry reply states that „The Federal Ministry of Transport has no overview of secure HGV parking areas and services suitable for spending the weekly rest period that is required by law outside of the vehicle”, the French Government reply indicates us a link to **36 630** parking areas across France available for all the foreign and French trucks operating in France, when only the French national fleet accounts 300 000 vehicles. We ask the European Commission to **urge Germany, France and any EU Member State to stop enforcing the ban on regular weekly rest in the cabin, until ensuring there are enough safe and secure HGV parking areas in its national territory and until providing EU road transport industry with a public list of these parking areas**, presenting clear information on their GPS location and the facilities offered (24/24 Guard, fences, video surveillance, lighting, electric connection, dangerous goods accepted).



Concerning the EC Study on Safe and Secure Parking Places for Trucks(SSTPA), I would like to thank you for your kind invitation to SSTPA Conference on 06 November 2018. Unfortunately I cannot attend it, as I will be at the IRU World Congress in Oman, 06-08 November 2018. However, please be informed that UNTRR has been actively involved in SSTPA, together with the IRU and we trust that the results of this study will support the European Commission's decision concerning the enforcement of the ban of regular weekly rest in the cabin only when there are sufficient safe and secure truck parking areas in all the EU Member States. This year, an UNTRR team went to parking areas in Romania, Hungary, Austria, Germany, the Netherlands, France and Belgium for one week and discussed with more than 100 professional drivers about the parking conditions in the EU, distributing them SSTPA questionnaires. The drivers have complained that parking areas are unsafe and unsecure, saying they disagree with the ban on spending the regular weekly rest period (45 hours) in the cabin and expressing their opinions concerning the return home. UNTRR film "The truck's cabin is the 2nd house" presents our discussions with the professional drivers who replied to SSTPA questionnaires. In the film, UNTRR representative also mentions the SSTPA questionnaires for EC survey. UNTRR film with English subtitles is available on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22q4hyRoNvI&feature=youtu.be> and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/untrr/videos/2143847405840180/> .

Expressing our trust in your urgent interventions, we remain at your disposal for any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary General
Radu DINESCU

