

Violeta BULC
Commissioner for Transport
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
1049 Brussels



By email and post

Brussels, 17 May 2017

IRU CONDEMNS THE SIPS SERVICE CHARGE

Dear Commissioner,

As the world's road transport organisation, IRU has repeatedly voiced its concerns regarding the practical implications of the French law introducing a minimum wage and other obligations on national and cross-border road freight and passenger transport operations. The provisions of this law represent an immense and unprecedented additional administrative and financial burden for road transport operators, especially those based outside France. National measures in several Member States including France are also subject to infringement proceedings by the European Commission on the grounds of their proportionality. In November IRU also called on Member States authorities to introduce an enforcement moratorium on these measures at least until the infringement is finalised.

IRU has been informed recently that the French authorities intend to charge a service fee of €40 per driver for the use of the electronic database SIPS that is used for registering posted workers in France. While this scheme will be applicable to all posted workers, given the volume of freight and passenger exchange between France and other Member States, it will be the road transport operators (primarily consisting of SMEs), who will bear the most costs. IRU considers this charge as another excessive and unnecessary barrier to provide transport services in France.

IRU therefore invites the Commission to investigate urgently this measure and act accordingly in the framework of the ongoing infringement procedure.

Yours sincerely,

IRU General Delegate to the EU