Question for written answer E-002734/2024
to the Commission
Rule 144
Maria Zacharia (NI)

Subject: Insurance category of professional school bus drivers

Greece's new Regulation on Difficult and Hazardous Occupations (Decision Φ10221/οικ.26816/929/30.11.2011 of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security) entered into force on 1 January 2012. Under this regulation, as in the past, the professions of bus and coach drivers – including school bus drivers employed by passenger transport companies – are classified as difficult and hazardous occupations and should be insured accordingly.

In general document No 51485/2020 of the Directorate for Social Security, which referenced document No 12315/646/20-2-2020 of the Ministry of Transport, the Unified Social Security Fund replied to the school bus drivers saying that it interpreted the above provisions on the basis of Regulation (EC) 1071/2009 and in light of the fact that private schools do not have passenger transport as their main objective, as required by Regulation (EC) 1071/2009, but provide this service to facilitate their work. As a result, they are not classed as having a difficult and hazardous profession.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Does Regulation (EC) No 1071/2009 concern the social security system of each Member State, setting out the type of insurance required?

2. Does the Commission not consider that own-account transport, as an ancillary activity of an undertaking in support of its objective (even without a commercial aim, profit, fares, etc.), that is to say, the private use of an undertaking's transport vehicles, constitutes transport of persons or goods within the meaning of EU law?

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