

**Question for written answer E-003598/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Addressing undeclared work in the courier, express and parcel sector

The European Labour Authority (ELA) has raised serious concerns about the rapid growth of the European courier, express and parcel sector, which has been fueled by the boom in e-commerce and fast delivery services. While this expansion has created economic opportunities, it has also come at the expense of workers' rights. The ELA highlights widespread undeclared and under-declared work, opaque subcontracting chains, unclear employment statuses and unpaid tasks such as loading and waiting times. These practices not only erode social protection and fair competition but also make enforcement extremely difficult, as responsibility is often concealed behind complex layers of subcontractors.

The persistence of bogus firms, underreporting of hours and weak access requirements for light commercial vehicle operators exacerbate non-compliance. However, examples, such as the Netherlands, demonstrate that coordinated inspections, data sharing and hard sanctions can yield more effective results.

Given the scale and cross-border nature of the problem, can the Commission clarify:

what measures it intends to take to strengthen enforcement, ensure accountability of major market players, harmonise regulatory frameworks across the Member States and safeguard fair working conditions in the European courier, express and parcel sector?

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