

**Priority question for written answer P-001645/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Compliance with EU law of non-EU rail operators in the internal market and its impact on competition and EU operators

The EU rail freight sector is currently facing a crisis, incurring losses amounting to millions of euros. Given that the Commission is the guardian of the single market and the principles of fair competition, I would like to ask the following questions:

1. Does the Commission consider that the granting by the national market regulator of a Member State of a licence to a third-country entity – which is part of a state-owned company of that country – that does not meet the requirements of EU legislation on unbundling and separation of accounts is compatible with EU law? I would like to point out that the non-EU operator has been provided with commercial resources (locomotives and wagons) enabling it to compete with EU operators.
2. Does the Commission consider the activities of such an entity on the EU internal market to be compatible with EU law?
3. Do such activities not violate the principles of the functioning of the common market, and do they not pose a threat to EU rail companies which are subject to the full gamut of EU rules?

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