

**Priority question for written answer P-004404/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Inflation, Austria surcharge and territorial supply constraints

Inflation is a major concern for people in the EU. It does, however, affect some Member States more than others. There are several reasons for this, one being the incomplete single market.

Territorial supply constraints (TSCs), commonly known as ‘the Austria surcharge’, are undermining the integrity of the single market and creating substantial price differences between the Member States. According to a study carried out at the Commission’s request, abolishing TSCs could lead to savings of up to EUR 14 billion for EU consumers, providing significant relief for households in times of high inflation. In his report, Enrico Letta called for the strengthening of the capacity of national authorities in the fight against TSCs. In the single market strategy of 21 May 2025, the Commission identified TSCs as one of the ‘terrible ten’ barriers to the completion of the single market. The Parliament’s report on the implementation and streamlining of EU internal market rules to strengthen the single market (2025/2009(INI))¹ also calls for measures aimed at eliminating TSCs.

1. What measures and legal avenues are known to the Commission to effectively limit TSCs within the single market?
2. Why has no action been taken in 12 years, despite the issue of TSCs being broached back in 2013 in the Green Paper on unfair trading practices in the business-to-business food and non-food supply chain in Europe?
3. What is the timeline for submitting legislative files or other such measures aimed at further curbing TSCs?

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¹ [https://oeil.secure.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?lang=en&reference=2025/2009\(INI\)](https://oeil.secure.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?lang=en&reference=2025/2009(INI)).