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E-000223/2026

Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
(17.3.2026)

The Commission is aware of the situation described by the Honourable Member and of its consequences.

Member States may temporarily reintroduce border control at internal borders in the event of a serious threat to public policy or internal security¹. That decision has to be taken on the basis of a comprehensive assessment of the circumstances and the remedies available, and has to be proportionate to the objective pursued.

The Commission is in close contact with all Member States concerned, including as regards mitigating measures and possible alternative measures to internal border control.

Regarding professional truck drivers, the Commission immediately called on the responsible authorities in France to ensure that drivers had access to essential services and facilities, including food and hygiene.

Furthermore, Member States may grant temporary derogations from driving times, breaks and rest periods in the event of exceptional circumstances².

Finally, the Commission had called for a meeting of the National Contact Point's network for transport in January 2026, in light of disruptions to the EU internal market, notably linked to farmers' protests and other disruptions affecting normal transport flows.

The Commission will continue to monitor the road transport disruptions and will take the appropriate coordination measures through the National Contact Point's network.

¹ Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399 on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code). OJ L 77, 23.3.2016, p. 1.

² Article 14(2) of Regulation (EC) No 561/2006 on the harmonisation of certain social legislation relating to road transport and amending Council Regulations (EEC) No 3821/85 and (EC) No 2135/98 and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 3820/85 (OJ L 102, 11.4.2006, p. 1).