

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000225/26
to the Commission
Maciej Wąsik (ECR)
(21 January 2026)**

Subject: Legality and competitiveness of UZ Cargo Polska's operations on the EU market

In 2024, UZ Cargo Polska launched operations on the rail freight market in Poland and other Member States. According to the available information, this operator is directly financed or supported by the Ukrainian state operator Ukrzaliznytsia (UZ), i.e. a company from outside the EU which not subject to Community rules on state aid or equal conditions of competition.

In light of these facts:

1. Are the operations of UZ Cargo Polska, which according to available information enjoys privileged access to financing from outside the EU (possibly including subsidies from Ukrainian state institutions) and is not subject to EU rules on state aid, in compliance with EU internal market rules, particularly as regards fair competition and non-discrimination?
2. Is the Commission monitoring the impact of such operators — linked to third countries and operating in the EU through subsidiaries — on the competitiveness of European rail operators, particularly in light of the current decline in freight transport and job losses in the EU rail sector?
3. If it is confirmed that UZ Cargo Polska enjoys an unfair competitive advantage resulting from funding by a non-EU state entity, does the Commission plan to take any action to level the playing field and protect European rail operators?

Submitted: 21.1.2026

**Answer given by the Executive Vice-President Ribera on behalf of the European Commission
(31 March 2026)**

Under the Foreign Subsidies Regulation, ⁽¹⁾ the Commission can tackle distortions of the internal market caused by subsidies from third countries.

When such distortions are established following an in-depth investigation, the Commission can impose redressive measures on, or accept commitments from, undertakings receiving such subsidies.

The Commission remains at all times committed to ensuring an efficient functioning of the internal market and monitors actively sectors for which it considers that there is a high risk of distortions caused by foreign subsidies.

The Commission also analyses market information provided by Member States as well as market participants. This could include information about activities of UZ Cargo Polska.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2022/2560 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 on foreign subsidies distorting the internal market <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2560/oj>.