



## **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

From 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024 European Union will start a implementation of EES system, which includes electronic registration of entry and exit from EU countries, Switzerland and Norway and electronic verification of compliance with the rules of allowed 90 days of stay in a period of 180 days for citizens from the third countries. This changes, which will soon come into force, will not only affect on the citizens from third countries who will enter/exit the mentioned countries as tourists, but will also affect on the carriers and drivers who perform an international road transport, and also to the EU economy, which has its manufacturing plants in third countries.

### **How the EES system will affect to the drivers who transport goods in road international transport?**

Namely, professional truck drivers from the third countries have a limited number of days of stay in EU countries, Switzerland and Norway (90 days in any period of 180 days). For years, these drivers have been facing with the problem of exceeding the allowed number of days of stay, although there is no logic that people who are at their workplace and who constantly cross the borders in their trucks, and who have a various certificates for professional drivers, have a limit on the days of stay in EU countries, Switzerland and Norway. With introducing EES system which will control the allowed number of days of stay, which represent a unique control in all the mentioned countries and which will replace the manual counting of stamps in drivers' passports, EES system will more quickly and efficiently eliminate drivers from trucks due to exceeding the number of days of stay and lead to a ban on entering the territories of those countries for almost all professional drivers.

### **How the EES system will affect on the EU economy?**

The economy of the EU relies to a large extent on its production plants which are located in the third countries such as Serbia, Turkey, North Macedonia, Albania, Montenegro... Goods, raw materials, parts for the automotive industry produced in the third countries are transported by trucks and drivers of carriers from those countries. The lack of professional drivers in road transport already exists, with the introduction of this EES system, it will culminate even more, and in a period of 4 to 6 months there will be almost no drivers who will be able to transport goods and thus the road transport of goods will stop. This will also affect to the EU economy because EU economy depends on the production of goods and raw materials that are realized in third countries and whose transport to/from the EU exclusively relies on carriers, drivers and vehicles from the third countries.

All companies for which road transport is important for the import and export of goods between the EU and third countries should know that in a very short period they will be left without available capacities in terms of trucks because they will not have anyone to drive and carriers from EU countries will not perform these transports. In this way, we don't want to create a panic, we are only asking for help from all manufacturers whose parent companies are from the EU, to send a request for an exemption for professional drivers from the limited days of stay on the territory of the EU countries, Switzerland and Norway, through embassies and other competent institutions from their countries, in order to prevented a very bad scenario.

Carriers from the third countries cannot act alone to solve this global problem, therefore it is very important that all manufacturers are informed and, in accordance with their capabilities, help in solving this problem, which will affect not only on the road transport activity, but also on the economy of the EU. Unless there is an urgent change and the exemption of professional drivers from the limited days of stay in the territories of the mentioned countries, the carriers of our country and countries affected by this decision are determined to claim their right to work by implementing more radical steps.

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