

PRESS RELEASE

Chambers welcome EP's stance on Heavy Goods Vehicles Directive

EUROCHAMBRES, the Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry welcomed the vote of the EP's Committee on Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism (RETT) today.

The Committee supported EUROCHAMBRES' position in key points which are:

- Make sure that **all Member States** apply **standardized calculation methods**;
- **Internalize only quantifiable costs for infrastructure use and harmonize calculation methods**;
- Avoid that toll revenues are **used to fill arbitrary budgets needs**;
- **Allow cross-financing only in exceptional cases** - such as in sensitive regions and under certain conditions. Especially, EUROCHAMBRES welcomed the compromise amendment that the Commission will have the power to control the Member States cross-financing schemes. This will prevent that unfettered cross-financing undermines total transport efficiency by subsidizing less efficient modes.

Paul Skehan, Deputy Secretary General of EUROCHAMBRES, said: *"We appreciate, that the RETT Committee adopted a different stance to that which was adopted by the Transport Council last week, which failed to reach an agreement. We urge the Members of the European Parliament to use this window of opportunity for a harmonization of the European Toll system in the April plenary and hope that the Council will also come to a similar conclusion."*

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