

## **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

After nearly two years of constant appeals to the European Commission for a constructive solution regarding the limited period of stay for professional drivers within the Schengen Area, we hereby inform you that there has been no positive progress.

Specifically, all Schengen countries still maintain the right to reclassify the daily professional activity of driving across European roads as "residence within the Schengen territory." Consequently, any stay exceeding 90 days within a 180-day period is treated as illegal conduct. This results in further sanctions that place both drivers and transport companies in a state of constant uncertainty regarding their survival.

**For these reasons, it has been decided that on January 26, 2026, Serbian hauliers will begin a protest due to the inadequate response of the European Commission and Schengen countries regarding the treatment of Serbian professional drivers and the restrictions on their stay within the Schengen territory during their daily work activities.**

**Additionally, on the same day, January 26, 2026, colleagues from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and North Macedonia will also begin their protest at all of their border crossings.**

The protest will involve the suspension of road transport across border crossings. This suspension entails a stop in further transport operations at entry and exit freight terminals at major border crossings, as well as a stoppage of freight traffic on roads leading to smaller border crossings and in the entry freight lanes at those locations.

At the same time, protests will commence at:

CB Batrovci	CB Srpska Crnja
CB Šid	CB Vatin
CB Neštin	CB Đerdap
CB Bačka Palanka	CB Gradina
CB Bogojevo	CB Vrška Čuka (as needed)
CB Bezdan	CB Strezimirovci (as needed)
CB Bački Breg	CB Preševo (the border crossing in the direction of Greece)
CB Kelebija	Administrative crossings with the AP of Kosovo and Metohija (as needed)
CB Horgoš	

The protest is announced to last for **at least 7 days**, with the possibility of being suspended once when guarantees are received regarding a meeting date with European Commission officials, which would include representatives of both the state and the hauliers.

We emphasize that this protest has no political connotation; its sole objective is to raise awareness among the authorities in the European Commission and the European administration in general, Schengen countries, as well as transport clients. We wish to highlight that professional drivers are not illegal migrants, terrorists, or illegal workers. Their arrest, deportation, and work restrictions represent a direct impact to the Serbian transport industry, as well as the Serbian economy, which relies on Serbian transport capacities. Furthermore, these actions violate the fundamental principles of the right to work and a normal life. If there is no change in the treatment of Serbian professional drivers and transport companies, a complete collapse of supply chains is expected by mid-April, as our carriers will no longer have drivers available!

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