

# **Community's railways: safety, licensing, levying of charges, certification. 2nd package**

2002/0022(COD) - 26/11/2003 - Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading

The Commission accepts the following amendments, those which: - are designed to clarify certain provisions of the text or of its objectives and of its scope in relation to other Community texts that already exist or are in preparation; - are designed to improve the transparency of procedures and the accessibility of the rules. The proposed solution regarding the price to be paid for access to the training facilities is satisfactory; - concern statistics on accidents is acceptable as it ensures greater clarity. On the other hand, the Commission is unable to accept a certain amendment since it is a text of an explanatory nature on the scope of the directive, which would be better suited to the recitals, where it already figures. Nor is it possible to incorporate amendments concerning items covered in other parts of the text or in existing Community texts, or items which will be taken into account in the draft directive on licences for train drivers. The Commission cannot accept the amendments which are designed to reduce systematically the deadlines for drafting texts. These deadlines had already been considerably shortened by the Council and it is important to set a realistic calendar, adapted to the budgetary possibilities that will be decided for the Agency, which does not overload the Agency to the point of dooming it to failure from the outset.