Driving licences, system of harmonized codes (amend. Directive 91/439/EEC)

1996/0040(SYN) - 18/03/1997

Suspension and withdrawal of driving licences should be subject to mutual recognition in the member states, the Committee told Council, the Committee felt that Council should reconsider its common position on amending the driving licences directive 91/439/EEC. In cases where driving licences are suspended or withdrawn, the decision of the competent authority of the member state in which an offence has been committed shall have legal effect throughout the territory of the EU and shall be notified as soon as possible to the competent authority of the member state which issued the driving licence in question. So far, Council has refused to take on board amendments demanding the mutual recognition of penalties with regard to driving licences, arguing that this is a third pillar matter. Rapporteur Gipo FARASSINO (Ind, I) saw his draft recommendation for second reading adopted: such a mutual recognition is considered a vital element if the free movement of persons is to become a reality.