



European Commission - Directorate General for Transport

Council Directive 96/26/EC on admission to the occupation of road transport operator

(OJ L 124 of 23.05.1996)



- **Council Directive 96/26/EC on admission to the occupation of road haulage operator and road passenger transport operator and mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications intended to facilitate for these operators the right to freedom of establishment in national and international transport operations.**



Based on Article 75 of the Treaty

- **improvement of road safety**
- **rationalisation of the market**
- **improvement in quality of service**

Also allowing for:

- **uniform qualitative criteria**
 - **mutual recognition of qualifications**
 - **right of establishment**
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Scope: excludes

- Road haulage operators with vehicles with a total laden weight below 3.5 tonnes.
- National haulage operations with minor impact on the market.
- Non-commercial passenger transport
- Undertakings which have a main occupation other than road passenger transport which have a minor impact on the transport market



Provisions - 3 qualitative criteria to be fulfilled

- good repute
- financial standing
- professional competence

Between Member States there is provision for

- mutual recognition of the certificate of professional competence or equivalent
 - mutual assistance
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As amended by 98/76/EC:

Good Repute: infringements include environmental protection and professional liability

Financial Standing: 9.000 € for first vehicle, 5.000 € for each additional one

Professional Competence: content and organisation of course elaborated



Enforcement:

- **regular checks at least every 5 years to see if the 3 qualitative criteria are met**