

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

After months of struggle and appeals for an urgent resolution to the problem of limited days of stay for professional drivers in Schengen countries, drivers from the Western Balkans are still being arrested, deported, and banned from entering the Schengen Area. According to the Association's records, dozens of Serbian drivers are turned back from Schengen borders every day. Although the draft EU Visa Strategy and subsequent briefings clearly indicated that professional road freight drivers are recognized as a special category of persons requiring a longer period of stay than the current 90 out of 180 days, it is obvious that there is no will or desire within the European Commission and among member states to resolve this issue.

Given that not a single effective and concrete solution has been provided since the January protests, transport operators, together with their employees, are forced to fight for their existence using the only remaining mechanism—a protest that will begin on September 14, 2026 at 00:00, at all border crossings toward the EU, together with colleagues from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and North Macedonia.

The protest will involve the suspension of road transport at the locations specified below.

The suspension entails a stop in the further transport operation at entry and exit freight terminals at major border crossings, as well as a stoppage of freight traffic on the roads leading to smaller border crossings.

At the same time, protests will commence at:

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| ☐ CB Batrovci | ☐ CB Srpska Crnja |
| ☐ CB Šid | ☐ CB Vatin |
| ☐ CB Neštin | ☐ CB Đerdap |
| ☐ CB Bačka Palanka | ☐ CB Kaluđerovo |
| ☐ CB Bogojevo | ☐ CB Gradina |
| ☐ CB Bezdan | ☐ CB Vrška Čuka |
| ☐ CB Sot | ☐ CB Strezimirovci |
| ☐ CB Ljuba | ☐ CB Mokranje |
| ☐ CB Bački Breg | ☐ CB Ribarci |
| ☐ CB Kelebija | ☐ ACP Merdare |
| ☐ CB Horgoš | |

In addition to the aforementioned border crossings, the protest will also be enforced at the intermodal terminal of the Port of Novi Sad, controlled by the passing of vehicles.

The protest will continue until an adequate proposed solution to the aforementioned problem is reached.

We emphasize that this protest has no political connotation; its sole objective is to raise awareness among the authorities in the European Commission, Schengen countries, and freight forwarders/clients, that professional drivers are not illegal migrants, terrorists, or illegal workers. Their arrest, deportation, and work restrictions represent a direct blow to the Serbian transport industry, as well as the Serbian economy, which relies on Serbian transport capacities. If there is no change in the treatment of Serbian professional drivers and transport companies, a complete collapse of supply chains is expected, as our carriers will no longer have drivers available!

Contact for all inquiries and consultations: Serbian Association of International Road Hauliers-MT, Belgrade, Serbia, office@pumedtrans.com, +381 11 32 47 147