



## **Stress-Testing and Rationalisation of EU Transport Legislation from Simplification and Burden Reduction Angle**

### **Introduction – Objectives of the survey**

Ricardo (in a consortium with TRT, TIS, ISL, and TEPR) has been appointed by the European Commission (Directorate General Mobility and Transport – DG MOVE) to undertake a study on *Stress-Testing and Rationalisation of EU Transport Legislation from Simplification and Burden Reduction Angle*. This study is part of the Commission's simplification efforts, as stated in the Political Guidelines 2024-2029 and reiterated in the 2025 Communications 'A Competitiveness Compass for the EU' and 'A simpler and faster Europe: Communications on implementation and simplification'.

The study will provide the Commission with a robust evidence base in relation to the level of administrative burdens associated with the implementation of the EU transport legislation and support in the identification and quantification of measures that have the potential to reduce administrative burdens arising from this body of legislation. Specifically, the study aims to identify opportunities for simplifying, streamlining, reducing and facilitating the implementation of reporting and other obligations that introduce administrative burdens for businesses and authorities, without compromising the policy objectives.

The scope of the study (and so of the survey) is all EU transport legislation falling under the responsibility of the European Commission's Directorate General Mobility and Transport. This covers the following topics:

- Rules on market access and transport services market operation.
- Qualifications and skills of those employed in the sector.
- Social and working conditions for those employed in the sector.
- Passengers and transport services user rights.
- Technical and safety standards of transport equipment.
- Technical and safety standards of transport infrastructure and its use.
- Safety of transport operations.
- Security of transport operations.
- Aspects related to the digitalisation of transport services and infrastructure.
- Environmental requirements (such as those on alternative fuels and alternative fuels infrastructure, noise management and charging, marine pollution prevention, etc.).

### **Focus of the survey**

The focus of the survey is the **administrative burdens** associated with obligations arising from EU transport legislation that affects businesses, citizens and public authorities (see the [list of legislation](#)). **The survey does NOT cover other categories of direct or indirect costs stemming from the respective legislation.** For the purpose of this study, and in line with the Commission's Better Regulation Guidelines, we consider the distinction between different categories of costs as follows:

- **Compliance costs are the costs that businesses, authorities or citizens incur to comply with the substantive requirements of legislation.** These include both the

costs of adjusting activities to the requirements of the legislation (such as the modification of processes, the training of staff or the hiring of external consultants) and the costs resulting from the activities that are needed to comply with the administrative obligations of the legislation.

- **Enforcement costs** are borne by public authorities in implementing, administering and enforcing regulatory requirements.

**Administrative burdens**, which are the focus of the survey, are a subset of compliance costs that arise specifically from the administrative obligations included in EU legislation. These include:

- The time and resources needed to collect, process, report, and retain information (e.g. filling in forms, reporting data, record-keeping) beyond what would be done in the absence of the regulation and in the process of submitting applications, obtaining permits and certificates or other similar processes.
- The effort and costs associated with inspections, audits and other activities required by legislation to measure performance and to verify or certify compliance with the requirements which would not be done otherwise.

### **Instructions for completing the survey**

We have developed two surveys: the first for businesses and business associations; the second for public authorities. **Please complete the survey that corresponds to your organisation type.**

- **Businesses and associations:** Follow the link [here](#) to complete the survey.
- **Survey for public authorities (national and sub-national):** Follow the link [here](#) to complete the survey.

If you are not a business, business association or public authority, and would like to be contacted for your views on this topic, please contact the project team on: [StressTesting\\_EULegislation@ricardo.com](mailto:StressTesting_EULegislation@ricardo.com). We are undertaking interviews for other categories of stakeholders, so we may be interested in interviewing you.

In addition, if you have any other questions about the project, please contact the project team using the above email address.

The survey will remain open for six weeks. The deadline for the submission of your answers is **2 April 2026**.

**If you are a business association or national authority, we would be grateful if you could please distribute the survey link to your members and sub-national authorities.**