

To the attention of Mr Radu Dinescu

National Union of Road Hauliers From Romania

Dear Mr Dinescu,

I refer to your query on the implementation of the Directive 2003/59 on the training of professional drivers.

Concerning your question on the minimum age for holding a category CE licence and driving the corresponding vehicles across the EU the legal provisions are as follows:

The Driving Licence Directive (126/2006) establishes the minimum age at 21 years (Article 4 par. 4 letter g). But these minimum age is lowered to 18 years if the holder of the licence has obtain a CPC awarded under the conditions of Article 6.1 of the CPC Directive (2003/59).

In other words, a CE licence may only be obtain at 18 if the holder has undergone training in accordance with Directive 2003/59. In that case the licence is valid across the EU.

In relation to the languages used for the test, this aspect is not regulated by Directive 2003/59. Therefore, I do not see any impediment in EU law that would prevent the authorities of a Member States to organise tests in an EU language different from the official language of the Member State concerned.

As you know Directive 2003/59 is being review following a Commission's proposal adopted on 1 February 2017, but no change was proposed to the implementation of the aspects referred to above.

Kind regards

Casto LOPEZ BENITEZ  
Policy Officer  
EU Commission  
DG Mobility & Transport  
Unit C2 Road Safety