

PORTUGAL: 4 – 6 May 2018
Second Conference
"Motor caravans Tourism Routes"
Ac Parking Areas Lda Organisation
Supporto di Paredes De Coura



Report of ASSOCIAZIONE NAZIONALE COORDINAMENTO CAMPERISTI - ITALIA

Unfortunately we must point out that many countries in Europe:

- prohibit staying in a motor caravan outside tourist accommodation facilities even if regularly parked;
- limit the stay of motor caravans, creating parking areas reserved only for cars;
- limit the circulation of motor caravans by installing specific no entry signs;
- place bars at a low height from the ground in parking areas, thus preventing motor caravans from entering.

To compensate for the above, the touring holiday sector needs changes in European legislation so that the circulation and parking of motor caravans is correctly regulated in all European states and that the right to use them is ratified. It is a question of approving the same right acknowledged by section 185 of the Italian Highway Code and section 183 of the Albanian Highway Code. These regulations equate the motor caravan to other motor vehicles and establish that: *Parking a motor caravan on the road does not constitute camping and the like if it rests on the ground only with the wheels and does not occupy the road beyond the clearance of the vehicle itself*, thus considering it the same as other motor vehicles.

Since it is our right-duty to ensure the right to circulation and parking in motor caravans, thus promoting the Touring Sector, **we invite all the Associations that represent the owners, users, manufacturers and retailers of motor caravans and those concerned with the development of the touring sector to sign this petition** which we will send to all the Euro-MPs and competent organisations.

I look forward to hearing from you

Yours sincerely.

Isabella Cocolo, President of Associazione Nazionale Coordinamento Camperisti



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- Nationaler Verband für die Koordinierung von Wohnmobil-Touristen
- Association Nationale de Coordination des Camping-caristes
- Koordinační národní asociace karavanistů
- Landsforbundet for koordinering af brugere af autocampere
- Rahvuslik Automatkaajate Koordinatsiooniasutus
- Εθνικός Συλλογισμός Συντονισμού Χρηστών Καμπες
- Asociación Nacional Coordinadora de Autocaravanistas
- Nacionālās autofurgonu-māju lietotāju koordinācijas asociācija
- Turizmo kelioniniai nameliais koordinavimo nacionalinė asociacija
- Lakóautósok Országos Egyesülete
- Assocjazzjoni Nazzjonali Koordinament Kamperisti
- Krajowe Stowarzyszenie Turystyki Kamperowej

PETITION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
concerning the circulation and parking of motor caravans and the touring sector

The undersigned, in the capacity of owners and/or users of motor caravans and/or manufacturers and/or retailers, promote and/or practice Touring in motor caravans: a way of travelling that leads to “living each day” rather than “living day by day”. A way of travelling as ambassadors incognito of the values of one’s land in order to overcome the material and ideological national boundaries that have created and create endless claims and wars.

Road circulation, mobility, socio-economic development and tourism are the sectors connected to each other therefore we trust that the European Parliament will take action, initiating this petition.

That being stated, **WHEREAS:**

1. this petition is based on the Charter of fundamental rights of the European Union as a manifestation of the following articles:
 - **1**, that prescribes respect of human dignity;
 - **7**, that requires respect of private life and that of the family;
 - **17**, that protects the right of ownership;
 - **45**, that ratifies freedom to circulate and to stay;
2. **the parking of a motor caravan does NOT constitute and is NOT to be confused with camping;** as the first is simply a static part of road circulation while camping is an activity that is not related to road circulation;
3. motor caravan **tourism is sustainable from the social, economic and environmental viewpoints, as pointed out in the Luis Queirò Report** on the new prospects and new challenges for sustainable European tourism, approved on 12 September 2005 by the members of the Transport and Tourism Commission of the European Parliament. Indeed, at point *11e* it sets forth: “Recognises the contribution of itinerant tourism such as touring caravanning, in mitigating the negative effects of mass tourism by dispersing concentrations of tourists; stresses the need to promote measures aimed at contributing to its development in particular by remedying to the lack of appropriate facilities for parking, multifunctional sites and storage of caravans and motor caravans throughout the Community”;
4. **travelling by motor caravan is a social holiday;** because on average three people travel on each motor caravan, and in many cases there are minors. This consolidates relations within the family as the micro-space of the motor caravan allows the family to find a united identity, in an intimate dimension that encourages conversation and a fruitful exchange of experiences. In this context empathy grows between parents and children that leads to appreciation of the salient aspects of a territory;
5. **the motor caravan makes it possible to overcome obstacles related to disability.** In fact it has been ascertained that 7% of motor caravans owners in Italy use it as a medical aid, having on board a handicapped person who is then able to benefit from the territory with the same dignity and with the same opportunities;
6. **mobility and independence in a motor caravan broaden the possibilities for getting to know an area** thoroughly, unlike mass tourism which is concentrated in just a few places;
7. **the motor caravan is NOT a source of degradation of respectability and the environment;** because after a stay it moves on leaving the territory unharmed;

8. **the motor caravan does NOT represent a risk to public health and hygiene** because, unlike other vehicles, it is independent having internal systems that collect organic residues and white and black waters. On this point, with directive ref. n. 31543/2007 the Italian Ministry of Infrastructures and Transport has made it clear that "...motor caravans, on account of their outfitting which includes kitchen and bathroom water collection, provided they are used properly as necessary, are vehicles that to not represent a risk to public hygiene";
9. **the motor caravan does NOT threaten public order and safety;** on the contrary, those who travel by motor caravan contribute to creating safety as they enhance the control of the territory due to the possibility of discovering and promptly reporting any criminal acts committed in the places where they are staying to the law enforcement agencies. Moreover, the directives of the Italian Ministry of Infrastructures and Transport (including directive ref. n. 31543 of 2 April 2007) and numerous sentences show that: the motor caravan does NOT represent a disturbance of public order and safety, since it is unlikely that the transit, stopping or parking of such a vehicle cause detriment to fundamental legal assets and primary public interests underlying civil orderly cohabitation, preventing individuals from living tranquilly in the community and acting within it to manifest their individuality and satisfy their interests.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING:

CIRCULATION AND PARKING OF MOTOR CARAVANS

- 1) It is not on allowed to apply rules that have the effect of limiting the road circulation (movement, stop and parking) of motor caravans, provided that the owner or management of the road applies the same limitation to all other vehicles.
- 2) Staying inside a motor caravans parked on the road and in parking areas does not constitute camping and is allowed without time limits also outside accommodation facilities.

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