

NEWS FROM BRUSSELS 25/2021

Open letter to the EC: Achieving Climate-Neutrality in Road Transport

In a joint initiative, the European Association of Automotive Suppliers (CLEPA) and others have sent an open letter to Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans and Commissioner for Transport Adina-loana Vălean regarding climate-neutrality in road transport through the contribution of renewable sustainable fuels. The signees of the letter emphasise the urgency to recognise the contribution of renewable sustainable fuels in the vehicle CO₂ standards: <https://www.fuelseurope.eu/wp-content/uploads/Open-Letter-on-the-Future-of-the-Vehicle-CO2-standard.pdf>

Position paper: Unlocking the potential of clean mobility

Hydrogen Europe considers the revision of the Regulation setting CO₂ emission performance standards for new passenger cars and new light commercial vehicles to be a key legislative initiative to help the EU deliver upon its 2030 climate targets and to reinforce its global leadership in zero-emission vehicles, particularly hydrogen fuel cell vehicles. Consequently, in its recently published position paper they call on the EU institutions to maintain the level of 2025 targets while strengthening the 2030 targets, provided the enabling framework conditions are in place, and a holistic approach is taken: https://www.hydrogeneurope.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/HE.07_Hydrogen-Europe-Position-Paper-on-the-CO2-ES-1.pdf

Electric cars: Lower-income countries fall behind, with uptake linked to GDP per capita

Strong national variations in EU sales of electric cars are clearly correlated to a country's standard of living, according to new research by the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA). Battery electric and plug-in hybrid cars made up 10.5% of all new cars sold in the EU last year. However, 10 member states still had a market share of lower than 3%. The analysis demonstrates that consumer uptake of electric cars is directly linked to a country's GDP per capita, indicating that affordability remains a major issue: <https://www.acea.auto/press-release/electric-cars-lower-income-countries-fall-behind-with-uptake-linked-to-gdp-per-capita/>

ACEA: Binding EU targets for charging points and hydrogen stations urgently needed

In a joint letter to European Commission President von der Leyen, Vice-President Timmermans and Commissioner Vălean, the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA), trade union IndustriALL and environmental NGO T&E, together with a group of e-mobility players, call for a strong EU regulation to replace the outdated Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive with binding targets. The letter comes just ahead of the presentation of the Commission's 'Fit for 55' climate package on 14 July. Reaching Europe's climate ambitions "requires the right EU

framework for the deployment of recharging and refuelling infrastructure to enable drivers to switch on time,” the signatories stress:

https://www.acea.auto/files/Joint_AFID_regulation_letter_July_2021.pdf

EC Report on Competition Policy 2020

The recently published report is the first account of the competition policy developments under the Commission led by President von der Leyen. Covering the developments in EU competition policy in 2020, it also is the 50th report addressed by the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: https://ec.europa.eu/competition-policy/publications/annual-reports_en

Access to in-vehicle data and functions

In a joint letter to Executive Vice-President Vestager, the European Consumer Organisation (BEUC) and the FIA European Bureau are stressing their growing concerns about a lack of progress related to access to in-vehicle data, functions, and resources. They call on the European Commission to respect its commitment and propose a regulation as soon as possible. This proposal should from their perspective enshrine principles allowing consumers to control and manage flows of the data that they generate while using a car and the innovative services related to its use (pay as you drive insurance schemes, information about repair and maintenance of spare parts, real-time traffic information, etc.):

https://www.beuc.eu/publications/beuc-x-2021-062_beuc_and_fia_joint_letter_on_urgent_need_for_a_legislative_proposal_on_access_to_in-vehicle_data_and_functions.pdf

The Alliance of European Car Dealers and Repairers (AECDR) represents and promotes the interests of 57,500 franchised dealers and authorised repairers. In total these companies employ 1.175,000 people.