

NEWS FROM BRUSSELS 41/2022

EU finance minister to discuss integration of 'Basel III' agreement, taxation of heavy goods vehicles and US inflation reduction act

On 8 November, EU finance ministers will attempt to reach a political agreement on the proposed revision of the 'Eurovignette' directive, which deals with the taxation of heavy goods vehicles. They will also work on finding a political agreement in principle on the legislative package that finalises the integration of the 'Basel III' agreement. In addition, the Ecofin Council will discuss the economic repercussions of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, including macrofinancial assistance and the impact of sanctions, as well as the impact of the US Inflation Reduction Act on European trade: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/ecofin/2022/11/08/>

European Commission expected to present a regulation on Euro 7 emission standards for motor vehicles

The EU Commission is expected to present a regulation on 'Euro 7' emission standards for motor vehicles on 9 November. The draft version shows a limited level of ambition due to the difficult economic context and the recent decision to ban the sale of internal combustion vehicles after 2035. Emission limits for cars and vans are set at the level of 'Euro 6' limits for petrol cars. However, the number of pollutants considered has been slightly extended, including ammonia (NH₃). Some new aspects have been introduced: These include the introduction of a 'Euro 7+' standard for vehicles that meet emission limits at least 10% lower than those set out in the annexes to the regulation (Annex I) or have a battery life at least 10% longer than that set out in the text (Annex II).

European Internal Market Commissioner Thierry Breton criticises ban of combustion cars from 2035

On 3 October, EU Commissioner Breton gave an interview to POLITICO and EuropeTable, commenting on the ban of combustion cars and vans. He warned of the significant disruption the ban would entail for the automotive industries. Breton said he insisted on an emergency brake, i.e. a review clause to be activated in 2026 to allow the 2035 phase-out date to be postponed: <https://www.politico.eu/newsletter/brussels-playbook/breton-wants-to-save-das-auto-carbon-levy-mellow-meloni/>

Czech EU Council Presidency presents assessment of preliminary achievements

On 2 November, the Czech Presidency published an [assessment of the achievements](#) made during the first part of its mandate. Important aspects mentioned include: the agreed sanctions against Russia and Iran, further support for Ukraine and options to phase out dependence on Russian fossil fuels under the REPowerEU plan. On the last day of October, all planned informal meetings of the Council at ministerial level ended in Prague.

Lobbygroup Transport&Environment (T&E) publishes “Good Tax Guide”

On 27 October, T&E published a report directly comparing systems of car taxation across EU member states. The comparisons cover 31 countries, seven forms of taxation, and two registration types (private and corporate). The results detail the different tax methods used and the resulting tax burden for typical car ownership and usage: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/discover/the-good-tax-guide/>

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.