

Question for written answer E-002576/2024
to the Commission
Rule 144
Diego Solier (NI)

Subject: Mitigating the social impact of upcoming EU rules about fossil-fuel-powered vehicles

Starting in 2025, the EU will enforce stricter emissions standards, effectively raising the cost of combustion-engine vehicles. This policy, combined with tax increases on diesel fuel in Spain and other European countries, poses a significant challenge for citizens who depend on fossil-fuel-powered cars, especially as two-thirds of Spanish drivers rely on such vehicles.

The shift in focus within the European car industry, which has now halted research on improving fuel efficiency for combustion engines and is fully invested in electric vehicles, further exacerbates this issue. With electric vehicles remaining prohibitively expensive, working-class and lower-income individuals face a real risk of reduced mobility and increased financial strain. We seek clarity on how the EU intends to balance environmental goals with social and economic fairness for all.

Consequently, we ask the Commission:

1. What specific measures are being considered to alleviate the economic impact of these rules on the most vulnerable citizens?
2. Will the Commission address the rising costs associated with car ownership and fuel taxes, and, if so, what concrete actions are planned to ensure that citizens, particularly in countries like Spain, are not disproportionately burdened by these policies?

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