Question for written answer E-001972/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Isabella Tovaglieri (PfE), Virginie Joron (PfE), Roberto Vannacci (PfE), Marie Dauchy (PfE), Filip Turek (PfE), Paolo Borchia (PfE), Aldo Patriciello (PfE), Julien Leonardelli (PfE), Mathilde Androuët (PfE), Jaroslava Pokorná Jermanová (PfE), Séverine Werbrouck (PfE), Susanna Ceccardi (PfE), António Tânger Corrêa (PfE), Gilles Pennelle (PfE), Silvia Sardone (PfE), Anne-Sophie Frigout (PfE), Jorge Martín Frías (PfE), Anna Maria Cisint (PfE), Margarita de la Pisa Carrión (PfE), Juan Carlos Girauta Vidal (PfE), Jorge Buxadé Villalba (PfE), Ondřej Knotek (PfE), Raffaele Stancanelli (PfE), Mireia Borrás Pabón (PfE), Annamária Vicsek (PfE), Roman Haider (PfE), Jana Nagyová (PfE), Mélanie Disdier (PfE), Hermann Tertsch (PfE)

Subject: Proposed annual roadworthiness tests for vehicles more than 10 years old

The Commission has put forward a proposal for the revision of the directive on periodic roadworthiness tests and roadside inspections of commercial vehicles[1].

The proposal revises the criteria for inspections and roadworthiness tests for European vehicles and changes the time scales for roadworthiness tests.

In Article 5, the Commission proposes that vehicles more than 10 yeas old be subject to a roadworthiness test every year. The current rule is every two years.

This decision comes against a historic backdrop in which the European vehicle fleet is increasingly old: the average European car is 12.3 years old, commercial vehicle 12.5 and lorry 13.9[2].

In the light of the above:

1. Given how much vehicle owners have to pay to have their cars inspected, does this change not cause people significant financial harm?

2. Does this measure not affect owners of historic vehicles who have to go through tests every year despite their limited use of their vehicles?

3. The second-hand vehicle market has been growing exponentially in recent years owing to the rising prices for new cars – does this measure not affect it?

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[1] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2025%3A180%3AFIN.
[2] https://www.acea.auto/figure/average-age-of-eu-vehicle-fleet-by-country/.