

**Question for written answer E-003933/2025**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**Wouter Beke (PPE)**

Subject: Mutual recognition of vehicle safety standards between the EU and the United States

The recent EU-US joint statement on a framework agreement for transatlantic trade refers to a 'mutual recognition' of automobile standards.

Unlike the EU's Whole Vehicle Type Approval system, which requires rigorous pre-market checks and includes strong safety provisions such as autonomous emergency braking, intelligent speed assistance and improved pedestrian protection, the United States applies a self-certification system with no equivalent requirements.

According to the European Cyclists' Federation, road deaths in the EU have decreased by 16 % since 2013, while in the United States they have increased by 25 %. Recognising US standards for vehicles imported into the EU would risk undermining European road safety objectives, notably the protection of cyclists and pedestrians, and may create unfair competition for the EU manufacturers that already comply with higher safety standards.

In the light of concerns about giving up European safety standards, I would like to ask the following question:

What specific measures will the Commission take, when implementing the trade agreement with the United States, to ensure that the European safety requirements laid down are respected and not undermined by 'mutual recognition' of US automobile standards?

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