

EN
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Answer given by Mr Hoekstra
on behalf of the European Commission
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The CO₂ emission standards for new cars and vans¹ provide a framework for the transition to zero-emission vehicles, which is essential to achieve our objective of becoming climate neutral by 2050. The impacts for consumers have been analysed in the Commission's impact assessment², which showed that both first- and second-hand car users would benefit from a lower total cost of ownership over the vehicles' lifetime. This will be increasingly the case as more affordable zero-emission vehicles become available.

In 2025, the Commission will prepare a progress report³, which will look into the affordability of zero- and low-emission vehicles and the impacts on consumers of the transition to zero-emission mobility. In 2026, the Commission will review the Regulation⁴, which will be an opportunity to assess how to best ensure a fair transition.

The EU Social Climate Fund is established to address the social impacts of the new carbon pricing for the fuels used in buildings, road transport and small industry (ETS2)⁵ on the most vulnerable groups.

The Fund will mobilise at least EUR 86.7 billion between 2026 and 2032. It will support citizens in transport poverty by improving access to zero- and low-emission mobility, incentivising the use of public transport, shared mobility services and active mobility. Each Member State will have the option to spend up to 37.5% of their allocation to support the incomes of their most vulnerable citizens under certain conditions.

Spain is set to be one of the largest beneficiaries of the Fund; and will be able to mobilise around EUR 9 billion for measures and investments. Furthermore, Spain can use its ETS2-revenues for measures to accelerate the uptake of zero-emission vehicles or recharging infrastructure.

¹ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/851/oj>

² Impact assessment accompanying Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2019/631 as regards strengthening the CO₂ emission performance standards for new passenger cars and new light commercial vehicles in line with the Union's increased climate ambition.

³ Article 14a of Regulation (EU) 2019/631.

⁴ Article 15 of Regulation (EU) 2019/631.

⁵ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2023/959/oj>.