

(English version)

Question for written answer E-001707/25
to the Commission
Ondřej Dostál (NI)
(29 April 2025)

Subject: Commission proposal for mandatory annual periodic technical inspections for vehicles older than 10 years

The Commission's recently announced ⁽¹⁾ proposals for amendments to EU roadworthiness legislation include a provision for bringing in mandatory annual periodic technical inspections for vehicles that are more than 10 years old, as opposed to the current bi-annual requirement.

In Czechia alone, there are 6.7 million registered cars that are, on average, 17 years old. Due to this proposal, many of these cars will require twice as many inspections, amounting to millions of additional checks per year. This will cost between EUR 50 and EUR 100 each, and will result in additional costs to motorist households worth several EUR billion a year, without even counting the cost to society of additional infrastructure, additional administrative burdens and the diversion of qualified members of the workforce from more productive activities.

1. Has the Commission taken the above into consideration on a Member State-by-Member State basis? Has there been an assessment of the proportionality of the proposed measure, weighing benefits against costs, and will the Commission publish the results from any such assessment?
2. If the objective is maximising the number of life years saved, has the Commission considered whether the indicated resources might be better invested in healthcare or the design of healthy cities?

Submitted: 29.4.2025

Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas on behalf of the European Commission
(17 July 2025)

In line with the commitment in the Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy ⁽¹⁾, the Commission has adopted a proposal ⁽²⁾ to amending *inter alia* Directive 2014/45/EU ⁽³⁾ on periodic roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers.

The Commission has carefully considered the impact of the measures in the proposal. An assessment of the proportionality of the proposed measures was conducted as part of the impact assessment accompanying the publication of the proposal ⁽⁴⁾.

The Impact Assessment shows clear road safety and environmental benefits associated with the proposed measure to require annual testing of vehicles older than 10 years.

This measure would impact 11 Member States, as 16 Member States already have in place such controls (certain Member States require annual testing even before vehicles reach 10 years from their date of first registration).

While Periodic Technical Inspection costs are a matter for Member States, based on the figures supplied in the question, the cost of the additional inspection in the Member State concerned will range between 2 and 4 euro per month for a car owner.

However, according to the IA, older cars are involved in crashes almost twice as frequently as newer ones. In the 11 Member States concerned, over the period 2026 to 2050, the measure would save approximately 1 850 lives and prevent around 21 000 severe injuries, as well as significantly reducing emissions of air pollutants.

The proposed measure can also be expected to bring about healthcare savings by mitigating risks related to road safety, including in terms of the estimated reduction in severe injuries related to road accidents.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1083.

⁽¹⁾ https://transport.ec.europa.eu/eu-mobility-transport-achievements-2019-2024/sustainable-smart-mobility_en.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2025%3A180%3AFIN>.

⁽³⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2014/45/oj/eng>.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025SC0096>.