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E-002583/2025

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(18.11.2025)

The Commission is aware of the practice described and has taken the necessary action to address the fiscal implications. In accordance with EU rules¹, vehicles (new or used) from third countries to be placed on the EU market must have an approval confirming their compliance with the EU safety and environment standards to be registered in the EU. Privately imported cars are also subject to individual vehicle approval.

The rules for registration of vehicles are currently not harmonised, hence, the administrative and fiscal procedures (e.g. registration tax) largely vary between Member States. Member States' authorities may cooperate with each other, including in the exchange of data on vehicle registration, driving licences, vehicle owner/holder, insurance and traffic offenders. On 24 April 2025, the Commission adopted a proposal for a Directive² which will require that Member States assist one another, in particular by providing access to relevant vehicle registration data. To facilitate this exchange of data, Member States will be required to interconnect their registers with the Commission's MOVE-HUB system so that this information can be exchanged in real time.

The Commission is committed to strengthen and modernise the EU's customs framework. In May 2023, the Commission put forward an ambitious EU Customs Reform proposal³, part of which is the creation of an EU Customs Authority (EUCA). EUCA will develop and operate an EU Customs Data Hub, a unique digital tool for customs data, which will facilitate real-time sharing of centralised information between the customs authorities of the Member States, thus, significantly improving cooperation.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2018/858 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 on the approval and market surveillance of motor vehicles and their trailers, and of systems, components and separate technical units intended for such vehicles, OJ L 151, 14.6.2018, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/858/oj>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025PC0179>.

³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52023PC0258>.