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Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas
on behalf of the European Commission
(8.12.2025)

The design and implementation of urban vehicle access regulations (UVARs) like low emission zones (LEZs) is the responsibility of Member States and their respective authorities in line with the EU subsidiarity principle. As compliance schemes cater for the specific needs of the local population and reflect the administrative capacity of the competent authorities that differ in budget, staffing or technical expertise, it is unclear whether a single scheme would indeed enhance UVAR compliance.

The Commission introduced measures to foster LEZ information provision via Regulations 2022/670¹ that provides EU-wide real-time traffic information (including LEZ data) and 2018/1724² that includes the publication of traffic rules, including UVARs, and of online procedures for obtaining LEZ stickers.

The Commission conducted a study³ to identify solutions for demonstrating compliance with access rules. The goal was to support the operation of more efficient, easy-to-use, and non-discriminatory EU-wide UVARs. Study recommendations, which may serve in future policy initiatives, are currently under assessment (including an EU Digital Wallet based solution).

¹ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/670 of 2 February 2022 supplementing Directive 2010/40/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the provision of EU-wide real-time traffic information services, OJ L 122, 25.4.2022, pp. 1–16, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2022/670/oj.

² Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 October 2018 establishing a single digital gateway to provide access to information, to procedures and to assistance and problem-solving services and amending Regulation (EU) No 1024/2012, OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, pp. 1–38, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1724/oj>.

³ Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport, AustriaTech, MAPtm, Panteia and TRT, Mapping study on digital and technical solutions to enable more effective and user-friendly UVARs – Final report, Publications Office of the European Union, 2025, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2832/7516051>.