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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(10.12.2025)

The Joint Statement published on 21 August 2025 expresses the intention of the parties to reduce technical barriers to transatlantic trade in the automotive sector by considering the scope for mutual recognition. The details on the next steps to implement the commitments made in the Joint Statement will be discussed with the United States. However, the Commission considers that the implementation needs to be based on a comparison of the technical standards and requirements in the EU and the United States and without prejudice to the EU's regulatory autonomy.

A preliminary assessment shows that there are areas where standards are comparable, in particular where the EU has adopted United Nations Global Technical Regulations¹. In other areas, including the protection of vulnerable road users, the EU and the United States have different approaches.

¹ <https://unece.org/transport/standards/transport/vehicle-regulations-wp29/global-technical-regulations-gtrs>.