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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(28.1.2026)

The Commission has already, in 2022, introduced a regulatory framework for the type-approval of automated-driving systems¹ intended for specific use cases in small series, thereby establishing a clear baseline for market entry while safeguarding road safety. In line with the automotive action plan², the Commission is now working to boost regulatory framework for autonomous vehicles, with a target implementation date of 2026, which is deemed essential for preserving the EU automotive industry's long-term competitiveness. To remove remaining obstacles in national legislation, the Commission is rolling out cross-border testbeds for autonomous vehicles, providing manufacturers with a unified environment for deployment.

At the same time, the Commission recognises that advanced driver assistance systems, such as Tesla Full self-driving (FSD), raise safety concerns because they require continuous driver engagement and responsibility, which must be addressed rigorously. The UN regulation governing such systems (UNR 171³) is under revision to address latest technological innovations. These rules do not block any specific technology but ensure that every assisted vehicle on EU roads meets a high safety standard. Innovative technologies that do not fall within the scope of UNR 171 and can demonstrate an equivalent safety performance may be authorised under Article 39 of the EU legal framework⁴. To date, however, the Commission has not received any request from Member States for such authorisations.

The Commission remains committed to balancing innovation with safety and will continue to engage with industry, Member States and international bodies to deliver a robust, future-proof regulatory framework for automated vehicles.

¹ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2022/1426/oj.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025DC0095>.

³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/1899/oj>.

⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/858/oj>.