

EN

E-002884/2026

Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(22.9.2026)

1 and 2. Tolls and user charges (the latter also commonly known as ‘vignettes’) are regulated in the EU under Directive 1999/62/EC on the charging of vehicles for the use of road infrastructures<sup>1</sup>. The Belgian government intends to levy a new user charge on light-duty vehicles, including passenger cars, starting next year. While Article 7h of the Directive requires Member States to notify in advance new tolls for heavy-duty vehicles, this notification requirement does not apply to the present case as light-duty vehicles are not in scope of this notification requirement.

Directive 1999/62/EC does not prevent by itself reforms of other national legislation at the same time as the implementation of a new road charge. However, all national legislation must comply with the EU treaties, including Article 18 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union on non-discrimination on grounds of nationality.

3. The Commission may assess the compliance of the new charging system with EU law and, should a breach of EU law be identified, it may initiate the necessary steps to ensure that it complies with EU law, including with the principle of non-discrimination.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/1999/62/oj/eng>.