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Answer given by Mr Hoekstra
on behalf of the European Commission
(15.1.2025)

The revised Regulation setting CO₂ emission standards for new cars and vans¹ was agreed in 2023. It provides long term certainty and predictability, so that investments can be channelled in clean technologies, new value chains in the EU, infrastructure, and reskilling of workers. This will drive the transition towards zero-emission mobility and support the competitiveness of the EU industry in view of global trends.

The Commission is aware that some vehicle manufacturers have expressed concerns over their ability to meet their emission target for 2025. At the same time, other major European manufacturers have expressed confidence that they will meet their targets. These targets were agreed by the co-legislators in 2019 and confirmed in 2023, providing manufacturers with the necessary lead-time to set-up their compliance strategies.

It is clear that manufacturers need to act to reduce their emissions and comply in 2025, but it is premature to draw any conclusion on specific compliance situations. It should be noted that electric cars are not the only way to reach the targets – hybrids and plug-in hybrids, improvements in conventional engines, as well as deploying smaller and more efficient vehicles can also contribute.

As provided for in the Regulation, the Commission will review the effectiveness and impact of the Regulation in 2026. This review will build on the progress report due by end 2025, taking into account up-to-date information on the implementation of the Regulation. The President of the Commission has also announced that she will convene a Strategic Dialogue on the Future of the Car Industry in Europe.

¹ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/851/oj>