

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-001974/25
to the Commission
Giorgos Georgiou (The Left)
(16 May 2025)**

Subject: Takata and illegal charges in Cyprus

According to Regulation (EU) 2018/858 on the approval and market surveillance of motor vehicles, national authorities must implement adequate corrective measures and the cost of repairs must not be passed on to vehicle owners.

In Cyprus, two representatives of manufacturing companies, whose vehicles constitute the majority of the recalled vehicles, are indirectly passing on the cost of repairs by charging for mandatory diagnostic tests prior to replacement. The competent national authority was informed by the manufacturers themselves that the vehicles in question had defective airbags and, in turn, informed the vehicle owners.

Despite 57 warnings from the EU and the Commission's recommendations to Member States, the Government in Cyprus refuses to comply with the relevant regulation and put in place corrective or restrictive measures. Today, around 56 000 vehicles are on the road at risk of having faulty airbags, which can be activated even without the vehicle being involved in an accident. Cyprus already has two confirmed deaths from faulty airbags.

What measures does the Commission intend to put in place to ensure that the Government in Cyprus takes all corrective measures and ends illegal charging, as required by Regulation (EU) 2018/858?

Submitted: 16.5.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné on behalf of the European Commission
(26 June 2025)**

According to Regulation (EU) 2018/858 on the approval and market surveillance of motor vehicles ⁽¹⁾, where a vehicle or component represents a serious risk, the manufacturer shall immediately inform national authorities ⁽²⁾ on the risk and the measures taken. Where the risk requires rapid action, national authorities must take all appropriate restrictive measures. Hence, Member States must ensure the proper recall of vehicles.

The new General Product Safety Regulation (GPSR) ⁽³⁾, which applies from 13 December 2024, reinforces and introduces new and more stringent obligations for economic operators on, *inter alia*, product safety recalls and the right of consumers to cost-free, timely and effective remedies ⁽⁴⁾. The GPSR is also implemented by Market Surveillance Authorities.

The Commission closely monitors the enforcement of EU law and, in case of shortcomings, engages in a structured dialogue with the Member State to assess compliance. If it concludes that the legislation has not been implemented correctly, the Commission may initiate infringement proceedings under Article 258 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ⁽⁵⁾ to ensure compliance.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2018/858 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the approval and market surveillance of motor vehicles (OJ L 151, 14.6.2018, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/858/oj>).

⁽²⁾ Approval authorities and market surveillance authorities.

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EU) 2023/988 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 May 2023 on general product safety, PE/79/2022/REV/1, OJ L 135, 23.5.2023, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/988/oj>).

⁽⁴⁾ See Article 37 of the General Product Safety Regulation.

⁽⁵⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:12008E258>.