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Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas
on behalf of the European Commission
(9.10.2026)

For the purposes of Regulation (EC) No 561/2006¹, the ‘maximum permissible mass’ should be interpreted as referring to the value in field F.1 of the registration certificate, not field F.2. F.1 is the harmonised value linked to the vehicle’s technical characteristics, whereas F.2 is provided only optionally and may vary depending on national rules in the Member State of registration.

Accordingly, during international roadside checks, Member States should rely on field F.1 when assessing whether a vehicle falls within the scope of Regulation (EC) No 561/2006. This approach avoids a situation in which the same vehicle would be subject to different enforcement outcomes depending solely on its Member State of registration, which would undermine the objective of effective and uniform enforcement.

The Commission is aware of the importance of ensuring a consistent understanding of this issue in order to support uniform enforcement across Member States. In this context, it intends to draw attention to the matter in its contacts with the competent enforcement authorities, with a view to promoting a common approach and avoiding divergent practices in the application of the rules.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2006/561/oj/eng>.