

**Question for written answer E-007963/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Tyres and road safety

In its guidelines under the 2011-2020 Road Safety Programme, the Commission sets targets to supplement the ambitious ones it has already set, amongst which the adoption of stricter road safety standards across Europe, which include improving the capacity of cars.

Among the areas in which measures should be promoted, with a view to ensuring a progressive harmonisation of the rules on technical roadside inspections, tyre safety is certainly a priority.

According to 2013 data, poor tyre condition apparently caused 153 000 accidents in Europe and was directly responsible for 6% of all fatal accidents on the roads. In Italy alone, 12% of cars are apparently circulating with visibly damaged tyres; this means that in 9.3% of accidents – some 22 000 a year – at least one vehicle with worn tyres is involved. If there were greater prevention, hundreds of deaths and injuries could be avoided.

Can the Commission therefore answer the following questions:

- Does it intend to add any new targets to the 2011-2020 guidelines under its Road Safety Programme?
- How does it plan to invest in new vehicle safety technologies, in particular those relating to tyres?
- Will it consider supplementing its action programme with specific proposals to encourage drivers to improve their behaviour, supporting them, in terms of prevention and monitoring of vehicle safety, by rolling out new EU-wide rules and new types of equipment to help monitor the risks inherent in worn tyres?