

**Question for written answer E-000706/2015/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Patricija Šulin (PPE)

Subject: Permitted blood alcohol content

Statistics (compiled by, for example, the WHO and the Commission itself) show that driving under the influence of alcohol is the cause of a quarter of the deaths on European roads. In some Member States the proportion is significantly higher, amounting to more than 30% (e.g. in Slovenia, France, and Spain) or as much as 40% (e.g. in Cyprus). Added to that are all the people who suffer lasting damage as a result of injuries sustained in road accidents.

As reported in a 2014 Eurobarometer survey on the quality of transport¹, 49% of Europeans believe that road safety could be improved by tightening up the rules on the permitted blood alcohol content when driving. According to Commission figures only four Member States (Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia) have strict regulations on blood alcohol content for drivers (0 mg/ml)².

1. Is the Commission supporting public campaigns and education programmes in Member States on the harmful effects of drink-driving? If so, how?
2. Does it agree that it needs to check whether the recommendations which it issued in 2001 on the maximum permitted blood alcohol content for drivers of motorised vehicles³ are in line with the latest scientific findings and that they should be updated and perhaps adopted in the form of a Council recommendation?

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/transport/road_safety/observatory/doc/alcohol_rules.pdf

² Special Eurobarometer 422a.

³ Commission Recommendation of 17 January 2001 on the maximum permitted blood alcohol content (BAC) for drivers of motorised vehicles (Text with EEA relevance) (notified under document number C(2000) 4397), OJ L 43, 14.2.2001).