Question for written answer E-010682/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)

Subject: Bike infrastructure and safety measures for cyclists

Cyclists are small in number compared to motorised vehicles and are particularly vulnerable, creating a need to understand the characteristics specific to this user group. The highest number of cyclist fatalities is among children between 6 and 14 years of age. Besides, crashes involving cyclists occur frequently at facilities designed for cyclists. This means that these facilities are not necessarily good enough to prevent crashes.

Preventive measures require a framework that takes the needs of vulnerable road users into account. EU-funded projects like PRESTO 'Promoting cycling for everyone as daily transport mode', are good initiatives but are not enough. A May 2015 briefing on cycling mobility in Europe from Parliament stated that 'cycling is increasing in importance in [the EU]. In economic and social terms, it influences or impacts upon transport, mobility, environment and climate change, the economy and tourism. Currently, no cycling strategy exists at EU level'.

Not only is coordinated action across the EU needed to increase cyclists' safety on the roads, but different aspects of cycling promotion could also benefit from coordinated development.

Knowing the positive outcomes of such a coordinated action, what will the Commission do about it in practical terms?

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