

**Question for written answer E-004956/2018**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)**

Subject: Clear regulations for autonomous vehicles

At the moment, we are witnessing a decisive sea-change in the motor industry, as the race is on among all the major players to place a fully autonomous car on the market. The aim of self-driving cars is not only to make life more comfortable for drivers and passengers, but also to cut traffic congestion and make driving more environmentally friendly. Industry insiders are predicting that such vehicles will be ready to be placed on the market as soon as 2025.

The issue of legally regulating this market is clearly still a challenge, especially as regards establishing where (moral, financial and criminal) liability lies in relation to the operation of autonomous vehicles. Some countries are already working on rules to govern the use of such vehicles on the road. Concerns have been raised, therefore, that in the near future not only will self-driving cars rely on different technologies, but they will also be regulated under different rules.

There is therefore a need to establish, as a minimum, a general safety framework for the use of autonomous vehicles. It is also important that harmonisation should not be limited to the EU: this issue requires international cooperation, because social attitudes and legislation must, to some degree, be standardised internationally.

In the light of the foregoing, can the Commission state whether it is planning to start work on a general legislative framework for autonomous vehicles? Is it intending to cooperate with third countries and international organisations on this matter?