

**Question for written answer P-014263/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Brian Simpson (S&D)

Subject: Road safety and drivers' vision

In adopting Directive 2009/113/EC¹, the European Union recognised the importance of drivers' vision, including visual acuity, in ensuring road safety. Concerns have continued to be raised, however, about the varying implementation of the directive's vision requirements across the Member States. Of particular concern is the continued use in some Member States of the number plate test and the lack of ongoing vision assessment for all drivers.

1. Has the Commission investigated Member States' compliance with the visual requirements for Group 1 drivers, in particular whether the number plate test is an acceptable manner of determining whether an applicant has adequate visual acuity of at least 0.5?
2. Has the Commission also investigated Member States' compliance with the requirement for Group 2 drivers to demonstrate that they have adequate vision upon each licence renewal?

¹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:223:0031:0035:EN:PDF>