Amendment 60
Ciarán Cuffe
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Report **A9-0047/2024**
Isabel García Muñoz
Weights and dimensions of certain road vehicles
(COM(2023)0445 – C9-0306/2023 – 2023/0265(COD))

Proposal for a directive
Annex

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Maximum authorised dimensions for the vehicles referred to in Article 1(1), point (a)		
1.1 Maximum length		
	— motor vehicle other than a bus	12,00 m
	— trailer	12,00 m
	— articulated vehicle	16,50 m
	— road train	18,75 m
	— articulated bus	18,75 m
	— bus with two axles	13,50 m
	— bus with more than two axles	15,00 m
	— bus + trailer	18,75 m
1.2 Maximum width:		
	(a) all vehicles except vehicles referred to in point (b)	2,55 m
	(b) superstructures of conditioned vehicles or conditioned containers or swap bodies transported by vehicles	2,60 m
1.3 Maximum height		
	— any vehicle	4,00 m
	— vehicles or vehicle combinations carrying in intermodal transport one or more containers with a standard external height of 9’ 6’’ (high-cube containers)	4,30 m
1.4 Removable superstructures and standardised freight items such as containers are included in th dimensions specified in points 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 and 4.4.		
1.4a If any removable attachments such as ski-boxes are fitted to a bus, its length, including the attachments, must not exceed the maximum length laid down in point 1.1.		

1.5 Any motor vehicle or vehicle combination which is in motion must be able to turn within a swept circle having an outer radius of 12,50 m and an inner radius of 5,30 m				
1.5a Additional requirements for buses				
	With the vehicle stationary, a vertical plane tangential to the side of the vehicle and facing outwards from the circle shall be established by marking a line on the ground. In the case of an articulated vehicle, the two rigid portions shall be aligned with the plane.			
	When the vehicle moves from a straight line approach into the circular area described in point 1.5, no part of it shall move outside of that vertical plane by more than 0,60 m			
1.6 Maximum distance between the axis of the fifth-wheel king pin and the rear of a semi-trailer.				12,00 m
1.7 Maximum distance measured parallel to the longitudinal axis of the road train from the foremost external point of the loading area behind the cabin to the rearmost external point of the trailer of the combination, minus the distance between the rear of the drawing vehicle and the front of the trailer.				15,65 m
1.8 Maximum distance measured parallel to the longitudinal axis of the road train from the foremost external point of the loading area behind the cabin to the rearmost external point of the trailer of the combination.				16,40 m
2. Maximum authorised vehicle weight				
2.1 Vehicles forming part of a vehicle combination				
	2.1.1	Two-axle trailer		18 tonnes
	2.1.2	Three-axle trailer		24 tonnes
2.2 Vehicle combinations				
	2.2.1	Road trains with five or six axles		
		(a) two-axle motor vehicle with three-axle trailer		40 tonnes
		(b) three-axle motor vehicle with two or three-axle trailer		40 tonnes
	2.2.2	Articulated vehicles with five or six axles		
		(a)	two-axle motor vehicle with three-axle semi-trailer	40 tonnes
		(b)	three-axle motor vehicle with two or three-axle semi-trailer	40 tonnes

		(c)	two-axle motor vehicle with three-axle semi-trailer involved in intermodal transport operations	***42*** tonnes
		(d)	three-axle motor vehicle with two- or three-axle semi-trailer involved in intermodal transport operations	44 tonnes
	2.2.3	Road trains with four axles consisting of a two-axle motor vehicle and a two-axle trailer		36 tonnes
	2.2.4	Articulated vehicles with four axles consisting of a two-axle motor vehicle and a two-axle semi-trailer, if the distance between the axles of the semi-trailer:		
		2.2.4.1	is 1,3 m or greater but not more than 1,8 m	36 tonnes
		2.2.4.2	is greater than 1,8 m	36 tonnes
			In case the maximum authorised weight (MAW) of the motor vehicle (18 tonnes) and the MAW of the tandem axle of the semi-trailer (20 tonnes) are respected and the driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and air suspension or suspension recognised as being equivalent within the Union as defined in Annex II the maximum authorised weight provided for in point 2.2.4.2 shall be increased by 2 tonnes.	
	In the case of vehicle combinations including alternatively fuelled vehicles other than zero-emission vehicles, the maximum authorised weights provided for in Sub-section 2.2 shall be increased by the additional weight of the alternative fuel technology with a maximum of 1 tonne.			
	In the case of vehicle combinations including zero-emission vehicles the maximum authorised weights provided for in Sub-section 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 shall be increased by 4 tonnes.			
	In the case of vehicle combinations including zero-emission vehicles the maximum authorised weights provided for in in Sub-section 2.2.3 and 2.2.4 shall be increased by 2 tonnes.			
2.3 Motor vehicles				
	2.3.1	Two-axle motor vehicles other than buses:		18 tonnes
	2.3.2	two-axle buses:		19,5 tonnes
	2.3.3	Three-axle motor vehicles:		25 tonnes
	2.3.4	Three-axle motor vehicles where the driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and air suspension or suspension recognised as being equivalent within the Union as defined in Annex II, or where each driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and the maximum weight of each axle does not exceed 9,5 tonnes.		26 tonnes
	2.3.5	Four-axle motor vehicles with two steering axles where the driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and air suspension or suspension recognized as being equivalent within the Union		32 tonnes

		as defined in Annex II, or where each driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and the maximum weight of each axle does not exceed 9,5 tonnes	
	2.3.6	Five-axle motor vehicles with two steering axles where the driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and air suspension or suspension recognized as being equivalent within the Union as defined in Annex II, or where each driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and the maximum weight of each axle does not exceed 9,5 tonnes.	40 tonnes
	In the case of alternatively fuelled vehicles other than zero-emission vehicles, the maximum authorised weights provided for in points 2.3.1, 2.3.3 and 2.3.4 of Sub-section 2.3 shall be increased by the additional weight of the alternative fuel technology with a maximum of 1 tonne.		
	In the case of zero-emission vehicles, the maximum authorised weights provided for in Sub-section 2.3 shall be increased by 2 tonnes.		
2.4 Three-axle articulated buses			28 tonnes
	In the case of alternatively fuelled vehicles other than zero-emission vehicles, the maximum authorised ***weight of 28 tonnes*** provided for in ***Sub-section*** 2.4 ***is*** increased by the additional weight required for the alternative fuel technology with a maximum of 1 tonne.		
	In the case of zero-emission vehicles the maximum authorised ***weight of 28 tonnes*** provided for in ***Sub-section*** 2.4 ***is*** increased by 2 tonnes		
3 Maximum authorised axle weight of the vehicles referred to in Article 1 (1), point (b)			
3.1 Single axles			
	Single non-driving axle		10 tonnes
3.2 Tandem axles of trailers and semi-trailers			
	The sum of the axle weights per tandem axle must not exceed, if the distance (d) between the axles is:		
	3.2.1	less than 1 m (d < 1,0)	11 tonnes
	3.2.2	between 1,0 m and less than 1,3 m (1,0 ≤ d < 1,3)	16 tonnes
	3.2.3	between 1,3 m and less than 1,8 m (1,3 ≤ d < 1,8)	18 tonnes
	3.2.4	1,8 m or more (1,8 ≤ d)	20 tonnes
3.3 Tri-axles of trailers and semi-trailers			
	The sum of the axle weights per tri-axle must not exceed, if the distance (d) between the axles is:		

	3.3.1	1,3 m or less (d ≤ 1,3)	21 tonnes
	3.3.2	over 1,3 m and up to 1,4 m (1,3 <d ≤ 1,4)	24 tonnes
3.4 Driving axle			
	3.4.1	Driving axle of the vehicles referred to in points 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 other than zero-emission vehicles	11,5 tonnes
	3.4.2	Driving axle of zero-emission vehicles referred to in points 2.2.1 and 2.2.2	12,5 tonnes
	3.4.3	Zero-emission two-axle buses	12,5 tonnes
3.5 Tandem axles of motor vehicles			
	The sum of the axle weights per tandem axle must not exceed, if the distance (d) between the axles is:		
	3.5.1	less than 1 m (d < 1,0)	11,5 tonnes
	3.5.2	1,0 m or greater but less than 1,3 m (1,0 ≤ d < 1,3)	16 tonnes
	3.5.3	1,3 m or greater but less than 1,8 m (1,3 ≤ d < 1,8)	18 tonnes
		Where the driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and air suspension or suspension recognised as being equivalent within the Union as defined in Annex II, or where each driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and where the maximum weight for each axle does not exceed 9,5 tonnes	19 tonnes
4. Related characteristics of the vehicles referred to in Article 1(1), point (b)			
4.1 All vehicles			
	The weight borne by the driving axle or driving axles of a vehicle or vehicle combination must not be less than 25 % of the total laden weight of the vehicle or vehicle combination, when used in international traffic		
4.2 Road trains			
	The distance between the rear axle of a motor vehicle and the front axle of a trailer must not be less than 3,00 m		
4.3 Maximum authorised weight depending on the wheelbase			
	The maximum authorised weight in tonnes of a four-axle motor vehicle may not exceed five times the distance in metres between the axles of the foremost and rearmost axles of the vehicle		
4.4 Semi-trailers			
	The distance measured horizontally between the axis of the fifth-wheel king pin and any point at the front of the semi-trailer must not exceed 2,04 m		

Amendment

1. Maximum authorised dimensions for the vehicles referred to in Article 1(1), point (a)		
1.1 Maximum length		
	— motor vehicle other than a bus	12,00 m
	— trailer	12,00 m
	— articulated vehicle	16,50 m
	— road train	18,75 m
	— articulated bus ***with three axles***	18,75 m
	— ***articulated bus with four axles***	***21,00 m***
	— bus with two axles	13,50 m
	— bus with more than two axles	15,00 m
	— bus + trailer	18,75 m
1.2 Maximum width:		
	(a) all vehicles except vehicles referred to in point (b)	2,55 m
	(b) superstructures of conditioned vehicles or conditioned containers or swap bodies transported by vehicles	2,60 m
1.3 Maximum height		
	— any vehicle	4,00 m
	— vehicles or vehicle combinations carrying in intermodal transport one or more containers with a standard external height of 9’ 6’’ (high-cube containers)	4,30 m
1.4 Removable superstructures and standardised freight items such as containers are included in the dimensions specified in points 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 and 4.4.		

1.4a If any removable attachments such as ski-boxes are fitted to a bus, its length, including the attachments, must not exceed the maximum length laid down in point 1.1.			
1.5 Any motor vehicle or vehicle combination which is in motion must be able to turn within a swept circle having an outer radius of 12,50 m and an inner radius of 5,30 m			
1.5a Additional requirements for buses			
	With the vehicle stationary, a vertical plane tangential to the side of the vehicle and facing outwards from the circle shall be established by marking a line on the ground. In the case of an articulated vehicle, the two rigid portions shall be aligned with the plane.		
	When the vehicle moves from a straight line approach into the circular area described in point 1.5, no part of it shall move outside of that vertical plane by more than 0,60 m		
1.6 Maximum distance between the axis of the fifth-wheel king pin and the rear of a semi-trailer.			12,00 m
1.7 Maximum distance measured parallel to the longitudinal axis of the road train from the foremost external point of the loading area behind the cabin to the rearmost external point of the trailer of the combination, minus the distance between the rear of the drawing vehicle and the front of the trailer.			15,65 m
1.8 Maximum distance measured parallel to the longitudinal axis of the road train from the foremost external point of the loading area behind the cabin to the rearmost external point of the trailer of the combination.			16,40 m
2. Maximum authorised vehicle weight			
2.1 Vehicles forming part of a vehicle combination			
	2.1.1	Two-axle trailer	18 tonnes
	2.1.2	Three-axle trailer	24 tonnes
2.2 Vehicle combinations			
	2.2.1	Road trains with five or six axles	
		(a) two-axle motor vehicle with three-axle trailer	40 tonnes
		(b) three-axle motor vehicle with two or three-axle trailer	40 tonnes
	2.2.2	Articulated vehicles with five or six axles	

		(a)	two-axle motor vehicle with three-axle semi-trailer	40 tonnes
		(b)	three-axle motor vehicle with two or three-axle semi-trailer	40 tonnes
		(c)	two-axle motor vehicle with three-axle semi-trailer involved in intermodal transport operations	***44*** tonnes
		(d)	three-axle motor vehicle with two- or three-axle semi-trailer involved in intermodal transport operations	44 tonnes
	2.2.3	Road trains with four axles consisting of a two-axle motor vehicle and a two-axle trailer		36 tonnes
	2.2.4	Articulated vehicles with four axles consisting of a two-axle motor vehicle and a two-axle semi-trailer, if the distance between the axles of the semi-trailer:		
		2.2.4.1	is 1,3 m or greater but not more than 1,8 m	36 tonnes
		2.2.4.2	is greater than 1,8 m	36 tonnes
			In case the maximum authorised weight (MAW) of the motor vehicle (18 tonnes) and the MAW of the tandem axle of the semi-trailer (20 tonnes) are respected and the driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and air suspension or suspension recognised as being equivalent within the Union as defined in Annex II the maximum authorised weight provided for in point 2.2.4.2 shall be increased by 2 tonnes.	
	In the case of vehicle combinations including alternatively fuelled ***motor*** vehicles other than zero-emission ***motor*** vehicles, the maximum authorised weights provided for in Sub-section 2.2 shall be increased by the additional weight of the alternative fuel technology with a maximum of 1 tonne.			
	In the case of vehicle combinations including zero-emission ***motor*** vehicles the maximum authorised weights provided for in Sub-section 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 shall be increased by 4 tonnes.			
	In the case of vehicle combinations including zero-emission ***motor*** vehicles the maximum authorised weights provided for in in Sub-section 2.2.3 and 2.2.4 shall be increased by 2 tonnes.			
	In the case of vehicle combinations including trailers or semi-trailers with zero-emission technology the maximum authorised weights provided for in Sub-section 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3 and 2.2.4 shall be increased by 0,5 tonnes.			
	When more than one of the increases for vehicle combinations set out above apply to a single vehicle combination, those increases shall apply cumulatively.			
2.3 Motor vehicles				
	2.3.1	Two-axle motor vehicles other than buses:		18 tonnes
	2.3.2	two-axle buses:		19,5 tonnes

	2.3.3	Three-axle motor vehicles:	25 tonnes
	2.3.4	Three-axle motor vehicles where the driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and air suspension or suspension recognised as being equivalent within the Union as defined in Annex II, or where each driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and the maximum weight of each axle does not exceed 9,5 tonnes.	26 tonnes
	2.3.5	Four-axle motor vehicles with two steering axles where the driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and air suspension or suspension recognized as being equivalent within the Union as defined in Annex II, or where each driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and the maximum weight of each axle does not exceed 9,5 tonnes	32 tonnes
	2.3.6	Five-axle motor vehicles with two steering axles where the driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and air suspension or suspension recognized as being equivalent within the Union as defined in Annex II, or where each driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and the maximum weight of each axle does not exceed 9,5 tonnes.	40 tonnes
	In the case of alternatively fuelled ***motor*** vehicles other than zero-emission ***motor*** vehicles, the maximum authorised weights provided for in points 2.3.1, 2.3.3 and 2.3.4 of Sub-section 2.3 shall be increased by the additional weight of the alternative fuel technology with a maximum of 1 tonne.		
	In the case of zero-emission ***motor*** vehicles, the maximum authorised weights provided for in Sub-section 2.3 shall be increased by 2 tonnes.		
2.4 Three-axle articulated buses			28 tonnes
2.5 Four-axle articulated buses			***32 tonnes***
	In the case of alternatively fuelled ***motor*** vehicles other than zero-emission ***motor*** vehicles, the maximum authorised ***weights*** provided for in ***Sub-sections*** 2.4 ***and 2.5 are*** increased by the additional weight required for the alternative fuel technology with a maximum of 1 tonne.		
	In the case of zero-emission ***motor*** vehicles the maximum authorised ***weights*** provided for in ***Sub-sections*** 2.4 ***and 2.5 are*** increased by 2 tonnes.		
3 Maximum authorised axle weight of the vehicles referred to in Article 1 (1), point (b)			
3.1 Single axles			
	Single non-driving axle		10 tonnes
3.2 Tandem axles of trailers and semi-trailers			
	The sum of the axle weights per tandem axle must not exceed, if the distance (d) between the axles is:		

	3.2.1	less than 1 m (d < 1,0)	11 tonnes
	3.2.2	between 1,0 m and less than 1,3 m (1,0 ≤ d < 1,3)	16 tonnes
	3.2.3	between 1,3 m and less than 1,8 m (1,3 ≤ d < 1,8)	18 tonnes
	3.2.4	1,8 m or more (1,8 ≤ d)	20 tonnes
3.3 Tri-axles of trailers and semi-trailers			
	The sum of the axle weights per tri-axle must not exceed, if the distance (d) between the axles is:		
	3.3.1	1,3 m or less (d ≤ 1,3)	21 tonnes
	3.3.2	over 1,3 m and up to 1,4 m (1,3 <d ≤ 1,4)	24 tonnes
3.4 Driving axle			
	3.4.1	Driving axle of the vehicles referred to in points 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 other than zero-emission vehicles	11,5 tonnes
	3.4.2	Driving axle of zero-emission vehicles referred to in points 2.2.1 and 2.2.2	12,5 tonnes
	3.4.3	Zero-emission two-axle buses	12,5 tonnes
	3.4.4	***Zero-emission three-axle buses***	***12,5 tonnes***
3.5 Tandem axles of motor vehicles			
	The sum of the axle weights per tandem axle must not exceed, if the distance (d) between the axles is:		
	3.5.1	less than 1 m (d < 1,0)	11,5 tonnes
	3.5.2	1,0 m or greater but less than 1,3 m (1,0 ≤ d < 1,3)	16 tonnes
	3.5.3	1,3 m or greater but less than 1,8 m (1,3 ≤ d < 1,8)	18 tonnes
		Where the driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and air suspension or suspension recognised as being equivalent within the Union as defined in Annex II, or where each driving axle is fitted with twin tyres and where the maximum weight for each axle does not exceed 9,5 tonnes. ***In case of zero-emission motor vehicles, the maximum sum of the axle weights per tandem axle shall be increased by 1 tonne.***	19 tonnes
3.6 Tri-axles of motor vehicles			
	The sum of the axle weights per tri-axles must not exceed, if the distance (d) between the axles is:		
	3.6.1	***less than 1,3 m (d < 1,3)***	***21 tonnes***
	3.6.2	***1,3 m or greater but less than 1,8 m (1,3 ≤ d < 1,8)***	***24 tonnes***
4. Related characteristics of the vehicles referred to in Article 1(1), point (b)			

4.1 All vehicles	
	The weight borne by the driving axle or driving axles of a vehicle or vehicle combination must not be less than 25 % of the total laden weight of the vehicle or vehicle combination, when used in international traffic
4.2 Road trains	
	The distance between the rear axle of a motor vehicle and the front axle of a trailer must not be less than 3,00 m
4.3 Maximum authorised weight depending on the wheelbase	
	The maximum authorised weight in tonnes of a four-axle ***or five-axle*** motor vehicle may not exceed five times the distance in metres between the axles of the foremost and rearmost axles of the vehicle
4.4 Semi-trailers	
	The distance measured horizontally between the axis of the fifth-wheel king pin and any point at the front of the semi-trailer must not exceed 2,04 m

Or. en

Justification

The 2 tonne allowance provided to vehicle combinations including trailers or semi-trailers with zero-emission technology is excessive and is not what market operators have asked for and who have said that 0,5 tonnes is sufficient. It is also going to add excessive weight to vehicles with implications for wear and tear on road infrastructure and on road safety, particularly if it is cumulative.