WRITTEN QUESTION E-0565/03 by Luciano Caveri (ELDR) to the Commission

Subject: Rules on reversing alarms

It is interesting to note that studies conducted by the NHTSA (National Highway Transportation Authority) in the United States show a high rate of accidents in which pedestrians, many of them children, have been killed by reversing vehicles. Unfortunately, no similar statistics are available in Europe. Reversing alarms can prove effective, as has been shown in Anglo-Saxon countries. However, in Europe, such devices are prohibited by some highway codes (e.g. in France) and not even mentioned in others (e.g. in Italy).

Does the Commission not consider that rules should be introduced on the subject at Community level with respect to lorries, buses, camper-vans, caravans and any other vehicles whose driver's view is restricted when reversing?

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