

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0570/03
by Freddy Blak (GUE/NGL)
to the Commission

Subject: Punitive charges on imported vehicles

The Danish Government imposes various charges on imported used motor vehicles depending on the age of the vehicle.

§ 4, paragraph 6 (1) and (2) of Law No. 977 of 2 December 2002 on registration fees for motor vehicles, for example, indicates that the older the vehicle is, the higher the rate applied to the value of the vehicle (180% as opposed to 105%).

This means in practice that the system of importing used motor vehicles into Denmark in many cases makes it more expensive to import and register a foreign motor vehicle than an equivalent vehicle bought in Denmark, which constitutes a technical barrier to trade to the detriment of imported goods.

Will the Commission say whether this system is consistent with the provisions on the free and non-discriminatory movement of goods across borders in the EU?