

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3523/07
by Piia-Noora Kauppi (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Harmonisation of speed limits

The legislation on speed limits in Europe is generally harmonised in individual Member States of Europe, but a common European harmonisation has not been adopted. For instance, while the maximum speed on motorways in Finland is 120 km/h, Germany's motorways have only recommended speed limits ranging from 80 to 130 km/h, but no legal maximum speed limit exists. Moreover, different countries have special rules for drivers. For instance in Finland, cars without airbags and ABS brakes are only allowed to drive at 80km/h on roads where others are allowed to drive at 100km/h.

In the European Union, where free movement of goods, labour, capital and services exists, how can citizens be expected to be aware of all the different regulations and exceptions concerning speed limits? Should not the EU harmonise the speed limits to make single legal standards for all Europeans?