

**Question for written answer E-011090/2012
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Agnès Le Brun (PPE)

Subject: Periodic roadworthiness tests

On 13 July 2012, the Commission put forward a proposal for a regulation (COM(2012)0380) which seeks to amend the rules on periodic roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers.

The current roadworthiness test system, at least in France, involves an initial test four years after a new vehicle has been purchased and every two years thereafter. The proposal for a regulation, which is part of the 'roadworthiness package', retains both the first obligatory test at the four-year mark and the test two years after that, but also introduces an annual roadworthiness test for vehicles more than six years old, a move which seems out of step with the constantly improving levels of safety and reliability offered by new models. Moreover, studies of road accidents caused by technical failures often produce contradictory findings, which should prompt the Commission to carry out further studies before introducing any measures. Lastly, roadworthiness tests are expensive, and increasing their frequency without a guarantee that this would be any more effective in improving safety would risk undermining European households' purchasing power, given the ever greater role that motor vehicles play in daily life.

1. What studies on traffic accidents did the Commission use as the basis for its proposal to introduce periodic roadworthiness tests?
2. Will the new rules include derogations for cars in collections or historic cars, which have a low annual mileage?