Question for written answer E-001565/2018 to the Commission Rule 130 Jørn Dohrmann (ECR)

Subject: Automatic daytime running lights for all vehicles

Back in 2011, the EU brought in a rule requiring all new cars to have daytime running lights at the front, but not at the rear, in order to save energy.

As a result, on many cars on the roads now, only the running lights at the front come on automatically when they are started up. This means that many people forget about their rear lights when it gets dark or foggy. This is a particular problem in a country like Denmark, where for years we were used to both the front and rear running lights having to be on at all times.

On 1 July 2016, the EU rule from 2011 was changed, meaning that all new cars are to have automatic running lights at the front and at the rear. Many drivers of cars made before that date, however, are forgetting to switch on their lights. This problem could be solved by bringing in a rule requiring all cars to have front and rear running lights on at all times.

Does the Commission agree that the rule on automatic daytime running lights should apply to call cars, regardless of their age?

Has the Commission looked into how many accidents are caused because cars do not have their rear lights on?

Does the Commission have any initiatives in the pipeline intended to streamline the rules and require that front and rear lights are switched on automatically at all times?