Question for written answer E-002759/2020 to the Commission Rule 138

Massimiliano Salini, Carlo Fidanza

Subject: Social and economic impact of COVID-19 and recovery strategy for the automotive

sector

While the economic crisis due to the COVID-19 emergency is likely to penalise disproportionately the poorer sections of the population, President von der Leyen, speaking of the post-Covid-19 recovery plan, reiterated that the recovery should be directed towards a more resilient, greener Europe.

In short, the revival of the economy will have to take into account both the social aspect and that relating to the reduction of carbon emissions.

Applying this approach to the road transport sector, the use of the limited resources available would have to be optimised by encouraging technologies that reduce CO $_2$ emissions at the lowest possible cost. At the same time, incentives should allow all consumers to have access to mobility and not just the better off. Given the above, can the Commission answer the following questions:

Does it not think it should direct its policies regarding the use of EU funds towards scrappage schemes for old cars with high CO $_2$ emissions, without discriminating between technologies but in accordance with the criterion of maximum CO $_2$ reduction for every euro spent?

Does it not agree that such a non-prescriptive approach to the choice of technologies for new cars would also have the effect of enabling less affluent consumers to enjoy mobility at affordable prices?