

**Question for written answer E-001490/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: European regulatory framework provisions for touch screens in vehicles

In 2020, the British Transport Research Laboratory (TRL) carried out a study¹ into the effect on driving performance and reaction times of Android Auto and Apple CarPlay infotainment and other touch screens. It revealed that the reaction time of motorists using such touch screens is slowed by up to 57%. This is an alarming result, especially when compared with the findings for texting or hand-held telephoning behind the wheel (35% and 45% slower respectively).

1. Does the Commission agree that this should be made subject to binding European rules, in line with its objective of halving road accident casualties by 2030?
2. The most recent EU recommendation on this matter dates back to 2008², when there were no touch screens in cars. Does the Commission consider that EU regulatory framework provisions for touch screens should be strengthened and does it intend to take the necessary action?
3. Unlike countries such as Japan and the US, the EU does not require 'driver workload tests' that measure the extent to which drivers' attention shifts from the road to the screen' Will the Commission also introduce these tests in the EU to improve safety standards regarding use of touch screens?

¹ <https://trl.co.uk/publications/interacting-with-android-auto-and-apple-carplay-when-driving>

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32008H0653>