

**Question for written answer E-003230/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Benoît Lutgen (PPE)**

Subject: Cooperation and research on combating electric vehicle fires

Just recently, a bus accident in Italy has shown that electric vehicles require a special response from the emergency services: the flames spread more easily and are more difficult to control, and the engine cools down very slowly. This means it takes much longer to provide first aid for victims and can pose a threat to the safety of the emergency responders. The wait can last for hours and puts the emergency services under pressure. It is also a very stressful situation for families who are waiting for news of their loved ones.

In the light of the shift to 'all-electric' for all vehicles in Europe, it is important to consider improving intervention capacities, including in car parks, which are of particular concern to the public.

In view of the above:

1. Are there any plans for European coordination of emergency services? This would make it possible to learn from each other, ensure good practices are shared and encourage a virtuous circle of learning and improvement.
2. Is the EU funding a research programme to support the emergency services, for example to develop new intervention techniques or tools?

Submitted: 31.10.2023