

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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*Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection*

**2007/2120(INI)**

13.9.2007

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on CARS 21: a competitive automotive regulatory framework  
(2007/2120(INI))

Draftsman: Malcolm Harbour

PA\_NonLeg

## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Welcomes the Commission's initiative in setting up the CARS 21<sup>1</sup> High Level Group in 2005, and in bringing together stakeholders to agree to an integrated legislative approach in a sector which is critical for the EU's technological and industrial base and its global manufacturing competitiveness;
2. Welcomes the Commission's response<sup>2</sup> to findings of the CARS 21 High Level Group final report<sup>3</sup> and urges it to adopt its recommendations in accordance with the ten-year regulatory roadmap, which forms an integral part of the CARS 21 final report;
3. Underlines the Member States' key role in meeting the Union's political and internal market objectives and their responsibility in achieving an integrated approach in the implementation of legislation in the automotive sector and welcomes, therefore, the fact that Member States were represented in the High Level Group at Cabinet Minister level;
4. Calls upon the Member States' administrations to work closely with the Commission in implementing the CARS 21 recommendations; notes, in particular, the need to ensure that new regulations affecting the automotive sector are introduced in a coordinated manner, avoiding distortions within the internal market;
5. Endorses the proposals from the Commission on procedures for the registration of motor vehicles<sup>4</sup> and the problems that some national rules present to the operation of the internal market; notes the impact of these national rules on economic sectors such as vehicle leasing and rental; calls on Member States to implement the necessary changes to their rules as soon as possible;
6. Hopes that parliaments of Member States and their regions will wish to be associated with the outcome of the CARS 21 process; suggests that an inter-parliamentary network on automotive issues, coordinated by the European Parliament, would bring real benefits for road safety, environmental protection, innovation and competitiveness;
7. Stresses the key role of better regulation principles, in particular cost-effectiveness, affordability and thorough impact assessments, in designing a competitive regulatory framework within which industry can compete, continue to support jobs and economic growth, and at the same time help to deliver EU environmental and safety objectives;
8. Clearly endorses the report's recommendation to replace 38 Community directives with corresponding UN/ECE (The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe)

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<sup>1</sup> A Competitive Automotive Regulatory System for the 21st Century.

<sup>2</sup> COM(2007)0022.

<sup>3</sup> The High Level Group adopted its final report on 12 December 2005, putting forward a number of recommendations to improve the competitiveness of the European automotive sector.

<sup>4</sup> Commission 2007/C 68/04 of 4/2/2007 Interpretative communication on procedures for the registration of motor vehicles originating in another member state.

regulations without any lowering of the level of safety and environmental protection;

9. Reaffirms its support for the intelligent car initiative, in particular eCall, by calling on all stakeholders, particularly Member States, to make the necessary provisions for its implementation;
10. Reminds the Commission of its formal commitment to issue an annual report to the European Parliament on progress being made in the UN/ECE process as a safeguard of transparency and good governance in this process of internationalisation;
11. Confirms its support for an effective type approval process, as pointed out in its recommendation for second reading adopted on 10 May 2007<sup>1</sup>;
12. In particular, draws attention to the new provisions for after-market parts that impact on safety and environmental performance, and notes that these provisions will establish a single market in such components;
13. Notes the importance of the CARS 21 regulatory road map in setting out a planned approach to the introduction of enhanced environmental and safety equipment; strongly supports, in particular, moves to phase in electronic stability control systems (ESC) as standard fitment as quickly as possible;
14. Calls on the Commission to report to the European Parliament on the operation of type approval procedures and on the monitoring of the comitology process in the annual report referred to above;
15. Confirms its support for a strategic approach to planning and implementing legislation that secures social and environmental objectives, and notes that the automotive industry must be given sufficient time to design, tool up and manufacture new car models to meet these goals;
16. Calls on the Commission to ensure the proper implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1400/2002 on motor vehicle distribution throughout the EU; further believes that when that Regulation is reviewed, the Commission Directorate-General for competition should consider itself part of the integrated approach to legislation in the sector;
17. Recalls Articles 6 to 8 of the Euro 5 and 6 Regulation (EC/..), under which all vehicle repairers in the Community shall have access to appropriate technical repairs information;
18. Stresses the potential of ICT offers for avoiding adverse effects on the environment and public health, accidents and waste of energy, when used on an EU-wide basis in intelligent traffic control and management systems which are aimed at permitting the smooth flow of traffic; is of the opinion that, in the interests of ensuring effective vehicle-to-infrastructure communications in all Member States, communication devices should comply with a uniform European standard;
19. Notes the importance to consumers of in-service reliability and durability information based on comprehensive consumer surveys; notes that public authorities could facilitate

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<sup>1</sup> Texts adopted, P6\_TA(2007)0176.

the work behind these surveys by allowing registration authorities to provide contact details of vehicle owners who agree to participate in them.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	13.9.2007
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 35 -: 0 0: 0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Charlotte Cederschiöld, Corina Crețu, Mia De Vits, Janelly Fourtou, Evelyne Gebhardt, Małgorzata Handzlik, Daniel Hannan, Malcolm Harbour, Edit Herczog, Iliana Malinova Iotova, Pierre Jonckheer, Kurt Lechner, Arlene McCarthy, Nickolay Mladenov, Catherine Neris, Bill Newton Dunn, Zita Pleštinská, Guido Podestà, Zuzana Roithová, Luisa Fernanda Rudi Ubeda, Heide Rühle, Leopold Józef Rutowicz, Christel Schaldemose, Andreas Schwab, Eva-Britt Svensson, Marianne Thyssen, Jacques Toubon, Bernadette Vergnaud
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	André Brie, Wolfgang Bulfon, Giovanna Corda, Joel Hasse Ferreira, Christopher Heaton-Harris, Othmar Karas, Olle Schmidt, Gary Titley
<b>Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote</b>	