

0004/2022

Petition No 0004/2022 by Ramón Ledesma Muñiz (Spanish) on the need to use the new autonomous intelligent emergency-signalling device in vehicles in the EU

The petitioner points out that Regulation (EU) 2015/758 concerning type-approval requirements for the deployment of the eCall in-vehicle system, Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 886/2013 on procedures for providing minimum universal traffic information free of charge to users, and Directive 2010/40/EU on the framework for the deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems in the field of road transport and for interfaces with other modes of transport oblige Member States to introduce intelligent systems with a view to easing road traffic, making European roads safer and preventing accidents, but that, to date, few initiatives have been developed in this regard. He takes the view that the EU obligation for drivers to use a lightsignaling device connected to national traffic control centres (similar to the obligation set to be introduced in Spain in 2026) would meet the requirements of that legislation and would enable progress to be made in the introduction of intelligent systems to help improve traffic and road safety. The petitioner states that road accident statistics show that one of the situations that causes the most accidents and has the most damaging results is when vehicles come to a halt because they have broken down on high-speed roads. In that case, traditionally, drivers would take emergency triangles out their vehicle and place them by it to make the breakdown visible. However, putting the triangles out on the road has always created more danger than it has reduced. As a result, Spain recently adopted a regulation making it obligatory for drivers to carry a luminous device in their vehicles, to steadily replace the triangles by 2026. The device not only emits light but also automatically contacts the Directorate-General for Traffic, which provides information on the position of the vehicle on the road, notifying nearby drivers of the breakdown. Royal Decree 159/2021 of 16 March 2007 governs public-road support services. Given how important that type of device could be to reducing accidents on high-capacity roads, the petitioner urges Parliament to study, discuss, recommend or legislate on their compulsory inclusion in vehicle equipment.