



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 25.5.2021
C(2021) 3892 final

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaților for its Opinion on the Communication “Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy – putting European transport on track for the future” {COM(2020) 789 final}.

The Commission welcomes the overall support from the Camera Deputaților for the Sustainable and Smart Mobility strategy. The success of this strategy depends on the joint collaboration of all relevant actors across levels of governance in the Union.

In its Opinion, the Camera Deputaților recommends that an impact assessment should be carried out to identify the environmental impact of electric charging and hydrogen refuelling infrastructure at EU level. Indeed, the Commission is working on such an impact assessment in the context of the review of the Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (Directive 2014/94/EU).

The Camera Deputaților points out that the management of mobility at local and regional level must take account of mobility patterns arising from an ageing population and be sufficiently flexible to match the topography and socio-cultural models of central and Eastern Europe. It also stresses that infrastructure development plans for sustainable urban mobility must be carried out over the longest possible timeframe, in order to enable solutions to be implemented at an experimental stage to achieve zero carbon emissions. These are indeed relevant elements that will be duly reflected in the Commission’s review of the European urban mobility package and policy initiatives to support multi-modality.

The Camera Deputaților also notes that the significant change in consumption patterns brought about by the development of e-commerce calls for support to be given to scientific research carried out at European level by small and medium-sized enterprises in the field of automated delivery of goods and transport by drones. Indeed, under the new Horizon Europe programme for research and innovation, the Commission has committed to new public-private partnerships such as in the area of connected,

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cooperative and automated mobility that will deliver the necessary long-term stable research and innovation impulses.

Moreover, the Camera Deputaților stresses the need to develop the data infrastructure in the European Union as soon as possible, particularly in rural and remote areas, so that citizens can fully benefit from intelligent transport systems. This is a key priority under the Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy that commits to the development of a European Mobility Data Space.

Finally, the Camera Deputaților recommends the adoption of a mechanism to support the training of staff and the recognition at European level of both classic transport qualifications, which are currently lacking, and those in emerging fields such as the design and operation of data networks and drones. This is a high priority need. There are a number of EU funding instruments for upskilling and reskilling¹, including the proposed Just Transition Fund, which will support the development of skills focused on reskilling of workers in regions affected by the economic and environmental transition.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Camera Deputaților and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*

*Adina Vălean
Member of the Commission*

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1530&langId=en>