



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 20.03.2019  
C(2019) 2191 final*

*Mr Andreas NORLÉN  
Speaker of the Riksdag  
SE – 100 12 STOCKHOLM*

*Dear Speaker,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Riksdag for its Opinion on the Communication ‘On the road to automated mobility: An EU strategy for mobility of the future’ {COM(2018) 283 final}.*

*With this Communication, the Commission proposes a comprehensive European Union approach towards connected and automated mobility, setting out a clear, forward looking and ambitious European agenda. This strategy aims at making the European Union a world leader in automated and connected mobility for the benefit of the Union’s citizens. It aims at developing key technologies, services and infrastructure in Europe, and at ensuring that the Union’s legal and policy frameworks are ready to support the deployment of safe connected and automated mobility, while simultaneously addressing societal and environmental concerns. The European Research and Innovation program contributes substantially to generate knowledge and develop experiences, thus building the foundation of the aforementioned goals.*

*The Commission welcomes the Riksdag’s broad support for the strategy. The Commission takes seriously the concerns expressed that automated driving systems cannot be expected to be without fault and that it could be difficult to assign liability in case of an accident of an automated vehicle. For these reasons, together with the strategy, the Commission also made a legislative proposal on vehicle safety<sup>1</sup> which will provide the legal framework for the type approval of automated vehicles and will in particular require the fitting of a black box on automated vehicles. This black box will help to clarify issues of liability in accordance with the national liability regime.*

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<sup>1</sup> COM(2018) 286 final.

*The Commission has taken due note of the views expressed by the Riksdag in its Opinion and will take them into account when implementing the strategy with Member States and stakeholders. The Opinion has been made available to the Commission's representatives in the ongoing negotiations with the co-legislators on the legislative proposal on vehicle safety and will inform these discussions.*

*Discussions between the Commission, Member States and stakeholders are underway to implement the strategy. For instance, the European Union has pushed for a clear agenda for international harmonisation of vehicle regulations in the framework of the United Nations. The Commission also remains hopeful that an agreement of the co-legislators, the European Parliament and the Council, on vehicle safety will be reached in the near future. Regarding the ethical and moral considerations linked to automated and connected vehicles, the Commission is currently setting up a European expert group to address ethical implications and promote responsible use of automated and connected vehicles. Finally, the platform to coordinate large scale tests at the European Union level should be launched soon. The Commission fully supports the Member States' proactive approach to large scale testing on open roads, such as the 'Drive Me project', in order to make progress on the technology and encourages the project to share its lessons learnt with other stakeholders at the platform.*

*The Commission hopes that the clarifications provided in this reply address the issues raised by the Riksdag and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Elżbieta Bieńkowska  
Member of the Commission*