ENCOURAGING CLEAN AND SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

Accelerating the shift to clean and sustainable mobility is essential to improve the quality of life and health of our citizens and contribute to the EU’s climate objectives. This transition also offers major opportunities for the European economy. To succeed, the Commission proposes to make use of improved emission standards, smart road charging as well as scale up the use of low-emission alternative energy for transport, such as renewable electricity, advanced biofuels, or hydrogen.

Transport in Europe is 94% dependent on oil, 84% of it is imported

The EU crude oil import bill is estimated at around €187 billion a year

Road transport alone is responsible for almost a fifth of EU emissions.

Smart road charging

Road-charging is a national competence and Member States are – and will remain – free to introduce it on their territory or not. For those who decide to do so, the Commission is today proposing some common principles. Firstly, citizens shall not be unfairly treated on the basis of their nationality, for instance through discriminatory road-pricing. Secondly, charging should be based on the distance driven (tolls) rather than on time (vignettes). This will best reflect actual usage and pollution. Thirdly, charges based on emissions performance will make it possible to reward the most environmentally-friendly vehicles. Fourthly, electronic tolling systems will guarantee seamless mobility across Europe.
Promoting cleaner vehicles

EU-wide CO2 targets and emission standards are a strong driver for sustainability and contribute to the competitiveness of Europe’s automotive industry. The Commission is therefore working on post-2020/2021 CO2 targets for cars and vans, and on the first-ever CO2 targets for heavy duty vehicles. These proposals will be made in the coming months and will further implement the “Europe on the Move” action-plan. As a first step, the Commission is today proposing legislation for monitoring and reporting CO2 emissions from heavy-duty vehicles, thereby increasing transparency and stimulating uptake of the most fuel-efficient vehicles.

The transition to low-emission mobility also requires the deployment and market acceptance of alternative fuel-powered vehicles. This depends on the wide-availability of the corresponding charging infrastructure. Journeys across Europe in electric vehicles should be straightforward: this means electric charging must be as easy as filling the tank. The Commission is actively encouraging electric mobility through legislation (e.g. EU-wide technical specifications) and investment. By 2020, over 1200 alternative fuelling points, notably electro-mobility charging points, will have received EU financial support under the Connecting Europe Facility alone.

Development of electric vehicles and charging points in Europe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New registrations of plug-in electric passenger cars:</th>
<th>Number of publicly accessible electric charging positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2011</strong></td>
<td><strong>2016</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9,426</td>
<td>157,564</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>