

Brussels, October 14th, 2024

Emissions Review

Dear President of the European Commission,
Honorable Ursula von der Leyen,

We are writing to you on behalf of the Alliance of European Car Dealers and Repairers (AECDR), which represents automotive distribution and repair networks across Europe. Our sector is a cornerstone of the European economy. With 4.5 million jobs, we are the largest employer in the automotive industry and play a critical role in the mobility of businesses and consumers alike.

The automotive sector is currently facing immense pressure due to the accelerated push toward electric vehicle (EV) adoption. The ambitious targets for EV sales, driven by both manufacturers and impending EU regulations, are presenting significant challenges. In many European countries, and across most networks, these targets are proving exceedingly difficult to meet, as market conditions are simply not ready for such a rapid shift.

Our daily interactions with consumers reveal the same concerns across all markets, customers remain hesitant to adopt them due to high costs, fast innovation and low residual value, limited range, and the lack of accessible charging infrastructure. This has led to a steep decline in BEV sales, despite overall market stability. The gap between the targets set for EV adoption and the reality of market readiness is widening, making it clear that the industry is not equipped to meet the upcoming regulatory demands.

Without a significant recalibration of the current framework, the automotive retail and repair sector is heading toward severe disruptions. Already in 2025, the financial penalties associated with missing EV targets, combined with the high costs of BEVs, are poised to reduce production drastically. This will severely impact the number of vehicles our networks can sell, threatening thousands of jobs and the sustainability of businesses across the supply chain.

We align with the many voices of our sector calling for a more pragmatic approach. A gradual, multitechnological (including Bio and E-Fuels) transition is needed to ensure that the shift toward net-zero emission mobility happens in a sustainable and balanced manner -one that preserves jobs and secures the future of the industry without jeopardizing economic stability.

We urge you to consider legislative adjustments that reflect the current market realities and starting the revision of Target CO2 regulation as soon as possible, in order to define measures and timing more fitting with real market trends. By doing so, we can ensure that the transition benefits all stakeholders and does not come at the cost of widespread economic and social hardship and will safeguard the competitiveness of the European automotive sector.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue. We look forward to engaging in further dialogue to help shape a future that works for both the automotive industry and the broader European community.

With our highest regards,

Gérardo Pérez
- President -



Friedrich Trosse
- Secretary General -