



In order to protect the society from unsafe and less environmental friendly motorized vehicles, vehicle registration authorities apply vehicle approval standards. Vehicle manufacturers have to proof that their vehicles are in compliance with those standards. Currently, non-existent, incomplete or different national legislative approaches still form a major obstacle on the path to the market introduction of automated and especially autonomous vehicles.

Challenges

- The total scope of affected policy and regulation has to be defined.
- How to bundle and coordinate EU research and testing activities to speed up and not loose in the world-wide competition?
- How can type-approval processes evolve so that it will be in place when the technology is ready?
- How and to which extent adapt and harmonize traffic rules for a quick introduction of higher automation levels?
- What liability framework needs to be in place to facilitate market penetration from a legal/liability perspective?

Research Needs

- Additional research needs to be carried out in areas such as a common understanding for future
- A joint approach between telecom and vehicle industries, a cross-border pilot project and the adaption of road traffic rules in Member states.
- Research must address, inter alia, a Pan-European approach on mobility solutions, a political framework for the rollout of electric autonomous shared mobility into rural areas and the safe coexistence of automated vehicles and non-motorized road users.

Statements

- All technical improvements in the field of autonomous driving are hampered if there is no proper and sound regulatory framework in place.
- Regulators must be cautious: Over-regulating could lead to competitive advantages for countries with a looser regulation at the cost of safety.
- A liability framework needs to be in place to facilitate market penetration from a legal/liability perspective.
- The creation of regulatory framework, research and testing needs to speed up as well to avoid losing in the world-wide competition.

Expected Impact

- Europe's leadership in the automotive sector can be affected if there are no immediate, collaborative actions towards a coordinated and quick development of European-wide regulations and laws enabling testing and using automated vehicles on public roads. But when severe regulatory issues are being solved, the public will accept and start using automated vehicles sooner which in turn will result in a stronger market penetration and a certain and noticeable competitive advantage in the field of automated driving as well as all the other advantages in automated driving like better traffic throughput, reduced congestion, reduced accidents and a higher quality of life in cities.

