

# Press Release

Brussels, 17 December 2025

## The automotive omnibus reframes the 2035 targets. Europe must now strengthen the foundations of climate-neutral mobility

CECRA welcomes the long-awaited automotive omnibus package as a significant step towards greater regulatory clarity. While the outcome represents progress, CECRA and its members had hoped for less headline and more substance in the Commission's announcement.

**Attention must now turn decisively to ensuring a successful transition in practice.** This requires complementary EU policies that deliver large-scale infrastructure and stimulate demand for both new and used electric vehicles across all Member States.

The overall direction is clear: **Europe's automotive sector and its customers need a credible, supportive, and economically sustainable pathway towards clean mobility.**

The omnibus package brings regulatory simplification and extends technological openness beyond 2035, allowing manufacturers to continue offering plug-in hybrid and range-extender vehicles. By **enabling a 90% fleet CO<sub>2</sub> reduction rather than a de facto 100% ban, the European Commission maintains flexibility while safeguarding the climate objective through corresponding upstream compensation measures.**

However, regulatory adjustment alone will not suffice. **The central challenge remains to accelerate consumer demand.**

From the viewpoint of Europe's dealers and repairers, those closest to the customer, the gaps are clear. Electric mobility remains unevenly affordable, inconsistently incentivised, and insufficiently supported by infrastructure. High battery replacement costs, fragmented charging networks, and local grid limitations continue to weaken consumer confidence. CECRA also underlines the importance of segment-specific approaches, as the market dynamics for passenger cars and light commercial vehicles differ substantially.

The next phase of EU policy must therefore focus on practical implementation rather than new targets:

- **Consumer care and repairability:** Particularly for batteries, must improve. Repair and refurbishment should become the default, helping control costs and maintain trust.
- **Charging infrastructure:** Needs to become simpler, more affordable, and transparent, with faster expansion beyond metropolitan areas and concrete solutions for drivers without private parking.
- **Electricity grids:** Must be reinforced to manage rising demand, ensuring electrification becomes an enabler—not a constraint.
- **Used-vehicle market:** Should become a clear policy priority. Broad adoption depends not only on new sales but also on the availability of affordable, reliable second-hand electric and hybrid vehicles with predictable residual values.

*“Targets will be impossible to be achieved if the conditions for achieving them are not there,” said CECRA President Peter Daeninck in a statement. “There must be a clear road and a vehicle to reach the destination. The European Union needs to put focus on consumers and the real constraints faced all stakeholders; consumers, retail (mostly SME’s) and manufacturers. Only than the targets can be achieved.”*

**CECRA reaffirms its full support for Europe’s climate goals and the decarbonisation of road transport.** Nonetheless, success will ultimately be defined by consumer adoption, not regulation alone. The European Commission must now focus on delivering measures that unlock demand and make electric mobility a viable choice for all Europeans.

The automotive omnibus represents a cornerstone for the coming years. **CECRA stands ready to engage constructively in discussions on implementing the measures announced today.**

**For more information**

[mail@cecra.eu](mailto:mail@cecra.eu)



CECRA, established in 1983, is the European federation bringing together national professional associations, which represent the interests of motor trade and repair businesses and European Dealer Councils. CECRA represents on a European scale 336,720 motor trade and repair businesses. Together they employ 2.9 million people.