

Press Release

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EU Member States approve end of internal combustion engines by 2035

During yesterday's European Council, the 27 Environment Ministers came to a deal on the proposed laws aiming to achieve the European Commission's climate objectives.

The 27 Member States approved only new cars and vans with zero CO2 emissions be permitted from 2035 onward and thereby banning sales of petrol and diesel cars and light commercial vehicles, including hybrids in the EU by 2035.

At the request of some EU countries, including Germany and Italy, the EU-27 also agreed to consider a future green light for the use of alternative technologies such as synthetic fuels or plug-in hybrids if they can achieve the complete elimination of greenhouse gas emissions.

Environment Ministers also approved a five-year extension of the exemption from CO2 obligations granted to so-called "niche" manufacturers, or those producing fewer than 10,000 vehicles per year.

These measures will now have to be negotiated with MEPs.

The European Council for Motor Trades and Repairs (CECRA) takes note of the Council's decision. We are still convinced about the necessity of a technology-mix that embraces all relevant solutions to reduce CO2 emissions and therefore welcomes the openness and willingness to consider other technologies, such as hydrogen and synthetic fuel technology (e-fuels).

Automotive dealers and repairers will together with their manufacturers level up and reach the set targets. However, it goes without saying that the transition to zero-emission vehicles is only reachable if a widespread infrastructure of recharging stations is available! CECRA therefore urges all EU Member States now to speed up its deployment ensuring a smooth transition and giving the EU consumers a clear sign taking away their reluctance to swift towards zero-emission vehicles.

For more information

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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.