Question for written answer E-002668/2024 to the Commission

Rule 144

Michalis Hadjipantela (PPE), Dimitris Tsiodras (PPE), Salvatore De Meo (PPE), Peter Agius (PPE)

Subject: Takata airbag recall scandal

The Takata airbag scandal is one of the largest product recalls in the history of the automotive industry. Various sources report that the defective airbags can pose serious risks to drivers and passengers alike. The defective airbags in question have been found to be linked to fatalities and injuries due to their tendency to explode and propel dangerous fragments upon their deployment.

Nevertheless, efforts to recall the airbags have been slow and complex, while consumer awareness remains low and insufficient. Additionally, the financial burden and responsibility for the airbags' replacement has not been clarified between manufacturers, importers and dealerships, further complicating the efforts of the consumers affected.

It is vital to address this public safety hazard swiftly by raising consumer awareness and ensuring a timely and comprehensive recall.

Can the Commission clarify:

- 1. what steps it is going to take to ensure the timely and complete replacement of the defective airbags in question across the EU?
- 2. what measures it will propose to harmonise recall procedures and responsibilities on the basis of robust and consistent safety protocols across the EU?
- 3. how it intends to protect the consumers affected and increase awareness, particularly in regions with lower replacement rates?

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