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Press Release

On the vote of the initiative report on the European C-ITS strategy in the Committee on Transport and Tourism:

EAC welcomes Parliament's course to strengthen consumer rights and fair competition

Brussels, February 20th, 2018 – This Tuesday the members of the TRAN committee voted with a large majority in favour of the initiative report on the European C-ITS strategy that calls for a legislative proposal on access to invehicle data by the end of the year. The report stresses explicitly the necessity of a fair, timely and unrestricted access in order to protect consumer rights: "This is an important and positive signal not only for car drivers, but also for third party providers of car-related services', comments EAC's President Bernd Opolka.

However, there is a small drawback: "Unfortunately the report does not contain any framework specifications on how access to in-vehicle data should be handled from the financial point of view. Recently various options have been discussed, ranging from non-monetized access to access in return for excessive charges, which prevent small service providers from entering the market. Therefore, it is now up to the Commission to find a solution in order to guarantee a non-discriminatory access and fair competition for all market players", states Opolka.

The report is tabled for the vote in plenary in mid-March.

The European Automobile Clubs (EAC) association represents the interests of around three million road users. As a partner for mobility, our vision is to promote mobility and open up Europe's roads. To achieve this aim, it is necessary to harmonise the road traffic provisions between EU states and encourage innovative technologies – for greater road safety and sustainable mobility solutions.

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