

## Questionnaire on Enhanced sound requirements for L-category vehicles, i.e. mopeds, quads and their replacement silencers

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### Some Background

The European Commission (DG GROW)<sup>1</sup> has assigned TNO<sup>2</sup> (NL), LAT/AUTH<sup>3</sup> (GR), TÜV NORD<sup>4</sup> (DE), and HSDAC<sup>5</sup> (DE) with the task to perform due diligence on

***noise control regulations for L-cat vehicles proposed at UN level (Regs. Nos 9, 63 and 92)***

before considering their accession into the EU type approval system.

The study aims at identifying whether the UN Regulations appropriately fit into the EU context and should propose improvements, if so required. Particular emphasis is given on consideration of tools enabling market surveillance and enforcement of the relevant legislation. The outcome of this work is expected to ensure regulatory enforcement and international harmonization of technical sound provisions through a rationalized and flexible regulatory framework, as well as to protect the environment and human health.

To guide this procedure, this questionnaire aims at collecting your input with regard to the following dimensions of noise control from L-category vehicles:

- **Impacts:** e.g. effects of noise of such vehicles and impacts on citizens' well-being.
- **Type-approval:** procedure followed, effectiveness, and suggested improvements.
- **Market surveillance and enforcement:** effectiveness of current procedures, in particular for replacement parts.

### What we need from you

- Please feel free to answer only the questions you are familiar with! We understand there is a diverse set of questions and some of them are highly technical, so it is ok if you do not address them.
- You can substantiate your input (if possible) by documents, references to literature and practical examples, own measurements, or any other suitable information that can help improve the legislation.
- If you think it takes too much time to fill in the questionnaire or that it does not provide the framework of what you would like to respond to, please arrange a phone call with Dr. Leonidas Ntziachristos ([leon@auth.gr](mailto:leon@auth.gr), ☎ +30 2310 996003).
- Feel free to forward the questionnaire to other relevant experts in your company/institution.
- We would appreciate receiving **your feedback until 20 November 2015**.

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<sup>1</sup> European Commission, Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, Brussels, Belgium. Contact persons: Mr Andreas Vosinis ([andreas.vosinis@ec.europa.eu](mailto:andreas.vosinis@ec.europa.eu)) and Mr Guido Gielen ([guido.gielen@ec.europa.eu](mailto:guido.gielen@ec.europa.eu)).

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.tno.nl/en/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://lat.eng.auth.gr/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.tuv-nord.com/en/index.htm>

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## Questions

Section 1: Environmental and social aspects of noise pollution from L-category vehicles <sup>6</sup>
<p>Q1. Do you consider noise from L-category vehicles to still be a significant problem?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes      <input type="checkbox"/> No      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partially</p>
<p>Q2. Which areas do you consider that are mostly affected?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural      <input type="checkbox"/> Motorways      <input type="checkbox"/> All      <input type="checkbox"/> None</p>
<p>Q3. During which period of year do you consider that the problem is more intense?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Work days      <input type="checkbox"/> Weekends      <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday periods      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All      <input type="checkbox"/> None</p>
<p>Q4. In a typical urban neighbourhood, noisy L-cat vehicles are:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Disturbing      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rather disturbing      <input type="checkbox"/> I like this sound!      <input type="checkbox"/> Not a problem</p>
<p>Q5. As a pedestrian or cyclist, I am threatened by L-cat vehicles because their noise distracts my attention.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes      <input type="checkbox"/> No      <input type="checkbox"/> Not a problem</p>
<p>Q6. If you believe that noise from L-cat vehicles is a problem, can you rate from 1 (main responsible) to 4 (less responsible) who is responsible for this?</p> <p><b>4</b> The non effective regulations      <b>2</b> The weak enforcement of regulations</p> <p><b>3</b> The industry      <b>1</b> The drivers that illegally tune their vehicles</p> <p>Please justify your answer: It tends to be young irresponsible people, usually men, who take pleasure in roaring round the countryside making as much noise as possible. Better legislation &amp; enforcement are the second main responsible as the drivers can legally buy and install aftermarket exhaust systems, which make more noise. If there was no demand, industry would not produce those aftermarket systems. The original silencer which comes with the motorbike as well as the replacement silencer (including non-original aftermarket products) should meet the requirements of the regulation (approval).</p>
<p>Q7. Most of the noise comes from</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mopeds      <input type="checkbox"/> Other L-cat vehicles      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tampered vehicles</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> All of the above      <input type="checkbox"/> I cannot distinguish</p>
<p>Q8. If you are a rider/driver of an L-cat vehicle, how would you rate the noise of your vehicle?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory      <input type="checkbox"/> I want this to be louder      <input type="checkbox"/> Needs to be more silent      <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)</p>

<sup>6</sup> Please consider all L-cat vehicles (mopeds, motorcycles, quads, tricycles, etc).

<p>Q9. If you have been a motorcycle<sup>7</sup> owner, have you ever replaced your vehicle's silencer?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes      <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Q10. If you answered "Yes" in Q9, what was the prime reason for replacing your silencer?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Better looks    <input type="checkbox"/> Improved noise    <input type="checkbox"/> More power    <input type="checkbox"/> All of these    <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q11. Would you like to see more strict regulation in controlling noise from L-cat vehicles?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes      <input type="checkbox"/> No      <input type="checkbox"/> I am not interested</p>
<p>Q12. For a motorcycle costing 5,000 Euros, would you spend 100 Euros more when purchasing it for better control of its noise?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, provided this would not lead to loss of power      <input type="checkbox"/> No, this is too much</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, and even more if so needed      <input type="checkbox"/> No, I like the noise exhaust</p>
<p><b>Section 2: Technical issues related to noise control regulations</b></p>
<p>Q13. Are you familiar with the type approval (TA) procedure for noise control of L-cat vehicles?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No      <input type="checkbox"/> Partially      <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q14. Are there any elements of the regulation that you believe are ineffective?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes      <input type="checkbox"/> No      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I don't know</p> <p>Please justify your answer: <a href="#">In consideration of the noise some brand new motor cycles produce, the adequacy of the allowed noise level might need to be reassessed</a></p>
<p>Q15. Would you like to make specific suggestions for improvement of the TA procedure?</p> <p>Please specify: <a href="#">As the Volkswagen Dieseldgate case has demonstrated that it is possible to defeat software allowing it to cheat on air pollutant emission tests, it might be worth to look more closely here as well to what is happening in practise.</a></p>
<p><b>Section 3: Market surveillance and enforcement</b></p>
<p>Q16. Are you familiar with the procedure followed by market surveillance and enforcement authorities for noise control of L-cat vehicles?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No      <input type="checkbox"/> Partially      <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q17. Do you consider the information currently provided to these authorities enough to enable the effective noise control of L-cat vehicles?</p>

<sup>7</sup> Unless otherwise specified, the term 'motorcycle' in the questionnaire usually means all L-cat vehicles.

Yes       No       Partially

Please justify your answer:

Q18. Which do you consider are the main obstacles for effective noise control?

Please specify: [There is lack of policing it and stopping or fining the culprits.](#)

Q19. Would you like to make specific suggestions for improvement of the market surveillance, monitoring and enforcement procedure?

Please specify: [Market surveillance \(checking shops on illegal products\) and enforcement \(stopping loud motorcycles in the street and measure sound levels\) should be increased.](#)

#### References and other points

Q20. Please provide any other comments or remarks not addressed above.

Q21. Please provide references for further details to the extent possible (documents, literature, practical examples, own measurements, etc).

#### Personal and institutional information

Q22. Please state your name, company/institution and responsibility, e-mail, telephone number, etc.

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<sup>8</sup> Name of your company or institution, organization, association, authority, etc. If you are representing e.g. an association, please provide some details, e.g. the number of members of your association, scope, etc.