## Basic information

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|---|---|
| **1997/0199(SYN)**<br>SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic) | Procedure completed |
| Motor vehicles and trailers: recognition of the distinguishing sign of the Member state of registration<br>**Subject**<br>3.20.06 Transport regulations, road safety, roadworthiness tests, driving licence | |

## Key players

### European Parliament

| Committee responsible | Rapporteur | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| TRAN Transport and Tourism | LE RACHINEL Fernand (NI) | 23/09/1997 |

| Former committee responsible | Former rapporteur | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| TRAN Transport and Tourism | LE RACHINEL Fernand (NI) | 23/09/1997 |

### Council of the European Union

| Council configuration | Meetings | Date |
|---|---|---|
| Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN | 2103 | 1998-06-05 |
| Transport, Telecommunications and Energy | 2074 | 1998-03-17 |
| Transport, Telecommunications and Energy | 2128 | 1998-11-03 |

## Key events

| Date | Event | Reference | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 15/07/1997 | Legislative proposal published | COM(1997)0366 | Summary |
| 15/09/1997 | Committee referral announced in Parliament | | |
| 20/01/1998 | Vote in committee | | Summary |
| 20/01/1998 | Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading | A4-0024/1998 | |
| 18/02/1998 | Debate in Parliament | | Summary |
| 15/04/1998 | Modified legislative proposal published | COM(1998)0227 | Summary |
| 05/06/1998 | Council position published | 07023/1/1998 | Summary |

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|---|---|---|---|
| 18/06/1998 | Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading | | |
| 29/09/1998 | Vote in committee, 2nd reading | | Summary |
| 29/09/1998 | Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading | A4-0349/1998 | |
| 03/11/1998 | Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament | | |
| 03/11/1998 | End of procedure in Parliament | | |
| 10/11/1998 | Final act published in Official Journal | | |

## Technical information

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|---|---|
| **Procedure reference** | 1997/0199(SYN) |
| **Procedure type** | SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic) |
| **Procedure subtype** | Legislation |
| **Legal basis** | EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 075-p1 |
| **Stage reached in procedure** | Procedure completed |
| **Committee dossier** | TRAN/4/10199 |

## Documentation gateway

**European Parliament**

| Document type | Committee | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading | | A4-0024/1998<br>OJ C 056 23.02.1998, p. 0003 | 20/01/1998 | |
| Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading | | T4-0083/1998<br>OJ C 080 16.03.1998, p. 0185-0212 | 19/02/1998 | Summary |
| Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading | | A4-0349/1998<br>OJ C 328 26.10.1998, p. 0006 | 29/09/1998 | |
| Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading | | T4-0554/1998<br>OJ C 328 26.10.1998, p. 0072-0082 | 07/10/1998 | Summary |

**Council of the EU**

| Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| Council position | 07023/1/1998<br>OJ C 227 20.07.1998, p. 0031 | 05/06/1998 | Summary |

**European Commission**

| Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legislative proposal | COM(1997)0366<br><br>OJ C 290 24.09.1997, p. 0025 | 15/07/1997 | Summary |
| | COM(1998)0227 | | |

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|---|---|---|---|
| Modified legislative proposal | OJ C 159 26.05.1998, p. 0016 | 15/04/1998 | Summary |
| Commission communication on Council's position | SEC(1998)1011 | 11/06/1998 | Summary |

**Other institutions and bodies**

| Institution/body | Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| EESC | Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report | CES0106/1998<br>OJ C 095 30.03.1998, p. 0032 | 28/01/1998 | Summary |

**Additional information**

| Source | Document | Date |
|---|---|---|
| European Commission | EUR-Lex | |

**Final act**

Regulation 1998/2411
OJ L 299 10.11.1998, p. 0001 Summary

# Motor vehicles and trailers: recognition of the distinguishing sign of the Member state of registration

1997/0199(SYN) - 07/10/1998 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

The European Parliament adopted without debate the report by Mr Fernand LE RACHINEL (NI, F) on the common position on the recognition of the distinguishing sign of the Member State in which motor vehicles are registered.

# Motor vehicles and trailers: recognition of the distinguishing sign of the Member state of registration

1997/0199(SYN) - 11/06/1998 - Commission communication on Council's position

The common position corresponds to the Commission proposal and incorporates the amendments accepted by the Commission after Parliament delivered its opinion at first reading. The Commission accordingly endorses the common position.

# Motor vehicles and trailers: recognition of the distinguishing sign of the Member state of registration

1997/0199(SYN) - 15/04/1998 - Modified legislative proposal

The amended proposal particularly incorporates the amendments seeking to: - extend the scope of the Regulation to trailers; - stipulate that Member States must recognise the distinguishing sign displayed on the extreme left of the registration plate in accordance with the provisions of the annex to the Regulation as being equivalent to any other distinguishing sign which they recognise for the purposes of identifying the State of registration of the vehicle. The amendments were rejected which sought: - to insert in the definition of the sign a reference to the place where the sign must appear, namely on the extreme left of the plate; - to insert a new annex compelling Member States also to recognise a different distinguishing sign (elliptical).

# Motor vehicles and trailers: recognition of the distinguishing sign of the Member state of registration

1997/0199(SYN) - 15/07/1997 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: the proposal for a regulation seeks to facilitate motor travel and the free movement of persons within the Community. SUBSTANCE: the proposal seeks to ensure that Member States which, under Article 37 of the Vienna Convention, required vehicles registered in another Member State to display a distinguishing registration sign when being driven on their territory, also recognize a distinguishing sign conforming to the technical provisions of the Community registration model. The main characteristic of this model was that at the extreme left it included a vertical blue zone with at the top a circle of 12 yellow stars representing the Community flag and underneath the abbreviation for the Member State of registration.

# Motor vehicles and trailers: recognition of the distinguishing sign of the Member state of registration

1997/0199(SYN) - 05/06/1998 - Council position

The common position corresponds to the Commission proposal and incorporates the gist of the amendments adopted by Parliament at first reading and incorporated into the Commission's amended proposal. In particular, the common position incorporates the amendments seeking to: - extend the scope of the Regulation to trailers; - stipulate that the distinguishing sign of the Member State of registration must be displayed on the extreme left of the registration plate; - stipulate that the distinguishing sign as defined in the annex to the Regulation is equivalent to any other officially recognised distinguishing sign. In addition, the Council made other changes, particularly: - deletion of Article 4, which laid down a system of penalties to apply in the event of breaches of the Regulation; - amendments to the annex: .the colour of the distinguishing sign of the Member State of registration may be yellow or white, irrespective of the background colour of the registration plate on which it is displayed; .the minimum height of the blue background is now 98 mm; .the height of the letters in the distinguishing sign of the Member State of registration (20 mm) is now a minimum value; .the annex includes a second model to take account of registration plates where the registration mark is displayed on two lines.

# Motor vehicles and trailers: recognition of the distinguishing sign of the Member state of registration

1997/0199(SYN) - 19/02/1998 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

Adopting the report by Mr Fernand LE RACHNINEL (NI, F), the European Parliament amended the proposal for a regulation to the effect that Member States requiring vehicles from other Member States to display a distinguishing sign of the state of registration should recognize, in addition to the oval sticker required under the Vienna Convention, the sign included in the Community registration plate (abbreviation consisting of one, two or three letters representing the country of registration in white or yellow on an elliptical blue background and surrounded by a circle of 12 yellow stars representing the Community flag). Recognition of both distinctive registration signs would eliminate the risk of action being taken against Community citizens whose vehicles did not display the sign recognized by the country visited.

# Motor vehicles and trailers: recognition of the distinguishing sign of the Member state of registration

1997/0199(SYN) - 28/01/1998 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

The Committee wholeheartedly supports the Commission proposal insofar as it assists road traffic and the free movement of persons within the Community and, by the same token, facilitates the completion of the single market.

# Motor vehicles and trailers: recognition of the distinguishing sign of the Member state of registration

1997/0199(SYN) - 03/11/1998 - Final act

PURPOSE: to facilitate road traffic and the free movement of persons within the Community. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Regulation No. 2411 /98 on the recognition in intra-Community traffic of the distinguishing sign of the Member State in which motor vehicles and their trailers are registereed. CONTENT: The Regulation applies to vehicles registered in the Member States that are driven within the Community. As several Member States are contracting parties to the Vienna Convention of 1968 on road traffic, Article 37 of which provides that every motor vehicle in international traffic shall display at the rear, in addition to its registration number, a distinguishing sign of the State in which it is registered, the Council has adopted this Regulation which lays down the specification for the distinguishing sign. Member States requiring vehicles from other Member States to display the distinguishing sign of the State of registration should also recognise the distinguishing sign illustrated in the annex as being equivalent to any other distinguishing sign that they recognise for the purpose of identifying the State in which the vehicle is registered. ENTRY INTO FORCE: 11/11/1998.