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## Press Release

### **European Parliament vote is a significant step towards restoring consumer trust in the used car market and helping citizens save billions**

**Brussels, 31/05/2018**

The undersigned organisations welcome today's vote in the European Parliament calling on the European Commission to take decisive action against odometer fraud throughout the European Union. This is a significant step towards restoring consumer trust in the used car market.

In 2014 already, we had come together to call upon the European Parliament and the European Commission to address this all too common scam which is impacting millions of people. The European Parliament has now sent a clear signal that it takes citizens' interests seriously.

The Parliament calls for a range of measures to tackle odometer manipulation both for new vehicles put on the market and for those already on the road. The report highlights both technical measures to prevent odometer fraud and reporting requirements on odometer readings for Member States.

Odometer fraud is widespread across the European Union and has momentous consequences for the consumer. Also known as "clocking", it is the practice of rolling back a car's mileage counter to show a false reading, lower than the car's actual mileage, in order to boost the sales price. The European Parliament, in a 2017 study, found that up to 40% of used cars traded across borders are "clocked" and that citizens EU-wide incur a loss of euro 8.9 billion per year, under conservative assumptions and without taking account of the consumer damage from manipulated vehicles sold in within a same country.

Besides inflated costs for the consumer, odometer tampering has adverse consequence on road safety, the environment and substantially distorts the functioning of the used car market in the EU.

The large cross-party majority that supported the report is an important show of European determination to end odometer tampering across all 28 Member States and we would like to take this opportunity to thank MEP Ismail Ertug and all those involved in the file for their tireless efforts and determination to protect the European consumer.

We are confident that the European Commission will follow suit and act swiftly to implement the solutions set out in the report. Be it consumers, automobile industry or dealers: all will benefit from restored trust in the European used car market. Our organisations are committed to assist the Commission in this work.



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### ***Names and contact persons of the organisations***

**FIA - Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile Region I – L. Krid (Director General)**

**EReg - Association of European Vehicle and Driver Registration Authorities – S. Beckers (Chairman)**

**CARPOL – EU Police Network for Tackling vehicle crime – B. Dodde**

**CECRA - European Council for Motor Trades & Repairs – B. Lycke (Director General)**

**CITA - International Motor Vehicle Inspection Committee – E. Fernandez (Executive Director)**

**RDW – The Netherlands Vehicle Authority - A. van Ravestein (CEO)**

**Car-Pass – The Belgian mileage registration body - M. Peelman (Managing Director)**

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