

## **CONTEXT OF THE DELEGATED ACT**

Road transport drivers can be the victims of cargo crime incidents especially when they transport high value goods. In addition, illegal boarding of immigrants on board of heavy-duty vehicles along certain routes tend to happen on rest areas while drivers rest. Safe and secure parking areas are therefore necessary to protect drivers from those threats but also for businesses to protect their loads against cargo crime.

Safe and secure parking areas are also crucial to ensure good resting conditions to road transport drivers. Guaranteeing the security of drivers while they rest is essential to ensure that they rest free of stress and do not accumulate fatigue. This should also contribute to road safety and prevent accidents due to fatigue.

The 2019 Commission Study on Safe and Secure parking places for trucks showed that cargo crimes were, in the reference period comprehended in the study, more frequent than ever, and that about 75% of these incidents are happening when heavy-duty vehicles are parked in unsecure parking places.

As safe and secure parking areas remain too scarce, and the security and services provided by existing facilities are often insufficient and uncoordinated, there is a need to establish standards for safe and secure parking areas, and certification procedures for those same areas.

In view of all those elements, the co-legislators decided to empower the Commission to adopt a delegated act on the development of standards and certification procedures for safe and secure parking areas. For this purpose, a new Article 8a was added by Regulation (EU) 2020/1054 of the European Parliament and of the Council to Regulation (EC) No 561/2006, according to which safe and secure parking areas in the Union shall comply with a number of requirements in order to be considered safe and secure, concerning namely intrusion detection and prevention, lighting and visibility, emergency contact points and procedures, genderfriendly sanitary facilities, food and beverage purchasing options, communications connections and power supply.

## **SHAPING EUROPE'S DIGITAL FUTURE**

Digital technologies are profoundly changing our daily life, our way of working and doing business, and the way people travel, communicate and relate with each other. Digital communication, social media interaction, e-commerce, and digital enterprises are steadily transforming our world. They are generating an ever-increasing amount of data, which, if pooled and used, can lead to a completely new means and levels of value creation. It is a transformation as fundamental as that caused by the industrial revolution.

In her political guidelines, Commission President von der Leyen stressed the need for Europe to lead the transition to a healthy planet and a new digital world. This twin

challenge of a green and digital transformation has to go hand-in-hand. It requires, as set out in the European Green Deal, an immediate change of direction towards more sustainable solutions which are resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral. It requires that every citizen, every employee, every business person has a fair chance, wherever they live, to reap the benefits of our increasingly digitised society.

Digital solutions such as communications systems, artificial intelligence or quantum technologies can enrich our lives in many ways. But the benefits arising from digital technologies do not come without risks and costs. Citizens no longer feel in control over what happens with their personal data and are increasingly overloaded by artificial solicitations of their attention. And malicious cyberactivity may threaten our personal well-being or disrupt our critical infrastructures and wider security interests.

### **REPowerEU actions**

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The new geopolitical and energy market realities require us to drastically accelerate our clean energy transition and increase Europe's energy independence from unreliable suppliers and volatile fossil fuels.

REPowerEU is the European Commission's plan to make Europe independent from Russian fossil fuels well before 2030, in light of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

85% of Europeans believe that the EU should reduce its dependency on Russian gas and oil as soon as possible to support Ukraine. By acting as a Union, Europe can achieve this faster.

The REPowerEU plan sets out a series of measures to rapidly reduce dependence on Russian fossil fuels and fast forward the green transition, while increasing the resilience of the EU-wide energy system. It is based on:

**Diversifying:** The EU is working with international partners to find alternative energy supplies. In the short-term, we need alternative supplies of gas, oil and coal as quickly as possible, and looking to the future we will need renewable hydrogen too.

**Saving:** Every citizen, business and organisation can save energy. Small behavioural changes, if we all commit to them, can make a significant difference. Contingency measures for supply interruptions will also be needed.

**Accelerating clean energy:** Renewables are the cheapest and cleanest energy available, and can be produced domestically, reducing our need for energy imports. REPowerEU will speed up the green transition and spur massive investment in renewable energy. We also need to enable industry and transport to substitute fossil fuels faster to bring down emissions and dependencies.

**NOTA: Los errores tipográficos, ortográficos o de cualquier índole del texto original, deberán ser resueltos por el aspirante.**