

MAKING ELECTRIC CARS CONVENIENT ACROSS EUROPE



Electric cars are becoming a financially interesting option for people. The average cost of owning an electric car in Europe should match that of a petrol car by 2024. In Bulgaria, France and Portugal it is already a cost-effective option.

Yet price is not everything. If electric cars are to move from the sidelines into the mainstream they must also become a convenient option. Where can we charge our cars? How can we pay at charging points? And are prices for on-the-go charging comprehensible and comparable? Consumer groups urge decision-makers to address these three conditions.

1 ACCESSIBLE CHARGING POINTS ACROSS EUROPE'S ROADS



AS IT IS NOW



The number of charging stations varies across Europe



Electric car drivers today complain about defective charging stations

HOW IT SHOULD BE

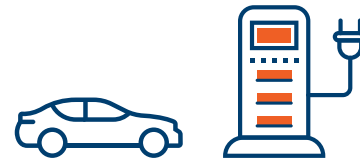


Full coverage through legally binding targets that lead to a mass roll out of charging stations



Maintenance and repair must be part of authorities' tendering processes with charging station providers

AS IT IS NOW



It is frustrating to pull up to a station and find it occupied

HOW IT SHOULD BE



Information about real-time availability is indispensable



While some people might be able to install a system for home-charging, those living in apartments may not



For people who do not have a parking space, local authorities should make available charging points in buildings and on streets

2 EASY USE OF AND PAYMENT AT CHARGING POINTS

AS IT IS NOW



To use a charging station, a driver tends to have to sign a contract with an operator. She/he then gets asked to confirm their identity at the charging station using an app or contactless card.

A person driving across Europe may therefore need an array of apps or cards to charge on-the-go.

HOW IT SHOULD BE



On-the-go charging without a contract and by debit card must always be possible at public charging stations. Where possible, cash payments should also be an option.

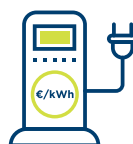
3 TRANSPARENT AND COMPARABLE CHARGING TARIFFS

AS IT IS NOW



Petrol stations must clearly display their prices in cost per litre. At charging stations, however, direct pricing info is often unavailable. A reference for pricing is also missing: some operators propose monthly subscriptions, others pay-as-you go or session rates.

HOW IT SHOULD BE



EU law requires clear, comparable and fair tariffs. By default, charging stations should set tariffs based on price/kWh.



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