

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT

The Acting Deputy Director-General

Brussels, 24 AVR. 2014
MOVE C1/FK/IM/dod/ 1311719

Mr Marius Markevicius
Trolleybuses in Vilnius

Marius@troleibusas.lt

Dear Mr Markevicius,

Thank you for your letter of 30 March 2014 sent to our Director General, Mr Matthias Ruete, who has asked me to reply on his behalf concerning the official position of the European Commission regarding the policy on trolleybuses for public transport.

The European Commission supports cities in developing and implementing integrated strategies for more sustainable urban mobility. Many cities in the EU are suffering from transport-related problems like congestion and air pollution. The Commission seeks to help them in identifying solutions to these problems that fit their urban area's particular needs and circumstances. In this context, cities are also encouraged to achieve a shift towards more sustainable modes of mobility such as walking, cycling and public transport.

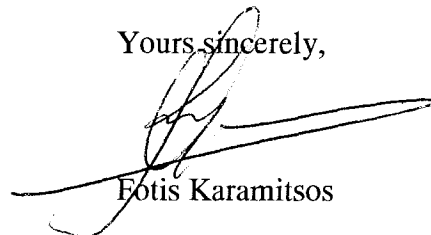
Several alternatives exist to render public transport and public transport vehicles cleaner, such as trams and metros, battery electric buses or trolley buses. The Commission does not favour one technical solution over another.

In its "European alternative fuels strategy" (COM(2013) 17), the European Commission provided a framework to guide technological development for the long-term substitution of oil as energy source in all modes of transport, without favouring one alternative fuelling technology. In this context the Commission is also supporting initiatives to further develop trolley bus systems. Please find more information, for instance, on the EU-supported TROLLEY project at <http://www.trolley-project.eu/>.

The recent EU supported project called ZEEUS, part of the Green Car Initiative, is also funding innovative trolley buses in Rome. Please see <http://www.uitp.org/zeeus-zero-emission-urban-bus-systems>.

We trust that this answers your questions,

Yours sincerely,



Fotis Karamitsos