P R E S S R E L E A S E

FIVA and the Historic Vehicles Group of Members of the European Parliament celebrate Motoring Heritage at Autoworld ahead of FIVA's 60th Anniversary General Assembly

FIVA highlights the importance of institutional cooperation in safeguarding Europe's automotive heritage

Brussels, 23 November 2026 - On 11 November, FIVA and the Historic Vehicles Group of Members of the European Parliament gathered at Autoworld Brussels to celebrate Europe's motoring heritage and the importance of preserving historic vehicles for future generations. Beyond the celebration, the meeting highlighted the importance of sustained dialogue with European institutions on the recognition and protection of this shared cultural and industrial heritage.

Hosted with the generous support of Autoworld and the Belgian Historic Vehicle Association (BEHVA), FIVA's national member in Belgium, the evening brought together Members of the European Parliament, representatives of the European Commission, FIVA leaders and members, and representatives of the wider historic vehicle community.

The event was held under the patronage of MEP Bernd Lange, Chair of the Historic Vehicles Group in the European Parliament, who addressed participants and highlighted the shared responsibility to safeguard Europe's automotive heritage. Guests were also warmly welcomed by Mr Guy Verhofstadt, Chairman of Autoworld.

FIVA representatives and members, including colleagues working on legislation and heritage matters, also had the opportunity to exchange views with European policymakers. FIVA President Alberto Scuro thanked the hosts and participants and emphasised the significance of the occasion for the international historic vehicle community.

"Historic vehicles are an essential part of Europe's cultural and industrial heritage, and preserving them requires a shared commitment," said Scuro. *"Dialogue with European institutions is fundamental to ensuring that their historical and social value continues to be recognised and that this heritage can be passed on to future generations."*

Preserving automotive heritage through museums

The setting provided a tangible reminder that historic vehicles are more than objects of technical interest: they reflect ingenuity, craftsmanship and the social changes that have shaped mobility across Europe. Automotive museums do more than conserve vehicles. Through restoration, research, exhibitions and public engagement, they preserve the knowledge and stories behind them and make that heritage accessible to present and future generations. A visit to Autoworld's collection brought this shared history vividly to life.

Strengthening FIVA's institutional engagement

Organising institutional meetings and fostering dialogue with European policymakers remain central to the work of **FIVA's Legislation Commission**. This engagement helps ensure that the interests of the historic vehicle community, as well as the cultural value of historic vehicles, are represented in discussions at European level.

FIVA extends its sincere thanks to **Autoworld and BEHVA**, particularly **BEHVA President Philippe Dehennin, CEO Peeter Henning**, **Director Vincent Introvigne** and their respective teams, for their outstanding hospitality and organisation. The Federation also thanks **MEP Bernd Lange** and **Mr Frank Lesche** for their continued support, as well as all participants who helped make the evening a memorable celebration of shared motoring heritage.

Special recognition goes to **Lars Genild**, outgoing **FIVA Vice-President and Chairman of the Legislation Commission**, for his instrumental role in organising such meetings over the years and fostering dialogue with European policymakers. FIVA also warmly welcomes **Johann König** as its new Vice-President and Chairman of the Legislation Commission. Building on this work, he will continue to lead FIVA's institutional dialogue and advocacy efforts at European level.

# # #

FIVA

FIVA (the Fédération Internationale des Véhicules Anciens) is the worldwide organisation dedicated to the protection, preservation and promotion of historic vehicles and related culture, as well as their safe use. Since 2017, FIVA has been a non-governmental partner of UNESCO.