

French anti-fraud authorities order Tesla to stop deceptive commercial practices

An investigation found 'deceptive commercial practices regarding the fully autonomous driving capabilities of Tesla vehicles.' Tesla was given four months to comply with regulations.

Le Monde with AFP

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French anti-fraud authorities said on Tuesday, June 24, they have ordered US electric car giant Tesla's local subsidiary to stop "deceptive commercial practices" after an investigation found several violations harmful to consumers and contrary to law. The fraud prevention and consumer protection agency (DGCCRF) said its agents investigated Tesla's French subsidiary between 2023 and 2024 after reports were filed on a consumer complaint platform.

The probe revealed "deceptive commercial practices regarding the fully autonomous driving capabilities of Tesla vehicles, the availability of certain options and vehicle trade-in offers," it said. The agency also cited delays in refunding canceled orders, a lack of information on the location of deliveries and incomplete sales contracts, among other violations.

Tesla was given four months to comply with regulations. It faces a daily fine of €50,000 if it fails to stop deceptive commercial practices over the fully autonomous driving option of certain Tesla models.

Tesla sales have tanked in Europe in recent months owing to an aging fleet of cars, rising competition and consumer distaste for Elon Musk's role in US President Donald Trump's administration.