

# Merkel rival Schulz calls for electric car quotas in Europe

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Chancellor Angela Merkel's main rival in Germany's upcoming election is calling for a Europe-wide quota for electric cars.

Martin Schulz told the Sueddeutsche Zeitung daily newspaper in an interview published Friday that binding quotas would help support electric car technology.

Schulz, whose center-left Social Democratic Party lags far behind Merkel's conservative bloc in the polls, didn't say how high the quota should be.

German carmakers have been the focus of a recent scandal involving cheating on [diesel emissions](#), prompting the government to call auto bosses in for a crisis meeting last week.

The German government wants to put 1 million [electric cars](#) on the roads by 2020.

The Center for Automotive Management estimates that 22,453 electric and hybrid vehicles were sold in Germany during the first half of the year.

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