

TISPOL

European Traffic Police Network

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TISPOL welcomes official adoption of Cross Border Enforcement directive



TISPOL warmly welcomes the final and official adoption of European legislation relating to Cross Border Enforcement.

Full details of the legal instrument [can be viewed here](#).

A European Court of Justice (ECJ) ruling in May last year said that the existing rules, which only came into force in November 2013, had been adopted on an incorrect legal basis. That decision led the European Commission to publish a revised legal proposal in July, but the ECJ said the new rules had to be agreed within one year of its decision. The conclusion of this matter well within the timeframe is encouraging news in terms of its prospects for future casualty reduction.

We know it has always been unfair and unsatisfactory that as many as one in five drivers has been able to escape prosecution for offences such as speeding, because they or their vehicles are from another country.

Europe-wide adoption of this new proposal will lead to more effective enforcement, which encourages drivers to comply with safety rules and leads to a rapid reduction in deaths and injuries.

We look forward to playing our role in implementing the legislation across Europe.

Ruth Purdie, General Secretary

Latest edition of newsletter from DG Mobility and Transport published



The new issue of the European Commission road safety newsletter has just been published. It includes details of the Excellence in Road Safety Awards ceremony, which took place on 4 February in Brussels. Five worthy winners – organisations based in France, Portugal, the United Kingdom, Greece and Poland – received their awards from Violeta Bulc, the EU Commissioner for Transport, for their innovations and positive impact on European road safety.

There is also a report of the recent Brussels event where EU policy-makers joined motorcycle industry organisations and experts to look at ways of tackling motorcycle safety challenges for the next decade. Participants focused on knowledge, access to the industry, the road environment, communication and strategies.

>> [Take a look at the newsletter now...](#)



TISPOL Conference: Tuesday 6 and Wednesday 7 October, at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Manchester Airport

This year's TISPOL Conference will focus on the challenges of protecting vulnerable road users, and the importance of finding effective solutions as we work together to reduce death and serious injury on Europe's roads. There will be an interesting and varied line-up of speakers from police, policymaking and industry across Europe. A full programme, including details of the various delegate and exhibitor packages, will be available shortly.

[Register your interest now as a delegate or exhibitor >>](#)

Huge social media engagement for seatbelt enforcement operation



Thanks to everyone who took an active part in last week's seatbelt enforcement operation week. We were delighted to see so much activity on Twitter in support of the operation. A very small selection of highlights included:

Essex Police Driver stopped #Hadleigh for No Seat Belt. Driver then fails breath test arrested drink driving.

North Yorkshire Police Carrying young

children in your veh & them not wearing a seatbelt will get you a £100 fine & a strong telling off! #Scarborough

CMPG have been supporting @TISPOLorg seatbelt enforcement campaign. In 1 week we dealt with 243 offences! Remember, it could save your life.

KernowCop Hug yourself! Always wear a seatbelt!

Llanelli West Officers across the division are taking part in @TISPOLorg seat belt campaign. Please #beltup - it could save your life #staysafe

Risto Lammi RT @TISPOLorg: A correctly fitted seatbelt reduces risk of fatal injury by 45% and of moderate to critical injury by 50% #beltup.

Thanks for the tweets and re-tweets which numbered in their thousands by the end of the week.

Late news: Sussex Police make three drugs arrests

We saw a tweet from Sussex Police that they had made three arrests in West Sussex over the past weekend for offences under the new drug driving laws which came into force earlier this month.

[>> More details](#)

Ireland: details of Road Safety Authority Conference

The Irish Road Safety Authority is hosting a conference on children

and road safety at Dublin Castle on Thursday 2 April 2015 from 10am to 3.30pm. The conference will explore children's vulnerability on our roads and ways we can mitigate risk through policy and enforcement interventions.

Presentations will address children's road safety from an academic, medical, enforcement, engineering and educational perspective.

Anyone interested in attending should contact rsvp@rsa.ie by Friday 27th March.

Switzerland: alcohol involved in nearly 20% of young driver collisions



This report from a Swiss newspaper was supplied by Andre Roth, member of the TISPOL Drug and Alcohol Working Group:

Alcohol is one of the main causes of collisions. Every tenth traffic fatality dies due to alcohol. With 8.9% alcohol-induced collisions for every 100,000 inhabitants, Switzerland ranks 5th in Europe. A good example is Italy with only 2.7%. Also better placed are the Netherlands and Denmark, each with 4.5%. Germany is slightly better than Switzerland, with 8.7%.

In the Eastern European countries there is an average of 18.2% alcohol fatalities (Belarus alone has 51.4% and Lithuania has 48.2%).

Since Switzerland introduced the 0.5 per mil alcohol limit in 2005, there have been big improvements. Since then, the number of alcohol related collisions has declined by 20%, and the number of fatalities by 26%.

More men than women cause collisions. What is alarming is the situation among the 21- to 24-year-old drivers. Alcohol is involved in 18% of their collisions.

The new law for novice drivers, a three year ban of alcohol, points in the right direction. Facing these figures, some insurance companies reckon to extend the term.

Switzerland should also follow the prevention efforts of other countries. In the Netherlands, for example, officers check drivers three times more frequently for alcohol than their Swiss colleagues.

Ireland: St Patrick's Day safety warning

Enjoy the "craic", but keep our roads safe... That is the message from An Garda Síochána on St Patrick's Day. Last year's St Patrick's Day period saw a doubling in the number of drink driving arrests, while 15 people died on Irish roads in traffic accidents and a further 30 suffered serious injuries.

"Obviously we want everyone to enjoy the festivities that will take place around the country, but please remember that if you are celebrating and consuming alcohol, leave the car behind. This not only applies to the day itself, but also the morning after," said traffic bureau chief superintendent Mark Curran.

New figures compiled by gardaí show that twice as many motorists are arrested in and around St Patrick's Day for suspected drink-driving compared to any other day in March over the last five years.

UK: alarming new trend of 'less drunk driving'



New research reveals an alarming new trend of "less drunk" driving, as millions of motorists take to the road because they thought they were "less drunk" than their passengers.

The study was commissioned ahead of tomorrow's Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety (PACTS) conference on the effects that alcohol, drugs and mobile phones have on driving behaviour, to support the Government's recent launch of its new road safety legislation on drug driving.

Keys information includes:

Two million drivers have got behind the wheel because they thought they were "less drunk" than their passengers

Of those who drive “less drunk”, over two in five (44%) stated that it happens regularly and 35% have done it more than once

A night out was the most common reason for “less drunk” driving (32%), followed by driving home after a dinner party (25%). Weddings, birthday parties and after drinking at home were also frequently cited (21%)

Reasons for “less drunk” driving, include:

- 29% said they “thought it was a good idea at the time”
- 29% thought they were less likely to be involved in an accident than if their passenger had driven
- 23% felt that they were fine to drive because they believed that they had a high alcohol tolerance
- 21% said there were no other options
- 20% did it because they didn’t think they’d get caught
- The research suggests that these “less-drunk” drivers are most likely to stand in for friends (22%). Partners (16%), colleagues (13%), children (9%) and even parents (5%) are also likely to make up the rest of the “more drunk” party.

The PACTS Conference takes place in London tomorrow (18 March 2015).

Your next Bulletin

The next TISPOL Bulletin will be published on Tuesday 31 March. If you have anything you wish us to include, please send it by email to media@tispol.org by Thursday 26 March.

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