

**Eastern Partnership Declaration on Road Safety endorsed by the
Ministers of Transport and representatives of the Republic of
Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the
Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, meeting in Ljubljana
on 27 April 2018,**

Recognizing the right of all citizens to accessible and safe mobility and the importance of promoting sustainable modes of transport;

Concerned that the high number of fatal and serious road traffic injuries is a major problem in our societies causing unacceptable human suffering and significant economic loss;

Acknowledging the efforts of the Eastern Partnership countries and the European Union in enhancing road safety, and expressing the wish to strengthen cooperation in the framework of the Eastern Partnership road safety cooperation;

Affirming our willingness to intensify national and, where appropriate, regional action as well as European cooperation with a view to implement effective road safety policies and measures in order to reduce the number of killed and seriously injured on our roads;

Reaffirming that road safety is a shared responsibility, and that concrete and joint action is required by the national and local authorities, as well as by the industry and civil society, each in their areas of competences;

Expressing our commitment to reduce the number of those killed and seriously injured on the roads, and more generally, to strongly improve road safety across the Eastern Partnership countries, wherever possible, we will:

Strengthening road safety management

- Put road safety high on the political agenda and take steps to strengthen the coordinated planning and implementation of road safety policies in our countries, as well as the collaboration between governments, the civil society and the private sector;
- Define a leading operational entity responsible for fully implementing road safety policies in each of the Eastern Partnership countries;
- Recognise that developing national road safety strategies and action plans is an effective tool for improving road safety management, and invite those countries that have not yet done so to develop, implement and share information and good practices on national road safety plans and strategies;

- Provide sufficient resources to implement road safety policies and programmes, including cooperation and innovation in enforcement, accident investigation, information and awareness-raising and other dedicated road safety initiatives;

Developing targeted road safety measures

- Adopt the Vision Zero perspective and the Safe System approach when developing road safety strategies and policies, with a view in particular to preventing severe crash outcomes when inevitable human errors on the roads occur;
- Commit to adopting an aspirational target for reducing road fatalities by 25% between 2016 and 2020, and adopt the necessary measures to reach this objective;
- Commit to further reducing the number of fatal and serious road traffic injuries by 50% from 2020 to 2030, in line with the targets applied in the EU and at the UN level;
- Commit to improving the quality of systematic and consolidated data collection on road traffic deaths and serious road injuries in line with best EU and international practices, and to reporting this data to the future Regional Road Safety Observatory;

Promoting safer infrastructure

- Mainstream road safety in national and regional road projects, also beyond those benefiting from EU financing or receiving support from international financial institutions, and also beyond the TEN-T network;
- Apply the EU road infrastructure safety management principles on the Eastern Partnership road network through a combination of proper planning and safety assessment, design, building and maintenance of roads, and in particular through the identification of the most dangerous portions and their improvement in terms of road safety;
- Establish and enforce adequate speed limits supported by appropriate safety measures such as road signs, speed cameras, and other speed restricting mechanisms, to ensure the safety of all road users;
- Improve the safety of vulnerable road users, and develop specific measures for their protection, in particular the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists by appropriate infrastructure design and speed management;

Protecting road users

- Develop and promote road safety culture, based on commonly shared values as well as on the Safe System approach that emphasises the responsibility of all actors, including road users to be more aware of the risks they face and the risks they may pose to others on the roads;
- Enforce effective road safety measures to address unsafe behaviour on the roads, and in particular to prevent road users from speeding, drink and drug driving, failing to use seatbelts, child restraints, helmets and other protective equipment, or otherwise being impaired or distracted on the roads;
- Improve road users' behaviour by continued and effective education and training, focusing in particular on novice drivers, motorcycle riders and professional drivers, as well as by targeted information and awareness-raising campaigns;
- Ensure that the competent services identify the appropriate resources and technical support to national police forces and foster cooperation between the police forces of each respective EaP partner;

Promoting the use of safer vehicles

- Improve safety standards and roadworthiness of vehicles to protect road users, and in particular vulnerable road users by adopting policies and measures in line with best EU and/or international standards;
- Promote the use of vehicles meeting the minimum standards for occupant and other road users protection equipped with seat belts, air bags and active safety systems;
- Promote the roll-out of cooperative intelligent transport systems across the Eastern Partnership region, ensuring that services and systems are compatible and interoperable with EU standards;

Enhancing cooperation and exchange of experience

- Mobilise all partners at regional, national and local levels to strengthen the focus on road safety and support the exchange of experience and best practices;
- Take all measures within our remit to promote continued dialogue between the Eastern Partnership countries and the European Union;
- Use the expertise and technical assistance of the European Union and its Member States to support investment decisions and the preparation of new road projects, as well as the collection of quality data and the development of effective road safety measures;
- Boost voluntary commitments to improve road safety, in particular by joining the European Road Safety Charter with the active involvement of civil society.