

INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN

Nr. 5

20-12-2019



SWEDEN TO HOST A GLOBAL MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON ROAD SAFETY IN 2020

Sweden is to host the 3rd Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety on 19–20 February 2020. The theme of the conference is Achieving Global Goals 2030. The event is co-sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO), and minister-led delegations from more than 80 countries are expected to attend. Representatives from the world of industry and research, international institutions and organizations will also participate.

[More information](#)



BRUSSELS TO BECOME A 30KM/H CITY

The new governing coalition of the city of Brussels has agreed to implement a default 30 km/h speed limit across the city from January 2021. The measure, which will apply to all residential streets, but not to main roads such as the inner ring road tunnels, will be a significant extension. Only around half of the city's roads currently apply a 30 km/h limit.

The main driver's club, Touring, welcomed the move, saying it would provide "clarity" for drivers.

A number of experts have warned that the measure will only be effective if accompanied by enforcement and infrastructure changes. The new city mobility plan, currently subject to a public consultation, includes plans to make infrastructure changes to account both for the reduced speed limits and reallocation of space for walking and cycling.

Public pressure for the improvements has mounted in Brussels, driven in part by the death of a young journalist, killed by a 20 year old driver driving above the 50 km/h limit on a city road in the area of Schaerbeek. That tragedy led to a grass roots campaign for a 30 km/h limit in Schaerbeek and wider recognition of the problem of road safety across the city.

[More information](#)



DRIVERS USING PHONES IN FRANCE MAY RISK LOSING LICENCE

The infraction is already punished by a €135 fine and three points.

But under new government measures, drivers may soon face losing their licence immediately if they are caught using their phone, especially if it is their second road infraction - for example, if the same driver has recently already been caught speeding, or running a red light.

[More information](#)



MOBILE PHONE DETECTION CAMERAS

Mobile phone detection cameras will start targeting illegal phone use across NSW on 1 December and will include fixed and transportable trailer-mounted cameras. Together, these cameras will target illegal mobile phone use anywhere, anytime.

The detection system operates both day and night and in all weather conditions, using high-definition cameras to capture images of the front-row cabin space of all vehicles to detect illegal mobile phone use.

The system uses artificial intelligence to automatically review images and detect offending drivers, and to exclude images of non-offending drivers from further action. Images that the automated system considers likely to contain a driver illegally using a mobile phone are verified by authorised personnel.

[More information](#)



ROMANIA INTRODUCES TOUGHER SANCTIONS FOR USING A PHONE AT THE WHEEL

Within two days of new rules on distracted driving coming into force in Romania this month, 310 fines were issued by the police, according to official figures. The new rules, which cover calling and texting but also new trends such as filming and taking photos while driving, include significant fines, of around EUR 200, and penalty points for those seen breaking the law. Drivers caught using their phone at the same time as committing another offence will accumulate more points and higher fines, and [...]

[More information](#)



EMERGENCY CORRIDORS COMING TO POLAND

Poland is the eighth European country to implement an “emergency corridor” system to clear the way for emergency vehicles on congested roads. The system, which has been shown to reduce response times by 4 minutes, and increase survival rates by 40%, is already used in Austria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Luxembourg, Slovenia and Switzerland but was not widely known outside of those countries.

[More information](#)



FINNISH “CARS FOR KIDS” PLANS POSTPONED FOLLOWING EUROPEAN COMMISSION WARNINGS

The entry-into-force of a new law in Finland to permit children as young as 15 to drive regular cars fitted with speed limiters has been postponed following an intervention by the European Commission. The proposals, put forward last year by the government, would have allowed children to drive cars up to 1500kg at speeds of up to 60 km/h and with only an AM category license – normally reserved for mopeds and light quadricycles. The original legal proposal set a speed limit of 45 [...]

[More information](#)



HOW TO BETTER REFLECT TRANSPORT IN CLIMATE ACTION EFFORTS

Only stronger collaboration among the major actors will enable more ambitious climate action. It is time to increase awareness of transport, the second-largest emitting sector, in the climate change policy process.

Only 10% of the Nationally Determined Contributions include a transport CO2 reduction target.

Transport is critical for climate change mitigation. Almost a quarter (23%) of energy-related CO2 stems from transport activity. With transport demand growing, it could reach a share of 40% in twenty years' time. Decarbonising transport is difficult as it is still 92% dependent on oil. It is thus urgent to raise ambitions for reducing transport CO2. Creating business cases for transport decarbonisation will increase buy-in from the private sector, boosting both decarbonisation efforts and economic growth.

[More information](#)



HOW TO MAKE URBAN MOBILITY CLEAN AND GREEN

The most effective way to decarbonise urban passenger transport? Shared vehicles, powered by clean electricity, integrated with existing public transport. CO2 emissions from urban mobility will increase 26% by 2050.

Demand for urban passenger transport could grow 60-70% by 2050. Population growth, economic development and continued urbanisation will lead to strongly increasing demand for urban transport. This growth will more than cancel out any CO2 emissions reductions made possible by new low- and zero-carbon technologies.

[More information](#)



WORLD DAY OF REMEMBRANCE 2019 LIFE IS NOT A CAR PART

This special remembrance day responds to this major public health disaster by recognising the loss and pain suffered by road traffic victims and the impact on communities and countries. “Life is not a car part” The theme for this year’s commemoration of the World Day of Remembrance relates to Pillar 3 of the Global Decade of Action: Safer vehicles. In addition, it accords with the general theme of the 3rd Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety that will take place in Stockholm in February 2020 – “Achieving Global Goals 2030”. FEVR along with the European Commission - DG MOVE and WHO Europe will commemorate this special day on 18th of November at DG EAC -70, Rue Joseph II, 2 pm.

[More information](#)

ROAD SAFETY IN THE MEDIA

#StopTheCrash Campaign For Car And Motorcycle Safety Launches In Indonesia

For the first time in Indonesia, the #StopTheCrash Partnership hosts live demonstrations of crash avoidance technologies in support of the United Nations Global Goals and the Decade of Action for Road Safety.

Launched at the Garuda Wisnu Kencana Cultural Park in Bali with the support of ASEAN NCAP and the Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research, the #StopTheCrash Partnership event has a special focus on the life saving benefits of Electronic Stability Control (ESC), Autonomous Emergency Braking (AEB), Anti-lock Braking Systems (ABS) for motorcycles and Blind Spot Detection (BSD).

With motorcycle crashes being of major concern in the region, the event will especially highlight the importance of motorcycle ABS and blind spot detection in curbing motorcycle related trauma and encourage legislative action in making the #StopTheCrash technologies more readily available for consumers in the region.

[More information](#)

Improving Road Safety, Saving Lives in Ukraine

Since 2010, the World Bank has invested \$780 million in Ukraine’s road sector. Recently, two new bypasses in Poltava region have been completed. At the request of local communities, the changes were made in the project's design. It allowed, for example, building cattle passes and access roads for locals.

[More information](#)

Lyon launches new autonomous public transport service

On 15 November 2019, the French city of Lyon launched a new autonomous shuttle service as part of its public transport network. The service is provided by two autonomous, electric shuttles that connect the Décines Grand Large tram station (on line T3) with and the city's football stadium, the Parc Olympique Lyonnais stadium. It is the first time in France that autonomous vehicles will run on public roads in a dense urban environment, operating alongside thousands of other vehicles. The shuttle will be tested for the next two years. During this pilot phase, adults and accompanied minors can board the service for free.

[More information](#)

...THINK TWICE BEFORE SOAKING A PEDESTRIAN

Under British law, soaking people when driving through puddles is illegal and could leave you with a hefty fine. Drivers could get a £5,000 fine and points on their license for splashing pedestrians.

Winter is here, which means it's time to get the umbrella out and brave the wet weather. However, fun as it may seem to drive through a giant puddle on the edge of the road, take in your surroundings before you speed through.



If you soak a pedestrian, either purposefully or accidentally, you could get yourself in trouble with the law and get a fine.

How much you're fined depends on your intentions and how much they display what "amounts to a clear act of incompetence, selfishness, impatience or aggressiveness".

However, it's more likely that you'll be given a £100 fine and three points on your licence.

If you refuse to pay and end up in court, you could be facing the maximum £5,000 fine.

[Read more](#)