

**NEWS RELEASE****OVER 1,000 EU STUDENTS LECTURED ON ROAD SAFETY**

**24 July 2009, Brussels** – Over 1,000 students have attended the lectures organised by ETSC<sup>(1)</sup> in 23 European universities in the framework of its 2009 Roads to Respect (R2R) programme.

Out of the 23 universities which have been visited by ETSC in 2009, seven are based in **Italy**, four in **Poland**, five in **Germany**, three in the **Czech Republic**, two in **Hungary** and two in **Portugal**. As in previous years, ETSC staff, together with R2R sponsors, explained to the audience of mainly civil and transport engineering students how crucial the role of designing safe road infrastructure is for ensuring appropriate standards for road safety.

During the next programme phase, 25 students from the six participant countries will come to the R2R camp, to be held between 28 September and 2 October 2009 in Brussels, where they will learn how to implement a successful infrastructure safety campaign.

The 25 students have been selected among 61 applicants on the basis of the main criterion, the student's motivation to get involved in a road safety campaign. Motivation is crucial as the students will have to develop an entire project aimed at treating a high risk site of their choice. What is even more important, they will have to mount a road safety campaign to lobby the public authorities responsible for the maintenance of that part of the road.

Experience from 2007 and 2008 shows that, if implemented well, this strategy can contribute substantially to improving the road safety situation, especially in the countries suffering from lack of proper road infrastructure.

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**Notes to Editors:**

(1) **The European Transport Safety Council (ETSC)** is a Brussels-based independent non-profit making organisation dedicated to the reduction of the number and severity of transport crashes in Europe. The ETSC seeks to identify and promote research-based measures with a high safety potential. It brings together 42 national and international organisations concerned with transport safety from across Europe. [www.etsc.eu](http://www.etsc.eu)

(2) The Roads to Respect Programme is supported by **3M Europe** and the **Toyota Fund for Europe** [www.toyotafund.eu/](http://www.toyotafund.eu/)