



NEWS RELEASE

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Reduction in Road Deaths Slows Down in 2011

20 June 2012, Brussels – “Last year’s progress in reducing road deaths is quite far short of what we’ve seen in the previous years in the EU,” said Antonio Avenoso, ETSC¹ Executive Director during the 6th Annual PIN² Conference. Road deaths were cut by just 3% in 2011 compared with 2010. In 2010 this reduction was 11%. “Combined efforts at both national and EU level must be stepped up, otherwise the EU risks missing the target of halving road deaths by 2020 compared with 2010,” added Mr. Avenoso.

The latest PIN annual report was presented during the 6th annual PIN Conference.³ The 2012 PIN Award was presented to Hungary for its efforts to improve road safety.⁴ Hungary has made impressive reductions in their number of road deaths, and is on the verge of halving their number of road deaths compared with 2001 levels.

2011 was a mixed year in terms of developments in road safety in Europe. While several countries continued the positive trends of 2010 and 2009, others, including Estonia, Cyprus, Malta and road safety role models like Sweden, Germany and Finland, saw increases in the number of road deaths.⁵ During the last year good progress was observed in Norway with a 20% drop in road deaths, Latvia with 18%, Spain with 17% as well as Romania and Bulgaria with 15% each. “By improving road safety impressive societal savings can be achieved. If the road deaths in the EU had been reduced by 6.7% in 2011 [the percentage needed to move towards the EU target through constant progress] instead of 3%, the value of the additional savings would have been almost 2.1 billion Euro,⁶” said Mircea Steriu, ETSC Communications Officer.

“A lot of the important reductions in road deaths that were observed during the past decade⁷ can be attributed to the improvements that the PIN countries made in the way they manage road safety and their policy-making process,” said Richard Allsop, PIN Programme Chairman. “A PIN study has shown that in every country many elements of good road safety policy are in place, but there is still scope for greatly improved procedures in many countries – so it is good that many countries are working on further steps to make roads safer for all users⁸. It is vital that these efforts are maintained,” he concluded.

The Report and detailed figures for each country are available under www.etsc.eu/PIN-publications.php. For further enquiries, please contact PIN Programme Manager Graziella Jost, graziella.jost@etsc.eu, or ETSC Communications Officer Mircea Steriu, mircea.steriu@etsc.eu, mob. +32(0)4 98.51.65.62, +32 (0)4 84.38.05.79.

¹ ETSC is a Brussels-based independent non-profit making organisation dedicated to reducing the numbers of deaths and injuries in transport in Europe. The ETSC seeks to identify and promote research-based measures with a high safety potential. It brings together 45 national and international organisations concerned with transport safety from across Europe. www.etsc.eu

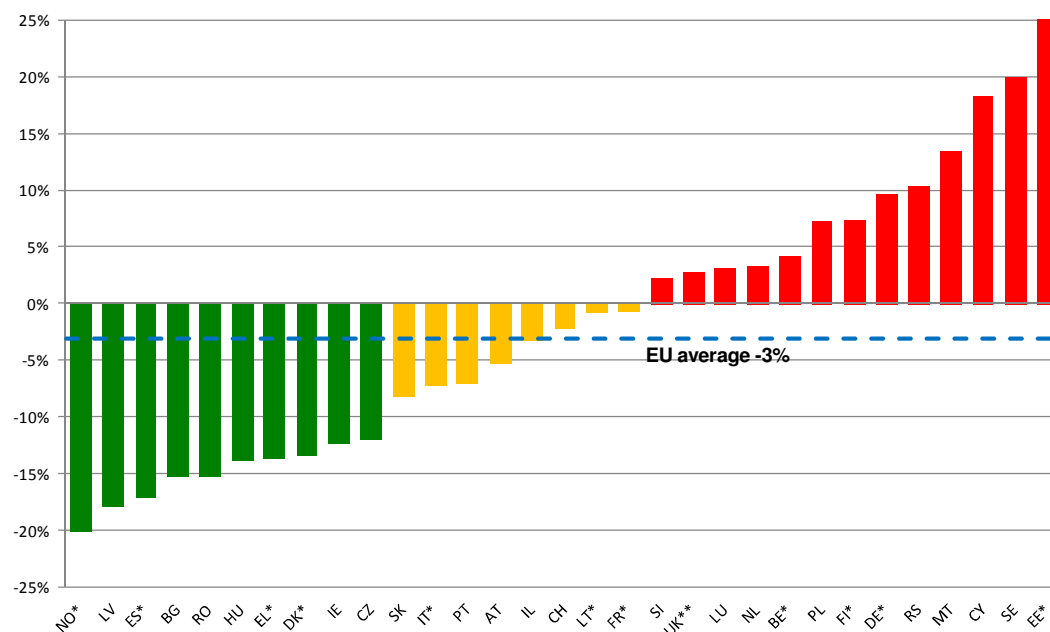
² The Road Safety Performance Index (PIN) Programme was launched in June 2006 to compare country road safety performances. It currently includes the 27 countries of the EU, as well as Israel, Norway, the Republic of Serbia and Switzerland. The Road Safety Performance Index (PIN) receives financial support from the Volvo Group and Volvo Trucks. The PIN also receives financial support from the Swedish Transport Administration, the Norwegian Public Roads Administration and Toyota Motor Europe. www.etsc.eu/PIN

³ ETSC 6th PIN Report (2012), A Challenging Start towards the EU 2020 Road Safety Target. <http://www.etsc.eu/PIN-publications.php>.

The PIN Conference Agenda is available at <http://www.etsc.eu/PIN-events.php>. Speakers' presentations and pictures will be available at the same address.

⁴ See Press release PIN Award Hungary at <http://www.etsc.eu/PIN-events.php>. Dr. László Felkai, State Secretary, Ministry of Interior, and Mr. Zoltán Schváb, Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of National Development, present what their country has done to receive the PIN Award in ETSC 6th PIN Report.

⁵ Fig. 1: Percentage change in road deaths between 2010 and 2011



* Provisional estimates used for 2011, as the final figures for 2011 are not yet available at the time of going to print. ** UK estimate based on 3% increase in killed in 2011 Q1-3 compared with 2010 Q1-3.

⁶ See Fig. 3, Reduction in the number of road deaths in EU27 in 2010-2011 and valuation at 2011 prices, 6th PIN Report.

⁷ See Fig. 7, Percentage change in road deaths between 2001 and 2011, in ETSC 6th PIN Report.

⁸ Chapter 2, Institutional Setups Fit to Deliver Road Safety, 6th PIN Report.