www.etsc.be/Voice.php

VOICE

Vulnerable road user Organisations
In Cooperation across Europe
A Europe-wide campaign to protect vulnerable road users

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News release

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First VOICE award For Traffic Law Enforcement: Poland Worst, Finland Best

Vulnerable road users Organisations In Cooperation across Europe – "VOICE" today presented awards for traffic law enforcement. **The EU member state administration with the best record is Finland, whilst the administration with the poorest record is Poland.** These awards highlight the variable performance of EU member state Administrations in enforcing traffic laws and the effect this has on the protection of the most vulnerable of road users.

The awards are based on a comprehensive assessment of all Member States application of the EU Recommendation on Traffic law enforcement[1] alongside the death rates for vulnerable road users[2]. Finland has the best record on traffic law enforcement, whilst the high death rate of vulnerable road users secured Poland its award, despite several other administrations having an extremely poor record on traffic law enforcement.

Whilst it remains unclear whether the gender of Administration leaders plays a role in the effectiveness of traffic law enforcement, it is notable that the all female Finnish team with the best record (SUSANNA HUOVINEN Transport Minister and LEENA LUHTANEN Justice Minister) has performed markedly better than the all male Polish team (Transport Minister JERZY POLACZEK and Interior Minister LUDVICK DORN) with the worst record.

The poor Polish record on traffic law enforcement and vulnerable road user protection is despite the fact that both the Polish Ministers are from a party called "law and order".

The awards take the form of original cartoons that are to be presented to the EU permanent representations to the EU and are today published in the European Voice Newspaper. A copy of the cartoons, an outline of VOICE and notes to the Editor follow on page 2

The ETSC VOICE project is co-financed by the European Commission

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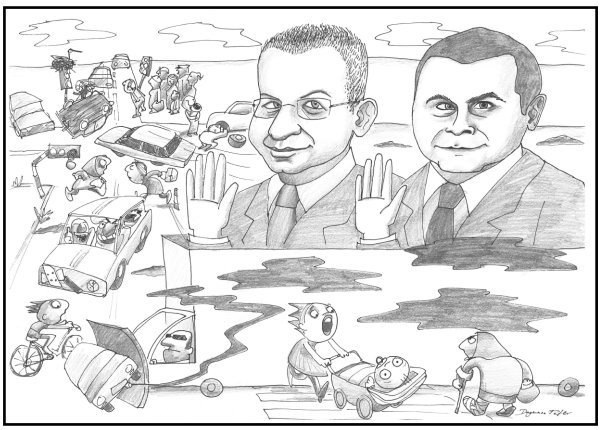
VOICE

The Awards:

VOICE Best Administration



VOICE Worst Administration



To request Electronic copies of these cartoons for publication contact Frazer Goodwin at ETSC (02/230 4106 policy@etsc.be) for details.

Outline of VOICE

VOICE is another NGO network ensuring that usually neglected VOICEs are heard in the transport debate – those of vulnerable road users.

For more information see the VOICE web site on http://www.etsc.be/Voice.php

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Notes to Editors:

1. This week ETSC published the results of the programme on Traffic law enforcement:
"Traffic law Enforcement Across the EU. An Overview." For more information go to the web site: etsc.be/enforcement-etscprogramme.php

2. The percentage of road deaths that are pedestrians or cyclists in Poland in 2003 was 44.8% (in 2004 it was 47 % and 2005 43,4 %). - the EU average for countries reporting 2003 data was 23%.
For a detailed list of all countries' road deaths by traffic participation go to the International Road Traffic and Accident Database at: http://www.bast.de/htdocs/fachthemen/irtad//english/we33.html

The Members of the VOICE Network affiliated to this news release are:
AGE – The European Older People's Forum, EEN - The EPHA Environment Network.
ECSA - The European Child Safety Alliance. EDF - The European Disability Forum.
T&E - The European Federation for Transport and Environment.
EPHA - The European Public Health Alliance. ETSC - The European Transport Safety Council.
Voetgangersbeweging (Pedestrian Movement) / Federation of European Pedestrian Associations.

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