

Transport MEPs list main steps to make EU roads safer

- Safe speed limits – 30km/h in residential areas
- Zero-tolerance for drink-driving
- More safety features in infrastructure and vehicles

The goal of zero deaths on European roads by 2050 calls for more robust measures on road safety, such as, 30 km/h speed limit or zero-tolerance for drink-driving, Transport MEPs say.

Speeding is a key factor in around 30% of fatal road crashes, Transport MEPs note. They call on the Commission to come up with a recommendation to apply safe speed limits, such as maximum speed of 30km/h in residential areas and areas where there are high numbers of cyclists and pedestrians. To further promote safe road use, they also urge to set a zero-tolerance drink-driving limit, highlighting that alcohol is involved in around 25% of all road fatalities.

The draft resolution also welcomes the recent revision of the [General Safety Regulation](#), which will make new advanced safety features in vehicles such as intelligent speed assistance and emergency lane keeping systems mandatory in the EU as from 2022, with the potential to save around 7 300 lives and avoid 38 900 serious injuries by 2030. Moreover, MEPs ask the Commission to consider the incorporation of a “driving safe mode” for mobile and electronic devices of drivers in order to inhibit distractions while driving.

Tax incentives and attractive motor insurance schemes for the purchase and use of vehicles with the highest safety standards should be pursued, MEPs add.

European road transport agency

To properly implement the next steps in the EU road safety policy, new capacities are needed in the field of road safety, says the draft text. Therefore, Transport MEPs call on the Commission to establish a European road transport agency to support sustainable, safe and smart road transport.

Quote

EP rapporteur [Elena Kountoura \(The Left, EL\)](#) said: “Strong political will by the national governments and the European Commission is essential to do what it takes to halve road fatalities by 2030 and move decisively towards Vision Zero by 2050. We must mobilise more investments towards safer road infrastructure, make sure that cars are equipped with the best life-saving technologies, establish speed limits of 30 km/h in cities across Europe, adopt zero tolerance on drink-driving and ensure strict enforcement of road traffic rules.”

Next steps

The resolution on EU Road Safety Policy Framework now needs to be voted by the full house of the Parliament, possibly during the September session.

Background

This report serves as Parliament’s formal response to the Commission’s new approach to EU road safety for the years 2021-2030, and its [EU Road Safety Policy Framework 2021-2030](#).

Further information

[Procedure file](#)

[EP rapporteur Elena Kountoura \(The Left, EL\)](#)

[EP Research Service briefing on road safety in the EU Committee on Transport and Tourism](#)

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