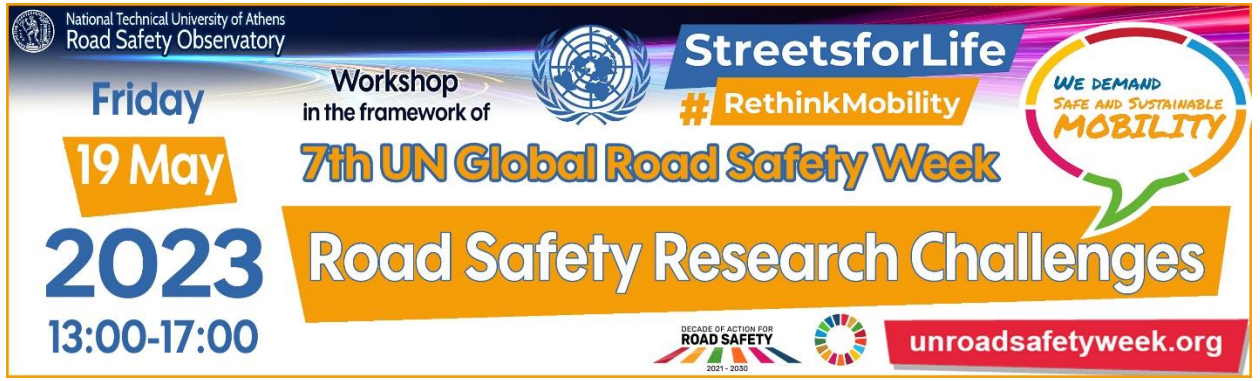

A Methodology for Network-wide Road Assessment

Anastasios Dragomanovits
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Together with:
Katerina Deliali, George Yannis

The NetSafety Project

- Study on a Methodology for Network-wide Road Safety Assessment

- Partners
  - National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), Greece
  - University of Zagreb Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences (FPZ), Croatia
  - FRED Engineering s.r.l. (FRED), Italy

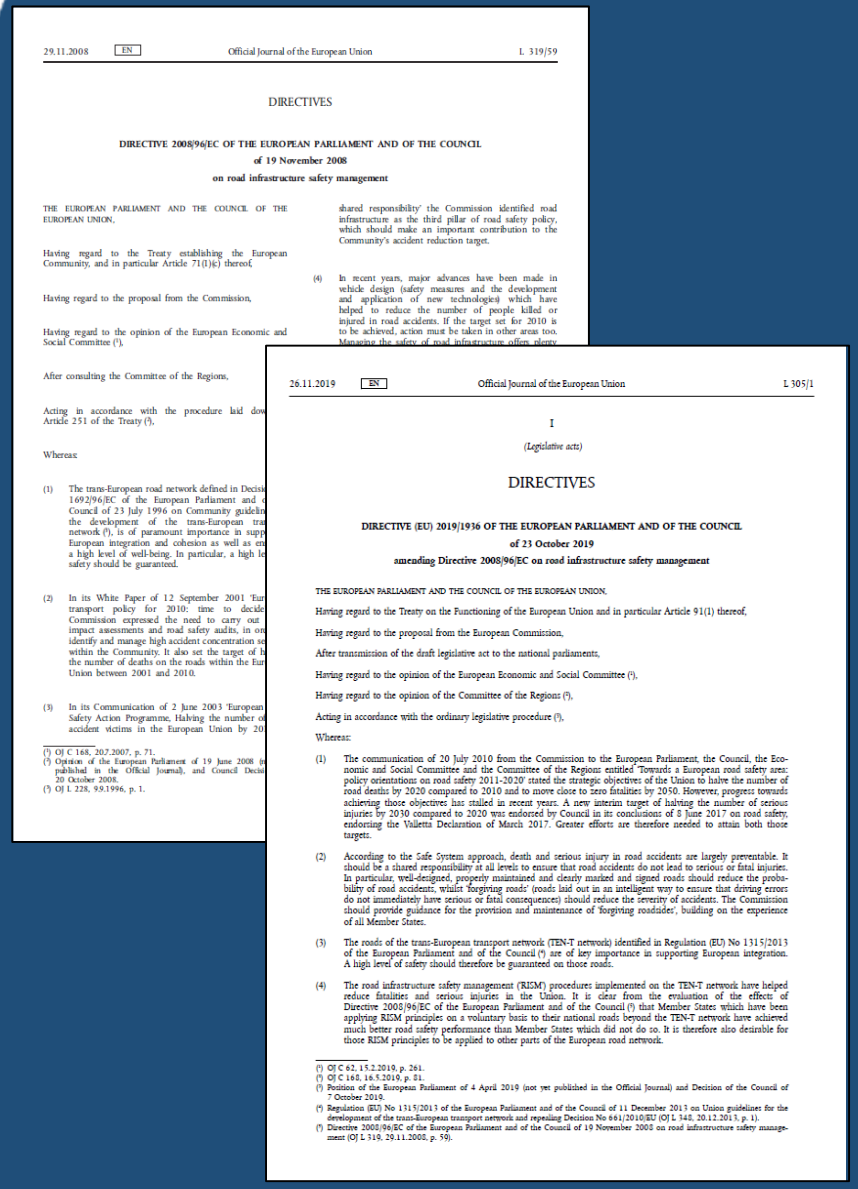
- Duration
  36 months (September 2020 – September 2023)

- For the European Commission - Directorate General for Mobility and Transport

Background

- EU Directive 2019/1936/EC revised the procedures of EU DIR 2008/96 on Road Infrastructure Safety Management (RISM) and extended the scope.

- The revised directive introduces the procedure of the Network-wide Road Safety Assessment, based on:
  - primarily, a visual examination, either on site or by electronic means, of the design characteristics of the road (in-built safety); and
  - an analysis of sections of the road network which have been in operation for more than three years and upon which many serious crashes in proportion to the traffic flow have occurred.



29.11.2008 EN Official Journal of the European Union L 319/59

DIRECTIVES

DIRECTIVE 2008/96/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 19 November 2008
on road infrastructure safety management

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 71(1)(c) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee (1),

After consulting the Committee of the Regions,

Acting in accordance with the procedure laid dow Article 251 of the Treaty (2),

Whereas:

(1) The trans-European road network defined in Decisi 1692/96/EC of the European Parliament and Council of 23 July 1996 on Community guidelin the development of the trans-European tra network (3), is of paramount importance in supp European integration and cohesion as well as en a high level of well-being. In particular, a high le safety should be guaranteed.

(2) In its White Paper of 12 September 2001 'Eur transport policy for 2010: time to decide' Commission expressed the need to carry out impact assessments and road safety audits, in or identify and manage high accident concentration se within the Community. It also set the target of h the number of deaths on the roads within the Eur Union between 2001 and 2010.

(3) In its Communication of 2 June 2003 'European Safety Action Programme, Halving the number of accident victims in the European Union by 20

(1) OJ C 168, 20.7.2007, p. 71.
(2) Opinion of the European Parliament of 19 June 2008 (n published in the Official Journal), and Council Decisi 20 October 2008.
(3) OJ L 228, 9.9.1996, p. 1.

shared responsibility' the Commission identified road infrastructure as the third pillar of road safety policy, which should make an important contribution to the Community's accident reduction target.

(4) In recent years, major advances have been made in vehicle design (safety measures and the development and application of new technologies) which have helped to reduce the number of people killed or injured in road accidents. If the target set for 2010 is to be achieved, action must be taken in other areas too. Managing the safety of road infrastructure offers plenty

26.11.2019 EN Official Journal of the European Union L 305/1

I
(Legislative acts)

DIRECTIVES

DIRECTIVE (EU) 2019/1936 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 23 October 2019
amending Directive 2008/96/EC on road infrastructure safety management

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and in particular Article 91(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee (1),

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions (2),

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure (3),

Whereas:

(1) The communication of 20 July 2010 from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions entitled 'Towards a European road safety area: policy orientations on road safety 2011-2020' stated the strategic objectives of the Union to halve the number of road deaths by 2020 compared to 2010 and to move close to zero fatalities by 2050. However, progress towards achieving those objectives has stalled in recent years. A new interim target of halving the number of serious injuries by 2030 compared to 2020 was endorsed by Council in its conclusions of 8 June 2017 on road safety, endorsing the Valletta Declaration of March 2017. Greater efforts are therefore needed to attain both those targets.

(2) According to the Safe System approach, death and serious injury in road accidents are largely preventable. It should be a shared responsibility at all levels to ensure that road accidents do not lead to serious or fatal injuries. In particular, well-designed, properly maintained and clearly marked and signed roads should reduce the probability of road accidents, whilst 'forgiving roads' (roads laid out in an intelligent way to ensure that driving errors do not immediately have serious or fatal consequences) should reduce the severity of accidents. The Commission should provide guidance for the provision and maintenance of 'forgiving roadsides', building on the experience of all Member States.

(3) The roads of the trans-European transport network (TEN-T network) identified in Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council (4) are of key importance in supporting European integration. A high level of safety should therefore be guaranteed on those roads.

(4) The road infrastructure safety management (RISM) procedures implemented on the TEN-T network have helped reduce fatalities and serious injuries in the Union. It is clear from the evaluation of the effects of Directive 2008/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (5) that Member States which have been applying RISM principles on a voluntary basis to their national roads beyond the TEN-T network have achieved much better road safety performance than Member States which did not do so. It is therefore also desirable for those RISM principles to be applied to other parts of the European road network.

(1) OJ C 62, 15.2.2019, p. 261.
(2) OJ C 168, 16.5.2019, p. 81.
(3) Position of the European Parliament of 4 April 2019 (not yet published in the Official Journal) and Decision of the Council of 7 October 2019.
(4) Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network and repealing Decision No 661/2010/EU (OJ L 348, 20.12.2013, p. 1).
(5) Directive 2008/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on road infrastructure safety management (OJ L 319, 29.11.2008, p. 59).

Study Concept & Objectives

Development of a common EU methodology for network-wide road safety assessment & safety rating system for the classification of the existing road network in categories, with the following specific objectives:

- Combine proactive, "in-built" safety assessment and reactive, crash analysis methods.
- Identify appropriate proactive parameters and scientifically sound relationships for assessing network-level safety.
- Achieve a balance between accuracy and level of detail, without being overly data-intensive and costly to use.
- Consider the needs of Member States (e.g., data availability, design standards) and achieve consensus.

NWA-Proactive Methodology

- Using a set of road characteristics each one corresponding to a parameter, a road section is assessed. A perfectly safe road section is rated with 100 points (max). Reductions are applied for each identified unsafe condition.
- A CMF value lower than 1, or "Reduction Factor" (RF), is estimated per parameter to represent identified unsafe conditions. For safe conditions RF=1.
- The score for the road section i is estimated based on the formula: $Score_i = 100 \times RF_{1i} \times RF_{2i} \times \cdots \times RF_{ni}$
- Sections are classified as:
  - High Risk (class 3)
  - Intermediate Risk (class 2)
  - Low Risk (class 1)

NWA-Reactive Methodology

- Network segmentation
  - Homogenous sections or junctions
- Calculate safety performance metrics for each section
  - Crash Rate (if traffic volume data are available)
  - Crash Density
- Definition of thresholds
  - Comparison group: safety performance of roads with similar characteristics (Reference Population)
- Classify the section/junction
  - High Risk section (class 3)
  - Unsure section (class 2)
  - Low Risk section (class 1)

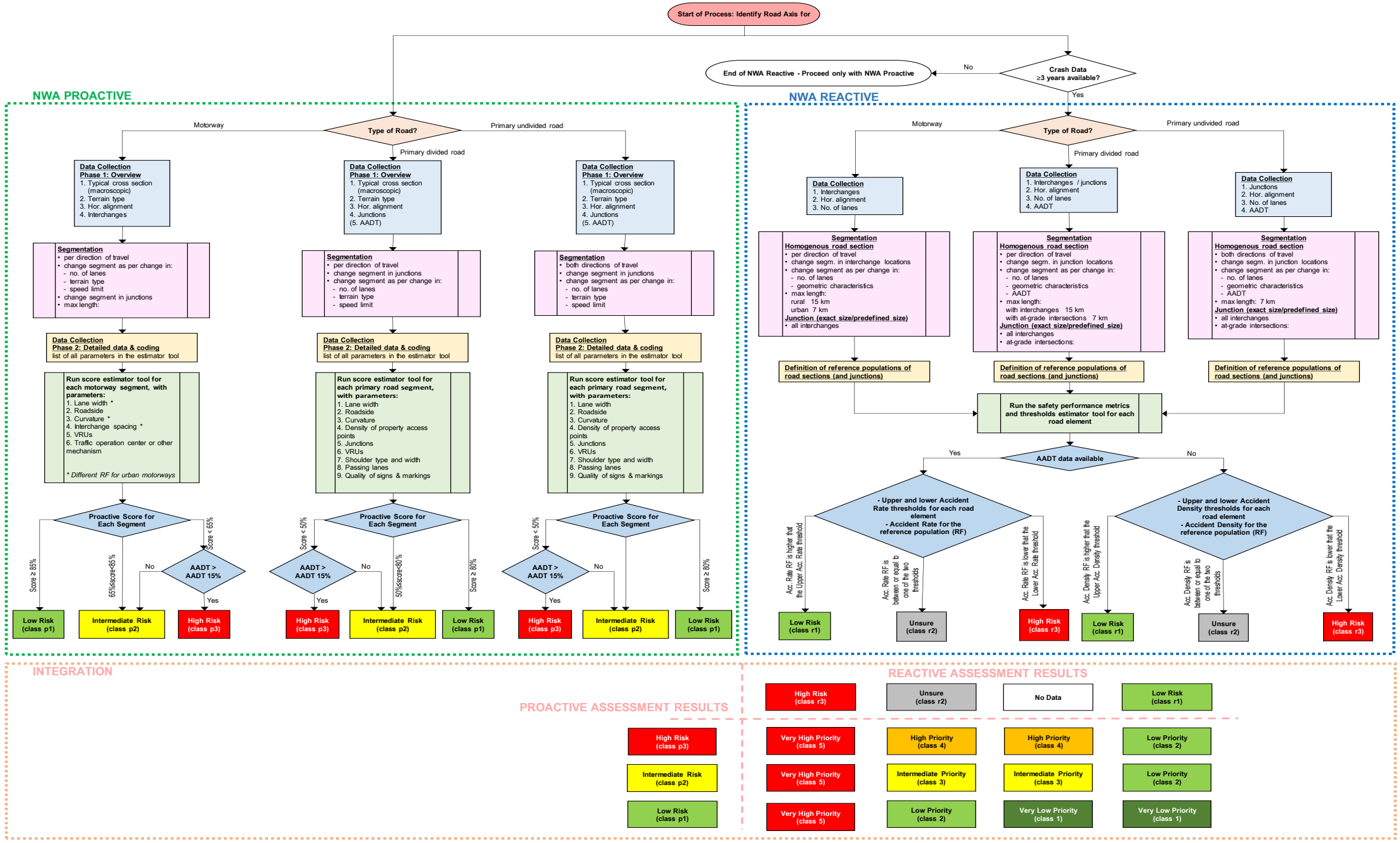
NWA-Integrated Framework

- A 5-class ranking system is used to combine the results of the proactive (3 classes) and reactive (2 classes + unsure + no data) methodologies.

Very High Priority (class 5)	High Priority (class 4)	Intermediate Priority (class 3)	Low Priority (class 2)	Very Low Priority (class 1)

- The NWA-reactive (when data is available and it can be completed) is prioritized over the NWA-proactive:

PROACTIVE ASSESSMENT RESULTS \ REACTIVE ASSESSMENT RESULTS	High Risk (class r3)	Unsure (class r2)	No Data	Low Risk (class r1)
High Risk (class p3)	Very High Priority (class 5)	High Priority (class 4)	High Priority (class 4)	Low Priority (class 2)
Intermediate Risk (class p2)	Very High Priority (class 5)	Intermediate Priority (class 3)	Intermediate Priority (class 3)	Low Priority (class 2)
Low Risk (class p1)	Very High Priority (class 5)	Low Priority (class 2)	Very Low Priority (class 1)	Very Low Priority (class 1)



Pilot Implementation Results

- The NWA methodology was pilot implemented in 14 EU countries, to the following road types:
  - Urban motorways: 71 km
  - Rural motorways: 742 km
  - Divided primary roads: 220 km
  - Undivided primary roads: 269 km
- Results were reasonable and can be obtained with reduced effort compared to other existing methodologies.
- The applicability of the NWA methodology across Member States was verified.
- The high percentage of "unsure" crash analysis results (non statistically significant) highlights the value of the proactive part of the methodology.

Motorway - Rural

Member State	Road Axis	Percentage				
		Very High Priority (Class 5)	High Priority (Class 4)	Intermediate Priority (Class 3)	Low Priority (Class 2)	Very Low Priority (Class 1)
AT-Austria	A2 SüdAutobahn	4%	51%	36%	8%	1%
CY-Cyprus	A1	21%	18%	18%	42%	0%
ES-Spain	A11	0%	0%	76%	24%	0%
FI-Finland	RA1 - Nurmijärvi-Hyvinkää	5%	0%	0%	95%	0%
FR-France	APRR (A31 & A311)	0%	0%	10%	14%	76%
GR-Greece	Olympia Odos	15%	0%	13%	71%	0%
HR-Croatia	A3	91%	0%	0%	9%	0%
IT-Italy	A4	1%	0%	1%	52%	46%
IT-Italy	A14	10%	10%	34%	42%	4%
LT-Lithuania	A2	1%	0%	1%	98%	0%
RO-Romania	A3	0%	0%	20%	80%	0%
	Total	**25%**	**4%**	**13%**	**48%**	**9%**

Motorway - Urban

Member State	Road Axis	Percentage				
		Very High Priority (Class 5)	High Priority (Class 4)	Intermediate Priority (Class 3)	Low Priority (Class 2)	Very Low Priority (Class 1)
CY-Cyprus	A1	31%	19%	38%	12%	0%
PT-Portugal	A16	14%	17%	34%	34%	0%
RO-Romania	A3	0%	0%	69%	31%	0%
	Total	**14%**	**14%**	**42%**	**30%**	**0%**

Primary Roads - Divided

Member State	Road Axis	Percentage				
		Very High Priority (Class 5)	High Priority (Class 4)	Intermediate Priority (Class 3)	Low Priority (Class 2)	Very Low Priority (Class 1)
FR-France	DIR Nord (RN42)	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
GR-Greece	Stavrou - Lavriou	88%	7%	6%	0%	0%
IT-Italy	E45	50%	4%	45%	2%	0%
PL-Poland	Wilamowa-Nysa	12%	1%	51%	30%	6%
RO-Romania	DN6/E70	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%
	Total	**49%**	**5%**	**25%**	**3%**	**17%**

Primary Roads - Undivided

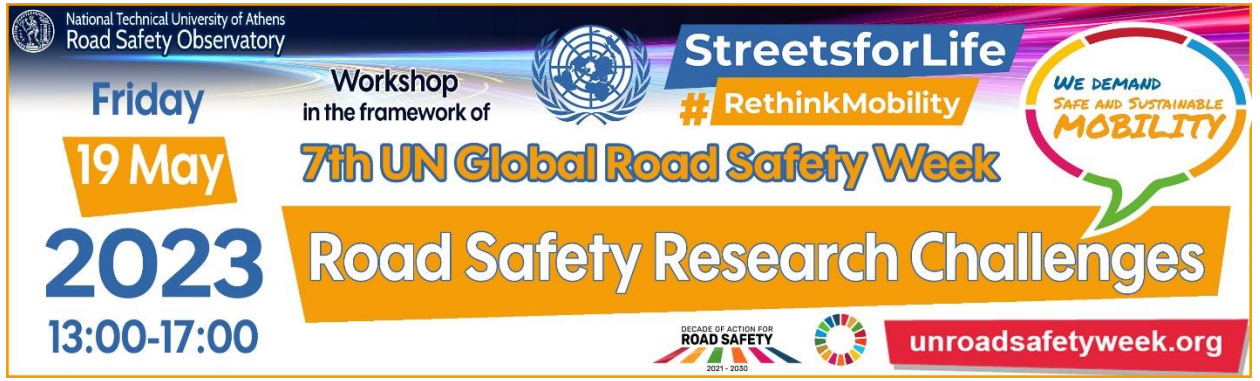
Member State	Road Axis	Percentage				
		Very High Priority (Class 5)	High Priority (Class 4)	Intermediate Priority (Class 3)	Low Priority (Class 2)	Very Low Priority (Class 1)
CY-Cyprus	B1	0%	91%	9%	0%	0%
	B9	64%	23%	14%	0%	0%
ES-Spain	N630	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
FI-Finland	RA2 - Tampere-Vaasa	34%	66%	0%	0%	0%
	RA3 - Kuusamo-Ruka	53%	47%	0%	0%	0%
FR-France	DIR Nord (RN2)	48%	0%	52%	0%	0%
IE-Ireland	N25	6%	12%	37%	40%	4%
LT-Lithuania	A16	16%	0%	57%	27%	0%
PL-Poland	Wilamowa-Nysa	26%	12%	37%	14%	11%
RO-Romania	DN6/E70	0%	48%	28%	17%	7%
SE-Sweden	E45	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
	Total	**22%**	**21%**	**28%**	**27%**	**2%**

Scientific & Social Impact

- Integrated proactive and reactive safety assessment approach addresses limitations of commonly applied crash-based assessments.
- Large scale road safety assessment at network level in a cost-efficient way is made possible, thus allowing more targeted allocation of resources for detailed road safety inspections to high risk segments.
- Common understanding of the safety level of all major road networks across the EU Member States.
- Contribution towards the reduction of road fatalities and injuries in the European Union.

Future Challenges

- Full scale implementation by Member States across the European Union, by the end of 2024.
- Development of additional methodologies for the network-wide safety assessment of:
  - urban arterials & city streets, and
  - minor & local rural roads.
- Enhancement of data collection and management by Member States road authorities.
- Automating and standardizing data collection and assessment procedures, e.g., using advanced technological equipment.
- Consideration of automated driving and requirements of CAVs in future versions of the methodology.



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