



National Technical University of Athens  
Road Safety Observatory

[www.nrso.ntua.gr](http://www.nrso.ntua.gr)

Monday  
**15**  
May  
at 14:00

# Workshop

in the framework of the

FOURTH UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY  
WEEK  
8-14 May 2017



Save Lives  
#SlowDown

The future of road safety research

NTUA Zografou Campus, Athens

Railways Amphitheatre of the  
Department of Transportation Planning and Engineering

Monitoring  
road safety attitudes in Europe  
**ESRA**

## Foteini Orfanou

Civil - Transportation Engineer,  
Researcher, PhD Candidate

Website: [www.nrso.ntua.gr/forfanou](http://www.nrso.ntua.gr/forfanou)  
e-mail: [forfanou@central.ntua.gr](mailto:forfanou@central.ntua.gr)

Together with:

Alexandra Laiou, Akis Theofilatos, George Yannis

# E-survey of Road Users' Attitudes-ESRA



Save Lives  
#SlowDown

- A joint initiative of 25 countries aiming at **collecting comparable national data on road users' opinions, attitudes and behaviour with respect to road traffic risks.**



[www.esranet.eu](http://www.esranet.eu)

- ESRA Core Group:  
BRSI (Belgium), KFV (Austria), NTUA (Greece), CTL (Italy), ITS (Poland), PRP (Portugal), BFU (Switzerland)
- The project was funded by the partners' own resources.
- In total, the first ESRA survey (2015/2016) gathered data from more than **26,000** road users including **15,600** frequent **car drivers.**

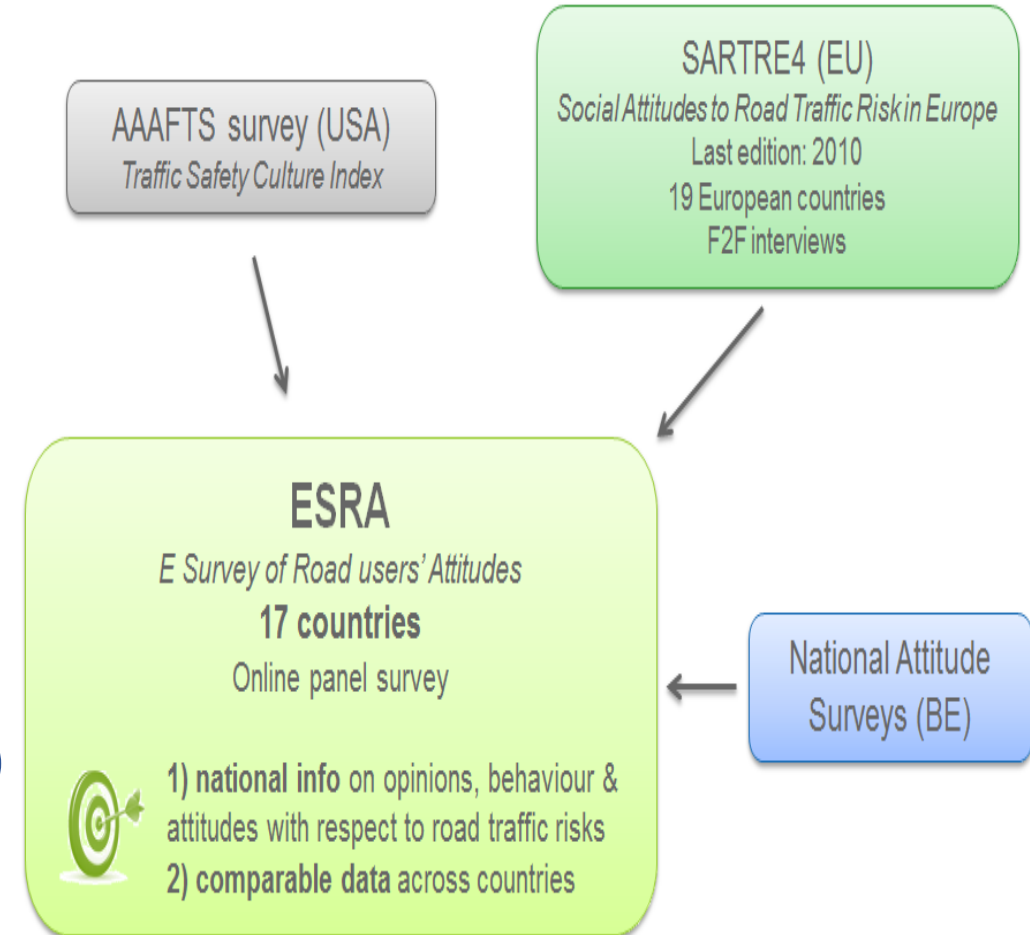


# The ESRA questionnaire

## Topics covered:

- Attitudes towards unsafe traffic behaviour
- Behaviour of other road users
- Subjective safety and risk perception
- Involvement in road crashes
- Reported police checks and perceived likelihood of getting caught for traffic offences
- Self-declared (unsafe) behaviour in traffic
- Support for road safety policy measures
- Use of different modes of transportation
- Other items (e.g. socio-demographic information)

A **common questionnaire** in English (UK) was translated into 20 different country-language versions.





# Deliverables and publications

## Main project report

## Thematic Reports:

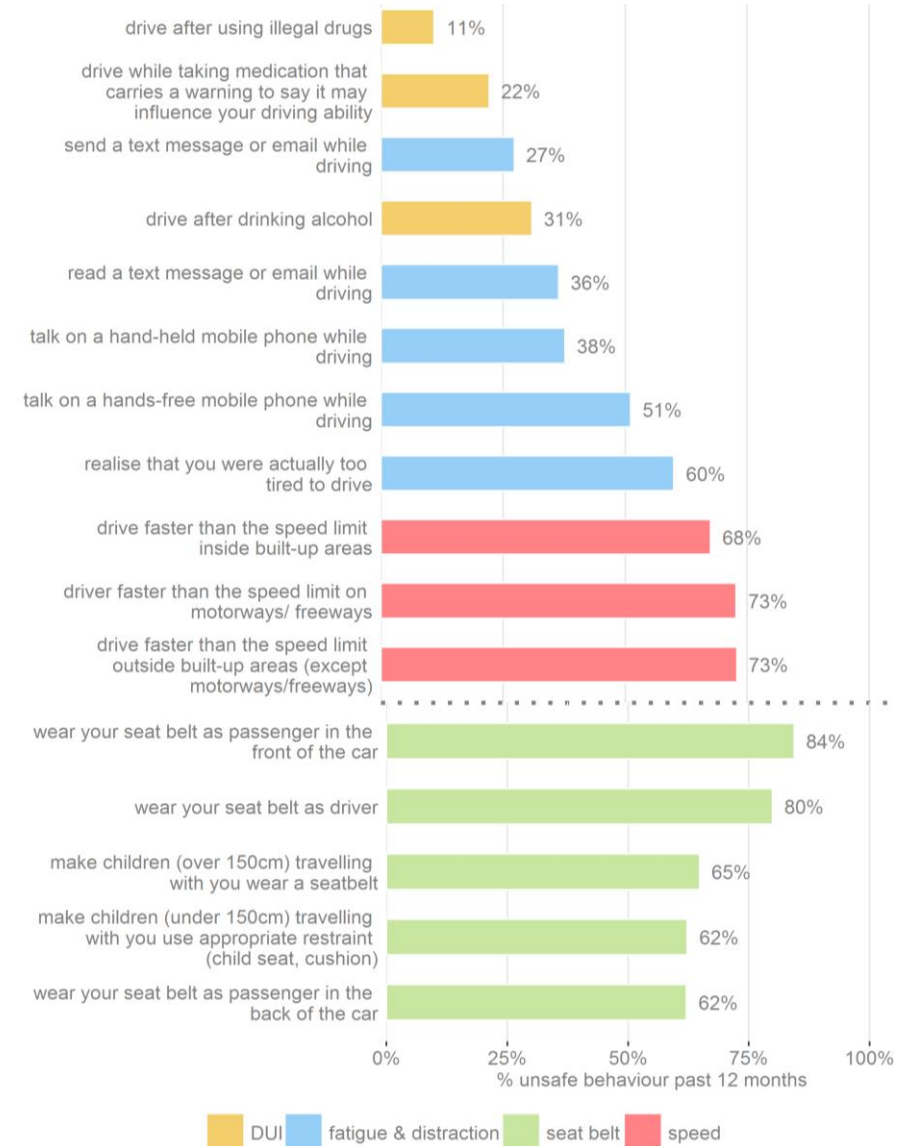
- Speeding
- DUI alcohol & drugs
- Distraction & fatigue
- Seat belt & child restraint systems
- Subjective safety & risk perception
- Enforcement & support for road safety policy measures



## 25 Country Fact Sheets (8 under development)

# Road users' attitudes in Europe

- Attitudes towards drink-driving, drowsy driving, and seat belt use are quite similar between European countries. However, there are **large differences** in the attitudes towards **speeding** and **distracted driving**.
- In general, the declared **personal unacceptability** of risky behaviour is **stronger than** the perceived **social unacceptability** – e.g. people think that others are more likely to accept DUI of alcohol than they personally do.
- Even if people acknowledge that a certain **behaviour** is **risky** or **unacceptable**, they nevertheless may **show** that behaviour. For example, only 4% of Europeans think it is acceptable to type text messages or emails while driving, but 27% declare that they have sent a text message or email at least once during the past 12 months.



# Attitudes towards speeding



- Respondents consider that behaviours related to speeding are more acceptable by "others", than by themselves indicating a **self-declared safer personal attitude** towards speeding.

- More than two thirds of the respondents reported having driven faster than the speed limit at least once in the past 12 months.

EL	58%	64%	71%
----	-----	-----	-----

- About half of the respondents agree that in their country **traffic rules should be stricter** (52%) and that traffic rules are not being checked sufficiently (54%).

- Over one third believe that **penalties** for speeding in their country **are too severe**.

drive faster than the speed limit (% of at least once)

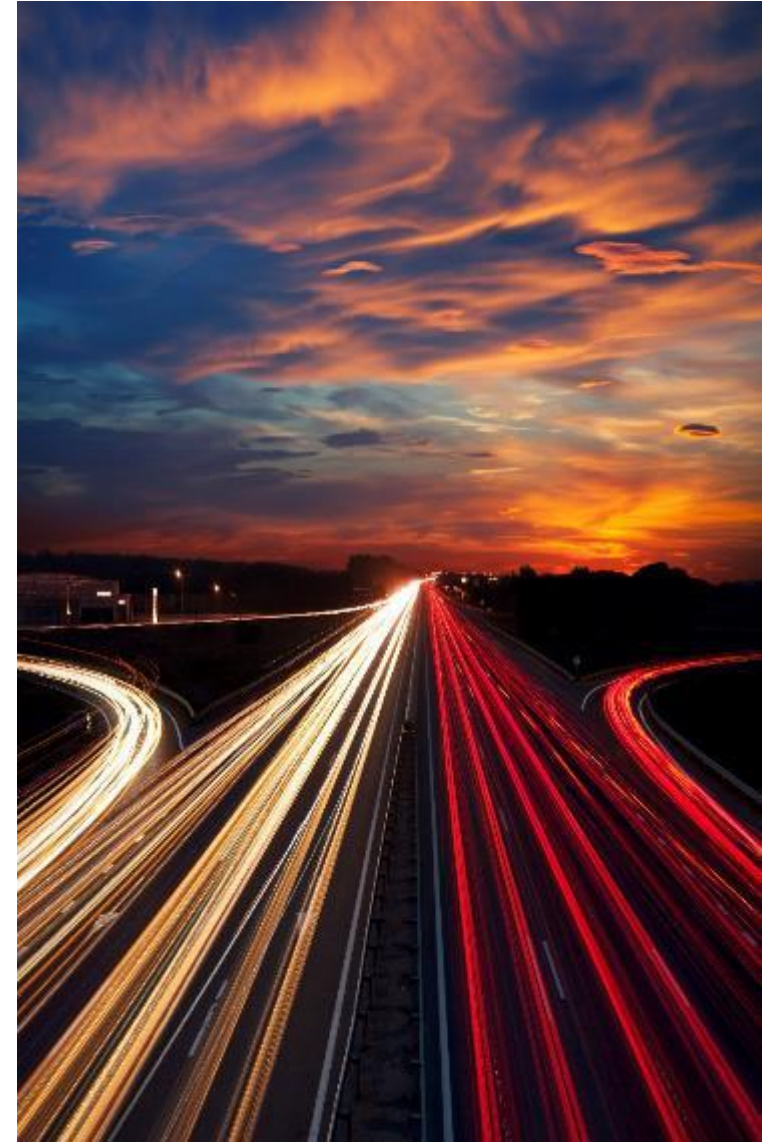
	inside built-up areas	outside built-up areas (except motorways/freeways)	on motorways/freeways
AT	74%	84%	81%
BE	67%	76%	74%
CH	63%	75%	80%
DE	76%	82%	80%
EL	58%	64%	71%
ES	71%	84%	81%
FR	68%	73%	68%
FI	85%	91%	84%
IE	50%	59%	61%
IT	73%	79%	76%
NL	66%	75%	78%
PL	64%	68%	57%
PT	72%	77%	81%
SE	64%	78%	83%
SI	61%	73%	73%
UK	55%	60%	66%
EU	68%	73%	73%

# Key recommendations at European level



Save Lives  
#SlowDown

- Define basic **road safety performance indicators** (RSPIs) and respective targets at European level in the fields of speeding, impaired driving, distraction and seat belt / helmet use.
- **Exchange best practice** across EU Countries and develop common principles and goals for the implementation of effective and efficient strategies on speed management, impaired driving, and mobile/smartphone use.
- Integrate such common principles and goals within future of **EU directives** and/or other **legislative mechanisms**.





# Key recommendations on speeding

- Establish an effective and efficient **speed management strategy** based on integrated set of countermeasures.
- Select the most appropriate combination of **measures** against speeding based on an assessment of the local circumstances.
- Implement a road **infrastructure** that supports and encourages road users to drive at safe speeds.
- Develop and implement **public education campaigns** to provide information and influence road users to modify their behaviour.
- Develop an efficient **speed enforcement system**.
- Raise **awareness** on the impact of speeding on road safety and the need of speed enforcement.
- Ensure that there is sufficient **political support** and persistence during the implementation of a speed management strategy.



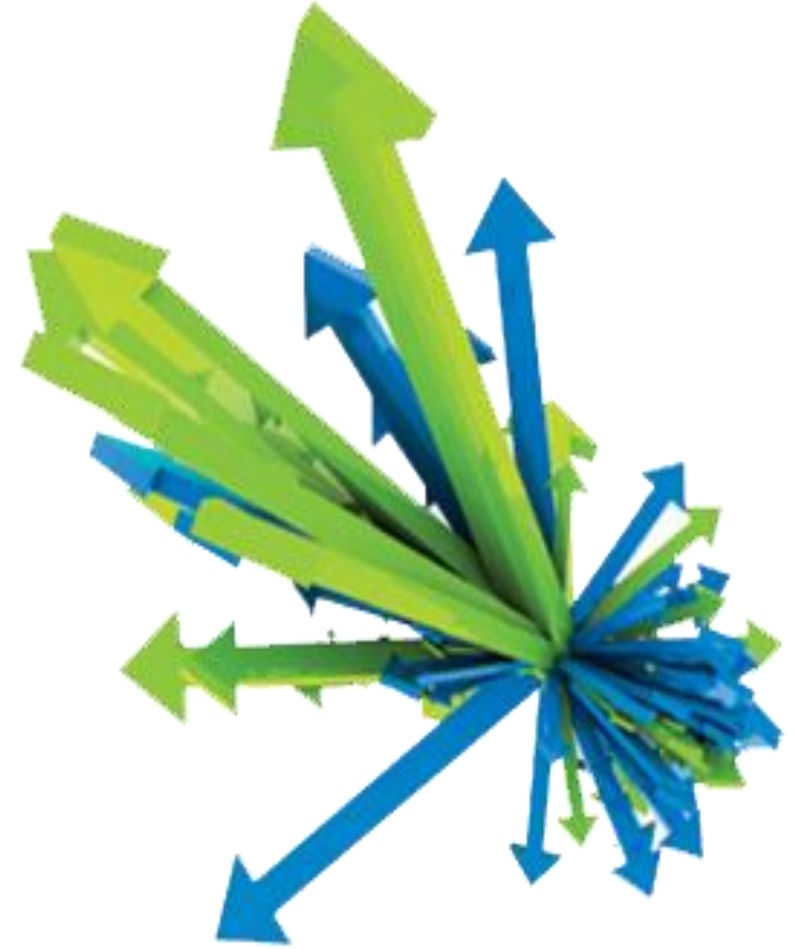


# Future challenges

**Repeating** this European survey periodically (every three years) would bring important added value to understanding European road users attitudes' changes.

The work within ESRA could become the solid foundation for a **joint European** (or even global) **monitoring system** on road safety attitudes and behaviour.

**Measuring revealed behaviour** (Performance Indicators) of road users and comparing it with the reported attitudes from ESRA would allow for a more clear picture of road safety behaviour of road users in Europe.





National Technical University of Athens  
Road Safety Observatory

[www.nrso.ntua.gr](http://www.nrso.ntua.gr)

Monday  
**15**  
May  
at 14:00

# Workshop

in the framework of the

FOURTH UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY  
WEEK  
8-14 May 2017



Save Lives  
#SlowDown

The future of road safety research

NTUA Zografou Campus, Athens

Railways Amphitheatre of the  
Department of Transportation Planning and Engineering

Monitoring  
road safety attitudes in Europe  
**ESRA**

## Foteini Orfanou

Civil - Transportation Engineer,  
Researcher, PhD Candidate

Website: [www.nrso.ntua.gr/forfanou](http://www.nrso.ntua.gr/forfanou)  
e-mail: [forfanou@central.ntua.gr](mailto:forfanou@central.ntua.gr)

Together with:

Alexandra Laiou, Akis Theofilatos, George Yannis