



Novice drivers in Bosnia and Herzegovina: joint commitment for road safety

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In 2022 around 20,600 people were killed in road crashes in Europe – target is to halve the number of road deaths by 2030. However, progress is very uneven between Member States and candidate countries. The number of persons per million inhabitants, who were killed in road accidents in Bosnia and Herzegovina (67) is far above the EU average (45). Young adults and novice drivers are particularly at risk. One in four person, killed in road traffic accidents is between 15 and 30 years old. More than a quarter of all road accidents are caused by young drivers and novice drivers. Together with the Minister of Transport of the Republic of Srpska, Nedeljko Čubrilović, representatives of driving schools, the Road Safety Agency and representatives of AMS RS, EAC President Holger Küster exchanged views on measures to counteract this trend. Küster underlined the willingness to support the EAC member AMS RS in its commitment to road safety and the reduction of road accidents in the Republic of Srpska.

To reduce the disproportionately high accident involvement of young drivers, the EAC advocates the adoption of the so-called multi-phase training from Austria. Since 2003, Austria has been relying on a compulsory second phase of training for novice drivers - with success: the number of young drivers injured has been reduced by 63% since the introduction of multi-phase training.

"The declining trend illustrates the positive effects of holistic, professional support and awareness-raising for novice drivers - a promising model for Republic of Srpska" explains Holger Küster.

Many road accidents can be avoided by changing behavior. That's why the EAC and its members focus on prevention - especially among young drivers. The Austrian Association of Motorists, Drivers and Cyclists (ARBÖ), an EAC member, prepares novice drivers for everyday driving in driving safety centers through practice-oriented exercises group discussions about traffic psychology. ARBÖ would like to support the AMS RS on site with existing expert knowledge.

"Road safety in Europe must not stop at national borders. I am pleased that our members want to contribute to increasing road safety in the Republic of Srpska through knowledge transfer, says EAC-President Holger Küster.

Therefore, the EAC advocates eFuels as an additional option - especially regarding the solutions for the current long-life vehicle fleet. In principle, the EAC welcomes the agreement with clear and binding targets for the expansion of the European refueling and charging infrastructure.

»EAC European Automobile Clubs«

The interest group EAC European Automobile Clubs represents the interests of approximately 3 million consumers vis à-vis European institutions and political actors. EAC advocates for borderless experienced mobility, open to technology, harmonization of traffic regulations, climate- and social-friendly mobility and enhancing road safety.

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