

Europe-Asia Road Safety Forum

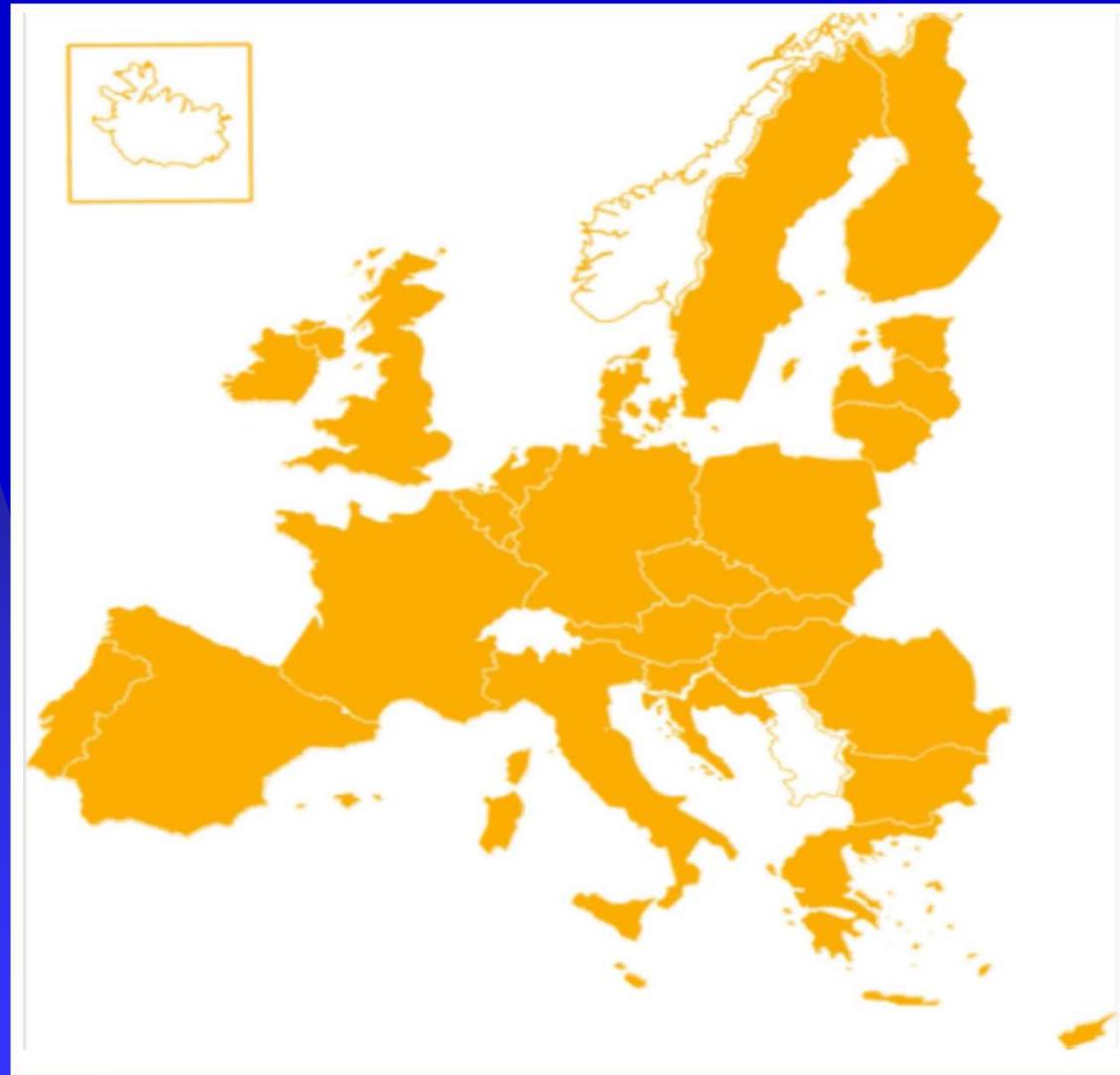
New Delhi - India

4 December 2013



Joël VALMAIN, Adviser to the Interministerial Delegate for Road Safety, in charge of European and International Affairs (France)

European Union (a mosaic of 28 countries)



MINISTÈRE
DE
L'INTÉRIEUR

**SÉCURITÉ ROUTIÈRE
TOUS RESPONSABLES**

European Union traffic rules (1)

- **Wearing seat belts mandatory in all vehicles throughout the European Union (EU) laid down by European Regulations/Directives. Wearing helmets on PTWs as well.**
- **Traffic lights and road signs are in general the same (some slight discrepancies).**
- **Legislations on speed limits, blood alcohol concentration (BAC) level, drugs and use of mobile phone behind the wheel exist; they are close to each other but not completely harmonised.**
- **An harmonised European driving licence.**



MINISTÈRE
DE
L'INTÉRIEUR

**SÉCURITÉ ROUTIÈRE
TOUS RESPONSABLES**

European Union traffic rules (2)

- Speed limits

- In urban areas in general 50 km/h (one exception = 60 km/h in Poland during the night);
- on rural roads the speed limit varies between 70 and 100 km/h, with a majority of countries (18 countries) with 90 km/h;
- on motorways the speed limit varies between 100 and 140 km/h, with a majority of countries (16 countries) with 130 km/h;
- on rural roads with double carriageway the speed limit varies between 80 and 130 km/h



MINISTÈRE
DE
L'INTÉRIEUR

SÉCURITÉ ROUTIÈRE
TOUS RESPONSABLES

European Union traffic rules (3)

- BAC levels
 - 17 countries = 0,5 mg/ml
 - 1 country = 0,4 mg/ml (Lithuania)
 - 3 countries = 0,2 mg/ml (Estonia, Poland et Sweden)
 - 4 countries = 0,0 mg/ml (Hungary, Czech Republic, Romania and Slovakia)
 - 2 countries = still 0,8 mg/ml (United Kingdom and Malta)
 - Switzerland, Iceland and Croatia = 0,5 mg/ml (Croatia = 0,0 mg/ml in case of traffic crash)
 - Norway = 0,2 mg/ml

European Union traffic rules (4)

Lower BAC level for novice and commercial drivers:

- **0,0 mg/ml in Italy and Germany,**
- **0,1 mg/ml in Austria,**
- **0,2 mg/ml in Greece, Ireland et Lithuania,**
- **0,3 mg/ml in Spain**

Lower BAC level for novice and commercial drivers:

- **0,2 mg/ml in France (buses and coaches)**

Lower BAC level for novice drivers:

- **0,2 mg/ml in Cyprus, Latvia, Luxemburg and The Netherlands.**



MINISTÈRE
DE
L'INTÉRIEUR

**SÉCURITÉ ROUTIÈRE
TOUS RESPONSABLES**

European Union traffic rules (5)

- Use of mobile phones
 - Hand-held mobile phones in general forbidden in the EU (except in Sweden). Tolerance for hands-free mobile phones.
 - Demerit and/or penalty points driving licence systems.
 - The issuance of driving licences almost harmonised in the EU: driving tests (theory and practical tests), common medical fit to drive standards and the driving licence model (see next and last slide!).



MINISTÈRE
DE
L'INTÉRIEUR

SÉCURITÉ ROUTIÈRE
TOUS RESPONSABLES

5. Driving Licence (3rd Directive)

Legislation adopted on 20 December 2006, in force by 19 January 2013

The most visible part of it:



From 110 models...

... to a single model

For more details:

<http://www.securite-routiere.gouv.fr/>

Thank you for your attention

