

Launch event: YEARS project - Young Europeans Acting for Road Safety

## Young road user risks: is age the only fix?

Monday 19 October 2015, 17:00

Thon Hotel EU, Rue de la Loi 75, Brussels

The European Transport Safety Council warmly invites you to the launch event of the YEARS project – which focusses on reducing dangers for young road users in Europe. The event will feature the 2015 European Transport Safety Lecture, this year given by Divera Twisk of SWOV Institute for Road Safety Research, The Netherlands, followed by an expert panel discussion.

### AGENDA

Moderator: Rob Gifford

17:00 Registration and coffee

17:30 Welcome and introductions  
Herman De Croo, Minister of State, Belgium and ETSC President  
Antonio Avenoso, ETSC

17:40 The EU policy context  
Szabolcs Schmidt, Head of Road Safety, European Commission DG Move

18:00 European Transport Safety Lecture 2015  
Young road user risks: is age the only fix?  
Dr Divera Twisk, SWOV Institute for Road Safety Research, The Netherlands,

18:45 Coffee Break

19:00 Responses from:

- Jacqueline Lacroix, German Road Safety Council (DVR)
- Wouter Van den Berghe, Belgian Road Safety Institute (IBSR)
- David Davies, PACTS

19:45 Debate with the audience

20:15 Dinner

Participation is free but seats are limited. Register online at:  
<http://etsc.eu/young-road-user-risks-is-age-the-only-fix/>

## ABOUT THIS YEAR'S THEME

In Western society, road crashes are the prime cause of death and injuries among young people. The lecture will discuss the underlying causes, including recent insights concerning adolescent brain development and the role of exposure to road risk. The implications for safety measures will be discussed, and some evidence-based interventions will be presented.



Divera Twisk started her career at the Traffic Research Centre in Groningen, before moving to TNO. For the last 20 years, she has worked at SWOV Institute for Road Safety Research in the field of novice drivers, accident analysis, training, human factors, naturalistic driving and cycling, and cycling behaviour. She has collaborated and supervised many international studies on driver training. She was the chair of the OECD working group on young driver safety and the editor of the OECD publication: Young drivers the road to safety. In the last four years she has coordinated cycling-related research at SWOV. In September 2014 she received a doctorate based on her thesis 'Protecting pre-license teens from road risk'.

YEARS (Young Europeans Acting for Road Safety) is a three year project jointly managed by ETSC and PACTS.

The project aims to offer a better understanding of young drivers as a road user group particularly at risk and to address this risk through innovative actions.

The project will look at the current situation in EU Member States and will present the latest data on road deaths involving young people, the main risks they face and what can be done to address these. Good practice and effective measures adopted by EU Member States will be promoted and disseminated through national conferences in order to raise awareness among stakeholders and spur on national administrations to take action and reduce the number of young people killed on the roads.

In addition, in partnership with leading European Universities, the project will mobilise university students to run road safety projects that improve the safety of Vulnerable Road Users in their community. Students will develop their ideas at a one week camp in Brussels with road safety experts. The best three projects will be awarded at a final conference in Brussels.



The YEARS project receives financial support from the European Commission, the German Road Safety Council (DVR) and the Belgian Road Safety Institute.

