



***FORGIVING ROADSIDES AND SELF EXPLAINING AND SELF ENFORCING ROADS***  
***SUB-GROUP TO THE EXPERT GROUP ON ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY***  
**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

## **1. BACKGROUND**

In view of the revised Directive 2008/96/EC<sup>1</sup> on Road Infrastructure Safety Management ('the Directive'), several new features required the Commission to seek the advice and expertise of Member States and other relevant stakeholders. This includes, more particularly, guidance for the implementation of the Directive, as well as the preparation of implementing and delegated acts.

In October 2019 the Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport ('DG MOVE') set up the Expert Group on Road Infrastructure Safety ('EGRIS') which is composed solely of Member States' authorities and other public entities in its plenary and organisations in the broad sense of the word in both its sub-groups. The main tasks of EGRIS will be, in a first step, to assist the Commission in the preparation of relevant guidance as set out in the Directive, as well as in the development of an infrastructure-related key performance indicator (KPI) and a framework for road classification that better matches speed limits to road design.

In accordance with the terms of reference of EGRIS, DG MOVE may set up sub-groups to EGRIS for the purpose of examining specific questions on the basis of terms of reference defined by DG MOVE.

Against this background, DG MOVE, besides the two existing sub-groups (SG-1 for road signs and road markings and, SG-2 for network-wide road safety assessment), has set up a sub-group with an overall mission to prepare non-binding contributions and carry out preparatory work assisting the Commission in the EGRIS-related tasks.

In particular, the sub-group shall provide the Commission with advice and expertise in relation to the design of 'forgiving roadsides' and 'self-explaining and self-enforcing roads' in the initial audit of the design phase, as well as guidance on quality requirements regarding vulnerable road users, in accordance with Art 4(6) of the Directive 2008/96/EC, as amended.

For any aspect not explicitly mentioned in these terms of reference, the sub-group shall operate in compliance with the terms of reference and rules of procedure of EGRIS and the

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<sup>1</sup> 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. 59–67)

Commission's horizontal rules on expert groups ('the horizontal rules')<sup>2</sup>. The sub-group shall report to EGRIS.

## **2. SUBJECT MATTER**

The sub-group "Forgiving roadsides, self-explaining and self-enforcing roads" ('the sub-group') is set up.

## **3. TASKS**

The sub-group's tasks shall be:

- (a) to provide DG MOVE with advice and expertise in relation to the design of 'forgiving roadsides' and 'self-explaining and self-enforcing roads', as well as guidance on quality requirements regarding vulnerable road users, in accordance with Art 4(6) of Directive 2008/96/EC;
- (b) to assist DG MOVE in the development of guidance in the field of forgiving roadsides' and 'self-explaining and self-enforcing roads', as well as quality requirements for vulnerable road users;
- (c) to bring about an exchange of experience and good practice in the field of forgiving roadsides' and 'self-explaining and self-enforcing roads', as well as quality requirements for vulnerable users, in cooperation with other relevant Commission expert groups and similar bodies, including the Expert Group on Urban Mobility.

## **4. MEMBERSHIP**

1. Members shall be Member States' authorities and organisations active in the field of road safety policies and measures, road design, road equipment and infrastructure, connected and automated mobility and intelligent transport systems, quality requirements for vulnerable road users, as well as aspects relating to the interaction of those.
2. Member States' authorities and organisations shall nominate their representatives and shall be responsible for ensuring that their representatives provide a high level of expertise. DG MOVE may refuse the nomination by an organisation of a representative if it considers this nomination inappropriate in the light of the requirements specified in the call for applications. In such case, the organisation concerned shall be asked to appoint another representative.
3. Members who are no longer capable of contributing effectively to the sub-group's deliberations, who, in the opinion of DG MOVE, do not comply with the conditions set out in Article 339 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union or who resign, shall no longer be invited to participate in any meetings of the sub-group and may be replaced for the remainder of their term of office.

## **5. SELECTION PROCESS**

1. The selection of the sub-group's members, other than Member States' authorities and other public entities, shall be carried out *via* a public call for applications, to be published

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<sup>2</sup> C(2016) 3301.

on the Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities ('the Register of expert groups'). In addition, the call for applications may be published through other means, including on dedicated websites. The call for applications shall clearly outline the selection criteria, including the required expertise in relation to the work to be performed and the interests to be represented. The minimum deadline for applications shall be four weeks.

2. Registration in the Transparency Register<sup>3</sup> is required in order for organisations to be appointed.
3. The members of the sub-group shall be appointed by the Director General of DG MOVE from applicants with competence in the areas referred to in point 3 and who have responded to the call for applications.
4. Members shall be appointed for a period of 5 years. They shall remain in office until replaced or until the end of their term of office. Their term of office may be renewed.

Done in Brussels, on 19 July 2023.

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<sup>3</sup> [Transparency Register - Homepage \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/transparency)