







Ms Francesca Podda

European Transport Safety Council

EXAMPLES OF ALCOHOL INTERLOCK PROGRAMMES IN THE EU

Safe and Sober Dublin | 19 January 2024



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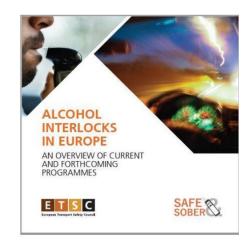


16 years of raising awareness on Alcohol Interlocks through:

- 31 national events since 2008 (21 countries in Europe covered)
- 2 EU events in the European Parliament
- Regular participation in the Alcohol Interlock Symposium
- 1 report on Alcohol Interlock programmes in the EU
- 1 EU map on updated info on AI offender programmes in the EU











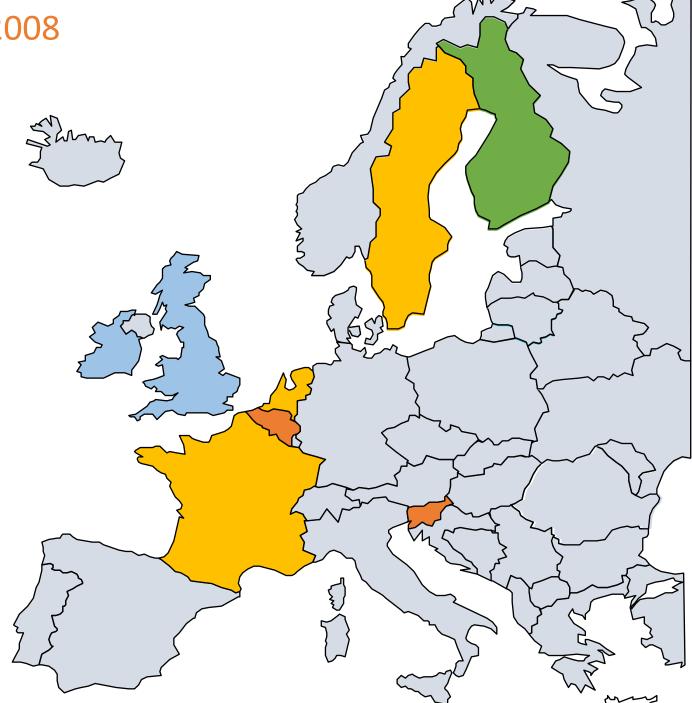


Promoting Alcohol Interlocks

- In rehabilitation programmes
 - High level and recidivist offenders
 - Alcohol addicted as long as this is combined with medical supervision
- As a quality assurance mechanism in commercial transport
 - In school buses
 - Emergency
 - Day care transportation
 - Others: public procurements (safety culture..)

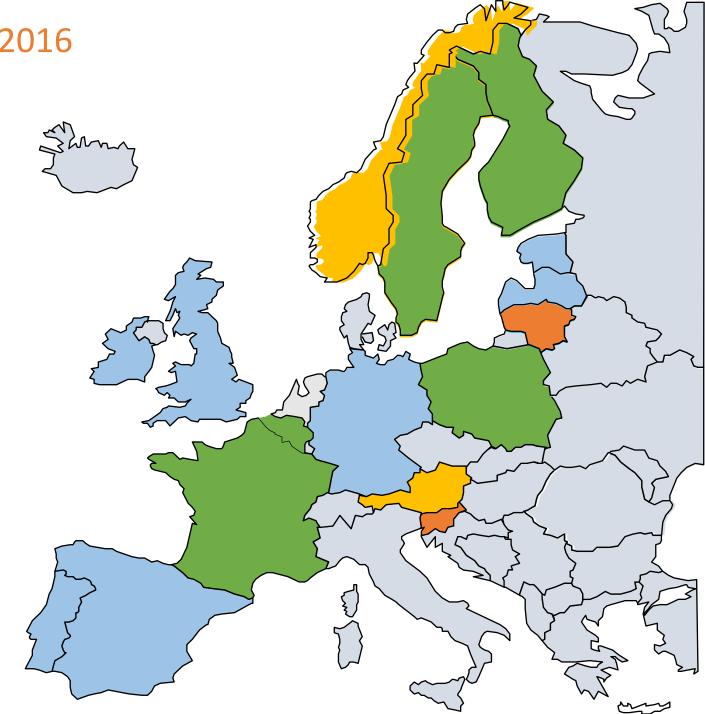
ALCOHOL INTERLOCK BAROMETER 2008 ■ Voluntary basis Pilot project

- Legislation in discussion
- Legislation in force



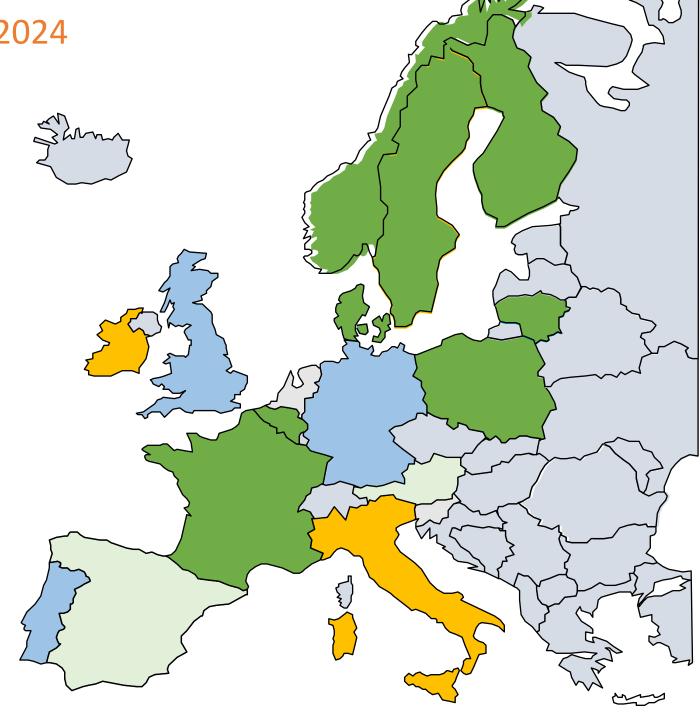
ALCOHOL INTERLOCK BAROMETER 2016

- Voluntary basis
- Pilot project
- Legislation in discussion
- Legislation in force



ALCOHOL INTERLOCK BAROMETER 2024

- Voluntary basis
- Pilot project
- Legislation in discussion
- Legislation in force



ALCOHOL INTERLOCKS & REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES



Alcohol interlocks are:

- An effective measure for hard-core drink-driving offenders
- An effective prevention tool

LEGISLATION NEEDED

To maximise the effect on road safety, alcohol interlock programmes for drink driving offenders should be compulsory and placed under administrative law.



In force since 2012.
Under administrative law
Voluntary, as alternative to driving ban

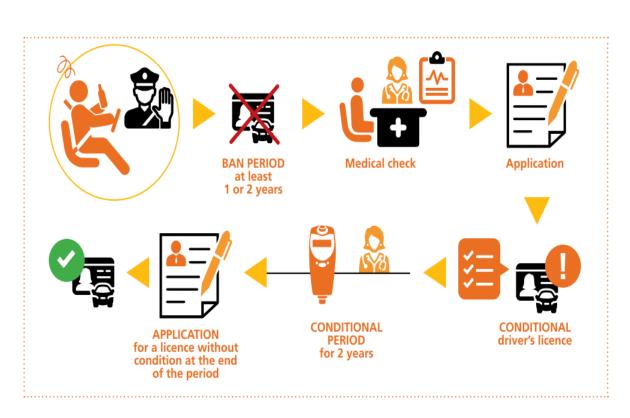
- 1 year programme for drivers convicted BAC level between 0.2 and 0.9 g/l;
- 2 year programme for recidivists, and offenders with a BAC level of at least 1.0 g/l.

Costs: 1 year: 2,000 – 2,700 euros

2 years : 2,800 – 4,000 euros

Alcohol dependent people cannot apply **UNLESS** they can prove sobriety in the last 6 months

3,000 people driving with an alcohol interlock (2018 Evaluation)





Entry into force in 2017 until 2022. Under administrative law and voluntary.

Offenders with BAC of >1.2 (first time); or recidivists with a driving ban of at least four months

- At least half of the imposed withdrawal period has to be completed
- The withdrawal period left is doubled and completed with AI (but at least 6 months)
- No alcohol addiction

The driver has to meet a mentor every two months. 5-year trial ended. No legislation in force.

2022 Evaluation: 561 participants (88% male)

8 months average participation

2700€ average costs

Main recommendation: make it compulsory and right after the offence





Entry into force in 2015 (but new programme in 2017 due to low participation rate).
Under administrative law.

- Voluntary programme: between 1.2 to 2.0g/l BAC. Can participate immediately after offence.
- Mandatory programme: for recidivists and with BAC >2.0. Can only participate when the suspension period is over (min. 3 years).

Approx. 450 drivers drive with an alcohol interlock programme (end 2020)



In force since 2015
Under criminal law
Alternative to driving ban (can apply after half driving ban period)

Offenders driving with a BAC above 0.5 g/l may ask the court for their driving ban to be replaced with an alcohol interlock (with a lifetime driving ban only after min.10 years).

Not part of a rehabilitation programme. No monitoring of the effects of the programme.

STRENGHTS AND WEAKNESSES

A. Effective programmes showed **positive impacts** such as:



- a) securing the jobs of people who relied on being able to drive for work;
- b) making drivers aware of their responsibilities;
- c) helping offenders remain integrated in society (although participation is sometimes perceived as a constraint);





- B. Key elements for a successful programme:
- a) Rehabilitation measures
- b) Affordable costs
- c) Start the programme immediately after offence

ALCOHOL INTERLOCKS IN COMMERCIAL TRANSPORT





In commercial vehicles as an extension of the vehicle safety systems and demonstrate the company's commitment to both driver and public safety.

ALCOHOL INTERLOCKS IN COMMERCIAL TRANSPORT



FRANCE:

Buses and coaches are fitted with alcohol interlocks. Coaches assigned to public transport for children have been equipped with alcohol interlocks since 2010 and all coaches since 2015.



FINLAND:

Since August 2011, mandatory in school and day care transportation (if transport organised by a municipality, school, state etc)

FIND OUT MORE



European Transport Safety Council

www.etsc.eu



Find out more

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PROGRESS IN REDUCING
DRINK-DRIVING AND
OTHER ALCOHOL-RELATED
ROAD DEATHS IN EUROPE









Alcohol Interlocks map online https://etsc.eu/issues/drink-iving/alcohol-interlock-barometer/







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