



## **Every third Sunday of November is World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims**

### **Victim organisations established this day**

Initiated by RoadPeace in the UK and observed for ten years from 1993 by victim organisations under the umbrella of the European Federation of Road Traffic Victims (FEVR), this Remembrance Day was set up to highlight the devastation caused by road crashes, give recognition to the suffering and neglect of road crash victims and thank all those who assist victims in the aftermath of a crash.

### **UN General Assembly adopts World Day on 26.10.2005**

From 2003 onwards the World Health Organization has been supporting the recognition of this day by the United Nations. This took place on 26 October 2005 when UN resolution 60/5 was adopted by the General Assembly, who welcomed *...the proposal to designate the third Sunday in November as the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims in recognition of road traffic victims' and their families' loss and suffering, and invited 'Member States and the international community' to recognize this day.*

### **Invitation to join in the Global observance of this Day**

World Day observance has already spread to all continents and is extending to more countries on each continent with every year. This Day is not only significant for bereaved and injured victims and all those supporting them, but gradually it has also come to be seen by many others as an important day on which to highlight the huge scale of road death and injury, its impact and cost, and as an opportunity for taking action. Please join in the observance of World Day!

### **Guide for organizers of events on World Day**

The World Health Organisation, RoadPeace and the European Federation of Road Traffic Victims have developed a guide for those wishing to plan an event of remembrance and develop related advocacy material to mark the day. This document can be downloaded from:

[http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/road\\_traffic/activities/remembrance\\_day\\_handbook/en/](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/road_traffic/activities/remembrance_day_handbook/en/)

### **[www.worlddayofremembrance.org](http://www.worlddayofremembrance.org)**

This dedicated World Day website was launched on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2008 - three years from the UN recognition. Work on the site continues.

**WDR logos** are available for use – e-mail: [brigitte.chaudhry@fevr.org](mailto:brigitte.chaudhry@fevr.org)

## The theme for 2010

### ***From global remembrance to global action Remembering lives lost and broken; do not forget the injured!***

The World Day of Remembrance fulfils an important role, not only through offering acknowledgement of their suffering to road crash victims, but also by drawing attention to the devastation and high cost to families, communities and countries. It therefore also supports the planned global actions and its observance is indeed listed as a key milestone for marking progress during that Decade.

Dr Etienne Krug sent a message on behalf of the World Health Organisation:

**[http://www.who.int/roadsafety/remembrance\\_day/statement\\_2008/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/roadsafety/remembrance_day/statement_2008/en/index.html)**

The following quote is from the message of FEVR's new President **Jeannot Mersch**:

*FEVR and its member organisations continue to campaign for a reduction of the danger on the roads during the next decade, leading therefore we hope to a reduction in the number of broken lives - in our countries, throughout Europe and in the whole world.*

Statements (among others) were also issued by:

the Director of the European Transport Safety Council, ETSC, **Antonio Avenoso**:

*ETSC is observing on November 21st 2010 the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims to draw attention to the sadly large annual numbers of people killed and injured on the road. Complacency about road death and injury needs to be shaken up and efforts reinvigorated in order to end this carnage.*

and the new president of TISPOL, the European Traffic Police, **Roar Skjelbred Larsen**:

*TISPOL fully supports this year's World Day of Remembrance of Road Traffic Victims. Far too many people have experienced the grief and pain of losing a loved one as the result of a road crash: in Europe last year, 35,000 families and friends suffered the loss of a loved one - a son, daughter, mother, father or friend.*

*TISPOL is fully committed to working with all European road safety stakeholders to achieve the 2020 target and our main priority is, and always will be, reducing the number of people being killed on Europe's roads. We want to avoid other families having to experience the tragedy of losing a loved one through a road crash. I call upon everyone to take a personal responsibility when using the road and to exercise care and to obey the traffic rules at all times. By doing so, we can together make Europe's roads safer for everyone.*

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