

DIRECTIVE (EU) 2015/413 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 11 March 2015
facilitating cross-border exchange of information on road-safety-related traffic offences
(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 91(1)(c) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee ⁽¹⁾,

After consulting the Committee of the Regions,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure ⁽²⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) Improving road safety is a prime objective of the Union's transport policy. The Union is pursuing a policy to improve road safety with the objective of reducing fatalities, injuries and material damage. An important element of that policy is the consistent enforcement of sanctions for road traffic offences committed in the Union which considerably jeopardise road safety.
- (2) However, due to a lack of appropriate procedures and notwithstanding existing possibilities under Council Decision 2008/615/JHA ⁽³⁾ and Council Decision 2008/616/JHA ⁽⁴⁾ (the 'Prüm Decisions'), sanctions in the form of financial penalties for certain road traffic offences are often not enforced if those offences are committed with a vehicle which is registered in a Member State other than the Member State where the offence took place. This Directive aims to ensure that even in such cases, the effectiveness of the investigation of road-safety-related traffic offences should be ensured.
- (3) In its communication of 20 July 2010 entitled 'Towards a European road safety area: policy orientations on road safety 2011-2020', the Commission emphasised that enforcement of road traffic rules remains a key factor in creating the conditions for a considerable reduction in the number of deaths and injuries. In its conclusions of 2 December 2010 on road safety, the Council called for consideration of the need for further strengthening of enforcement of road traffic rules by Member States and, where appropriate, at Union level. It invited the Commission to examine the possibilities of harmonising traffic rules at Union level where appropriate and adopting further measures on facilitating cross-border enforcement with regard to road traffic offences, in particular those related to serious traffic accidents.
- (4) On 19 March 2008, the Commission adopted a proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council facilitating cross-border enforcement in the field of road safety on the basis of Article 71(1)(c) of the Treaty establishing the European Community (now Article 91 of Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU)). Directive 2011/82/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽⁵⁾ was, however, adopted on the basis of Article 87(2) TFEU. The judgment of the Court of Justice of 6 May 2014 in Case C-43/12 ⁽⁶⁾ annulled Directive 2011/82/EU on the grounds that it could not validly be adopted on the basis of Article 87(2)

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 12, 15.1.2015, p. 115.

⁽²⁾ Position of the European Parliament of 11 February 2015 (not yet published in the Official Journal) and Decision of the Council of 2 March 2015.

⁽³⁾ Council Decision 2008/615/JHA of 23 June 2008 on the stepping up of cross-border cooperation, particularly in combating terrorism and cross-border crime (OJ L 210, 6.8.2008, p. 1).

⁽⁴⁾ Council Decision 2008/616/JHA of 23 June 2008 on the implementation of Decision 2008/615/JHA on the stepping up of cross-border cooperation, particularly in combating terrorism and cross-border crime (OJ L 210, 6.8.2008, p. 12).

⁽⁵⁾ Directive 2011/82/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2011 facilitating the cross-border exchange of information on road safety related traffic offences (OJ L 288, 5.11.2011, p. 1).

⁽⁶⁾ Judgment in *Commission v Parliament and Council*, C-43/12, EU:C:2014:298.

TFEU. The judgment maintained the effects of Directive 2011/82/EU until the entry into force within a reasonable period of time — which is not to exceed 12 months as from the date of delivery of the judgment — of a new directive based on Article 91(1)(c) TFEU. Therefore a new Directive should be adopted on the basis of that Article.

- (5) Greater convergence of control measures between Member States should be encouraged and the Commission should examine in this respect the need for developing common standards for automatic checking equipment for road safety controls.
- (6) The awareness of Union citizens should be raised as regards the road safety traffic rules in force in different Member States and as regards the implementation of this Directive, in particular through appropriate measures guaranteeing the provision of sufficient information on the consequences of not respecting the road safety traffic rules when travelling in a Member State other than the Member State of registration.
- (7) In order to improve road safety throughout the Union and to ensure equal treatment of drivers, namely resident and non-resident offenders, enforcement should be facilitated irrespective of the Member State of registration of the vehicle. To this end, a system of cross-border exchange of information should be used for certain identified road-safety-related traffic offences, regardless of their administrative or criminal nature under the law of the Member State concerned, granting the Member State of the offence access to vehicle registration data (VRD) of the Member State of registration.
- (8) A more efficient cross-border exchange of VRD, which should facilitate the identification of persons suspected of committing a road-safety-related traffic offence, might increase the deterrent effect and induce more cautious behaviour by the driver of a vehicle that is registered in a Member State other than the Member State of the offence, thereby preventing casualties due to road traffic accidents.
- (9) The road-safety-related traffic offences covered by this Directive are not subject to homogeneous treatment in the Member States. Some Member States qualify such offences under national law as 'administrative' offences while others qualify them as 'criminal' offences. This Directive should apply regardless of how those offences are qualified under national law.
- (10) Member States should grant each other the right of access to their VRD in order to improve the exchange of information and to speed up the procedures in force. To this end, the provisions concerning the technical specifications and the availability of automated data exchange set out in the Prüm Decisions should, as far as possible, be included in this Directive.
- (11) Decision 2008/616/JHA specifies the security features for existing software applications and the related technical requirements for the exchange of vehicle registration data. Without prejudice to the general applicability of that Decision, those security features and technical requirements should, for reasons of regulatory and practical efficiency, be used for the purposes of this Directive.
- (12) Existing software applications should be the basis for the data exchange under this Directive and should, at the same time, also facilitate the reporting by Member States to the Commission. Such applications should provide for the expeditious, secure and confidential exchange of specific VRD between Member States. Advantage should be taken of the European Vehicle and Driving Licence Information System (Eucaris) software application, which is mandatory for Member States under the Prüm Decisions as regards VRD. The Commission should assess and report on the functioning of the software applications used for the purposes of this Directive.
- (13) The scope of those software applications should be limited to the processes used in the exchange of information between the national contact points in the Member States. Procedures and automated processes in which the information is to be used are outside the scope of such applications.
- (14) The Information Management Strategy for EU internal security aims to find the simplest and most easily traceable and cost-effective solutions for data exchange.

- (15) Member States should be able to contact the owner, the holder of the vehicle or the otherwise identified person suspected of committing the road-safety-related traffic offence in order to keep the person concerned informed of the applicable procedures and the legal consequences under the law of the Member State of the offence. In doing so, Member States should consider sending the information concerning road-safety-related traffic offences in the language of the registration documents, or in the language most likely to be understood by the person concerned, to ensure that that person has a clear understanding of the information which is being shared with the person concerned. Member States should apply the appropriate procedures to ensure that only the person concerned is informed and not a third party. To that effect, Member States should use detailed arrangements similar to those adopted for following up such offences including means such as, where appropriate, registered delivery. This will allow that person to respond to the information letter in an appropriate way, in particular by asking for more information, by settling the fine or by exercising his/her rights of defence, especially in the case of mistaken identity. Further proceedings are covered by applicable legal instruments, including instruments on mutual assistance and on mutual recognition, for example Council Framework Decision 2005/214/JHA ⁽¹⁾.
- (16) Member States should provide equivalent translation with respect to the information letter sent by the Member State of the offence, as provided for in Directive 2010/64/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽²⁾.
- (17) With a view to pursuing a road safety policy that aims to provide a high level of protection for all road users in the Union, and taking into account the widely differing circumstances pertaining within the Union, Member States should act, without prejudice to more restrictive policies and laws, in order to ensure greater convergence of road traffic rules and of their enforcement between Member States. In the framework of its report to the European Parliament and to the Council on the application of this Directive, the Commission should examine the need to develop common standards in order to establish comparable methods, practices and minimum standards at Union level taking into account international cooperation and existing agreements in the field of road safety, in particular the Vienna Convention on Road Traffic of 8 November 1968.
- (18) In its report to the European Parliament and to the Council on the application of this Directive by the Member States, the Commission should examine the need for common criteria for follow-up procedures by Member States in the event of non-payment of a financial penalty, in accordance with Member States' laws and procedures. In that report, the Commission should address issues such as the procedures between the competent authorities of the Member States for the transmission of the final decision to impose a sanction and/or financial penalty as well as the recognition and enforcement of the final decision.
- (19) In preparing the review of this Directive, the Commission should consult the relevant stakeholders, such as road safety and law enforcement authorities or competent bodies, victims' associations and other non-governmental organisations active in the field of road safety.
- (20) Closer cooperation between law enforcement authorities should go hand in hand with respect for fundamental rights, in particular the right to respect for privacy and to the protection of personal data, guaranteed by special data protection arrangements. Those arrangements should take particular account of the specific nature of cross-border online access to databases. It is necessary that the software applications to be set up enable the exchange of information to be carried out in secure conditions and ensure the confidentiality of the data transmitted. The data collected under this Directive should not be used for purposes other than those of this Directive. Member States should comply with the obligations on the conditions of use and of temporary storage of the data.
- (21) The processing of personal data provided by this Directive is appropriate for attaining the legitimate aims pursued by this Directive in the field of road safety, namely to ensure a high level of protection for all road users in the Union by facilitating the cross-border exchange of information on road-safety-related traffic offences and, thereby, the enforcement of sanctions, and does not exceed what is appropriate and necessary in order to achieve those objectives.
- (22) Data relating to the identification of an offender are personal data. Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽³⁾ should apply to the processing activities carried out in application of this Directive. Without prejudice to the procedural requirements for appeal and the redress mechanisms of the

⁽¹⁾ Council Framework Decision 2005/214/JHA of 24 February 2005 on the application of the principle of mutual recognition to financial penalties (OJ L 76, 22.3.2005, p. 16).

⁽²⁾ Directive 2010/64/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 on the right to interpretation and translation in criminal proceedings (OJ L 280, 26.10.2010, p. 1).

⁽³⁾ Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (OJ L 281, 23.11.1995, p. 31).

Member State concerned, the data subject should accordingly be informed, when notified of the offence, of the right to access and the right to rectification and deletion of personal data, as well as of the maximum legal storage period of the data. In this context, the data subject should also have the right to obtain the correction of any inaccurate personal data or the immediate deletion of any data recorded unlawfully.

- (23) In the framework of the Prüm Decisions, the processing of VRD containing personal data is subject to the specific provisions on data protection set out in Decision 2008/615/JHA. In that respect, Member States have the possibility to apply those specific provisions to personal data which are also processed for the purposes of this Directive provided that they ensure that the processing of data related to all of the offences covered by this Directive complies with the national provisions implementing Directive 95/46/EC.
- (24) It should be possible for third countries to participate in the exchange of VRD provided that they have concluded an agreement with the Union to this effect. Such an agreement would have to include necessary provisions on data protection.
- (25) This Directive upholds the fundamental rights and principles recognised by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, including the respect for private and family life, the protection of personal data, the right to a fair trial, the presumption of innocence and the right of defence.
- (26) In order to achieve the objective of the exchange of information between Member States through interoperable means, the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 TFEU should be delegated to the Commission in respect of the taking into account of relevant changes to Prüm Decisions or where required by legal acts of the Union directly relevant for the updating of Annex I. It is of particular importance that the Commission follow its usual practice and carry out appropriate consultations during its preparatory work, including at expert level. The Commission, when preparing and drawing up delegated acts, should ensure a simultaneous, timely and appropriate transmission of relevant documents to the European Parliament and to the Council.
- (27) The Commission should analyse the application of this Directive with a view to identifying further effective and efficient measures to improve road safety. Without prejudice to obligations to transpose this Directive, Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom should also cooperate with the Commission in this work, where appropriate, to ensure timely and complete reporting on this matter.
- (28) Since the objective of this Directive, namely to ensure a high level of protection for all road users in the Union by facilitating the cross-border exchange of information on road-safety-related traffic offences, where they are committed with a vehicle registered in a Member State other than the Member State where the offence took place, cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States, but can rather, by reason of the scale and effects of the action, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity, as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Directive does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve that objective.
- (29) Given that Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom were not subject to Directive 2011/82/EU and therefore have not transposed it, it is appropriate to allow those Member States sufficient additional time to do so.
- (30) The European Data Protection Supervisor was consulted in accordance with Article 28(2) of Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁽¹⁾ and delivered an opinion on 3 October 2014,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

Objective

This Directive aims to ensure a high level of protection for all road users in the Union by facilitating the cross-border exchange of information on road-safety-related traffic offences, and thereby facilitating the enforcement of sanctions, where those offences are committed with a vehicle registered in a Member State other than the Member State in which the offence took place.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data (OJ L 8, 12.1.2001, p. 1).

*Article 2***Scope**

This Directive applies to the following road-safety-related traffic offences:

- (a) speeding;
- (b) failing to use a seat-belt;
- (c) failing to stop at a red traffic light;
- (d) drink-driving;
- (e) driving while under the influence of drugs;
- (f) failing to wear a safety helmet;
- (g) the use of a forbidden lane;
- (h) illegally using a mobile telephone or any other communication devices while driving.

*Article 3***Definitions**

For the purposes of this Directive, the following definitions apply:

- (a) 'vehicle' means any power-driven vehicle, including motorcycles, which is normally used for carrying persons or goods by road;
- (b) 'Member State of the offence' means the Member State where the offence was committed;
- (c) 'Member State of registration' means the Member State where the vehicle with which the offence was committed is registered;
- (d) 'speeding' means exceeding speed limits in force in the Member State of offence for the road or type of vehicle concerned;
- (e) 'failing to use a seat-belt' means not complying with the requirement to wear a seat-belt or to use a child restraint in accordance with Council Directive 91/671/EEC ⁽¹⁾ and the law of the Member State of the offence;
- (f) 'failing to stop at a red traffic light' means driving through a red traffic light or any other relevant stop signal, as defined in the law of the Member State of the offence;
- (g) 'drink-driving' means driving while impaired by alcohol, as defined in the law of the Member State of the offence;
- (h) 'driving under the influence of drugs' means driving while impaired by drugs or other substances having a similar effect, as defined in the law of the Member State of the offence;
- (i) 'failing to wear a safety helmet' means not wearing a safety helmet, as defined in the law of the Member State of the offence;
- (j) 'use of a forbidden lane' means illegally using part of a road section, such as an emergency lane, public transport lane or temporary closed lane for reasons of congestion or road works, as defined in the law of the Member State of the offence;
- (k) 'illegally using a mobile telephone or any other communication devices while driving' means illegally using a mobile telephone or any other communication devices while driving, as defined in the law of the Member State of the offence;
- (l) 'national contact point' means a designated competent authority for the exchange of VRD;
- (m) 'automated search' means an online access procedure for consulting the databases of one, more than one, or all of the Member States or of the participating countries;
- (n) 'holder of the vehicle' means the person in whose name the vehicle is registered, as defined in the law of the Member State of registration.

⁽¹⁾ Council Directive 91/671/EEC of 16 December 1991 relating to the compulsory use of safety belts and child-restraint systems in vehicles (OJ L 373, 31.12.1991, p. 26).

*Article 4***Procedure for the exchange of information between Member States**

1. For the investigation of the road-safety-related traffic offences referred to in Article 2, the Member State shall grant other Member States' national contact points, referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article, access to the following national VRD, with the power to conduct automated searches thereon:

- (a) data relating to vehicles; and
- (b) data relating to owners or holders of the vehicle.

The data elements referred to in points (a) and (b) which are necessary to conduct a search shall be in compliance with Annex I.

2. For the purposes of the exchange of data referred to in paragraph 1, each Member State shall designate a national contact point. The powers of the national contact points shall be governed by the applicable law of the Member State concerned.

3. When conducting a search in the form of an outgoing request, the national contact point of the Member State of the offence shall use a full registration number.

Those searches shall be conducted in compliance with the procedures as described in Chapter 3 of the Annex to Decision 2008/616/JHA, except for point 1 of Chapter 3 of the Annex to Decision 2008/616/JHA, for which Annex I to this Directive shall apply.

The Member State of the offence shall, under this Directive, use the data obtained in order to establish who is personally liable for road-safety-related traffic offences listed in Article 2 of this Directive.

4. Member States shall take all necessary measures to ensure that the exchange of information is carried out by interoperable electronic means without exchange of data involving other databases which are not used for the purposes of this Directive. Member States shall ensure that such exchange of information is conducted in a cost-efficient and secure manner. Member States shall ensure the security and protection of the data transmitted, as far as possible using existing software applications such as the one referred to in Article 15 of Decision 2008/616/JHA and amended versions of those software applications, in compliance with Annex I to this Directive and with points 2 and 3 of Chapter 3 of the Annex to Decision 2008/616/JHA. The amended versions of the software applications shall provide for both online real-time exchange mode and batch exchange mode, the latter allowing for the exchange of multiple requests or responses within one message.

5. Each Member State shall bear its own costs arising from the administration, use and maintenance of the software applications referred to in paragraph 4.

*Article 5***Information letter on the road-safety-related traffic offences**

1. The Member State of the offence shall decide whether or not to initiate follow-up proceedings in relation to the road-safety-related traffic offences listed in Article 2.

Where the Member State of the offence decides to initiate such proceedings, that Member State shall, in accordance with its national law, inform the owner, the holder of the vehicle or the otherwise identified person suspected of committing the road-safety-related traffic offence.

This information shall, as applicable under national law, include the legal consequences thereof within the territory of the Member State of the offence under the law of that Member State.

2. When sending the information letter to the owner, the holder of the vehicle or to the otherwise identified person suspected of committing the road-safety-related traffic offence, the Member State of the offence shall, in accordance with its law, include any relevant information, notably the nature of this road-safety-related traffic offence, the place, date and time of the offence, the title of the texts of the national law infringed and the sanction and, where appropriate, data concerning the device used for detecting the offence. For that purpose, the Member State of the offence may use the template set out in Annex II.

3. Where the Member State of the offence decides to initiate follow-up proceedings in relation to the road-safety-related traffic offences listed in Article 2, the Member State of the offence, for the purpose of ensuring the respect of fundamental rights, sends the information letter in the language of the registration document of the vehicle, if available, or in one of the official languages of the Member State of registration.

Article 6

Reporting by Member States to the Commission

Each Member State shall send a comprehensive report to the Commission by 6 May 2016 and every two years thereafter.

The comprehensive report shall indicate the number of automated searches conducted by the Member State of the offence addressed to the national contact point of the Member State of registration, following offences committed on its territory, together with the type of offences for which requests were addressed and the number of failed requests.

The comprehensive report shall also include a description of the situation at national level in relation to the follow-up given to the road-safety-related traffic offences, based on the proportion of such offences which have been followed up by information letters.

Article 7

Data protection

1. The provisions on data protection set out in Directive 95/46/EC shall apply to personal data processed under this Directive.

2. In particular, each Member State shall ensure that personal data processed under this Directive are, within an appropriate time period, rectified if inaccurate, or erased or blocked when they are no longer required, in accordance with Articles 6 and 12 of Directive 95/46/EC, and that a time limit for the storage of data is established in accordance with Article 6 of that Directive.

Member States shall ensure that all personal data processed under this Directive are only used for the objective set out in Article 1 of this Directive, and that the data subjects have the same rights to information, to access, to rectification, erasure and blocking, to compensation and to judicial redress as those adopted under national law in implementation of the relevant provisions of Directive 95/46/EC.

3. Any person concerned shall have the right to obtain information on which personal data recorded in the Member State of registration were transmitted to the Member State of the offence, including the date of the request and the competent authority of the Member State of the offence.

Article 8

Information for road users in the Union

1. The Commission shall make available on its website a summary in all official languages of the institutions of the Union of the rules in force in Member States in the field covered by this Directive. Member States shall provide information on these rules to the Commission.

2. Member States shall provide road users with the necessary information about the rules applicable in their territory and the measures implementing this Directive in association with, among other organisations, road safety bodies, non-governmental organisations active in the field of road safety and automobile clubs.

Article 9

Delegated acts

The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts, in accordance with Article 10, updating Annex I in the light of technical progress to take into account relevant changes to Prüm Decisions or where this is required by legal acts of the Union directly relevant to the updating of Annex I.

Article 10

Exercise of the delegation

1. The power to adopt delegated acts is conferred on the Commission subject to the conditions laid down in this Article.

2. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in Article 9 shall be conferred on the Commission for a period of five years from 13 March 2015. The Commission shall draw up a report in respect of the delegation of power not later than nine months before the end of the five-year period. The delegation of power shall be tacitly extended for periods of an identical duration, unless the European Parliament or the Council opposes such extension not later than three months before the end of each period.

3. The delegation of power referred to in Article 9 may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council. A decision to revoke shall put an end to the delegation of the power specified in that decision. It shall take effect on the day following the publication of the decision in the *Official Journal of the European Union* or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the validity of any delegated acts already in force.

4. It is of particular importance that the Commission follow its usual practice and carry out consultations with experts, including Member States' experts, before adopting those delegated acts. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall notify it simultaneously to the European Parliament and to the Council.

5. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Article 9 shall enter into force only if no objection has been expressed either by the European Parliament or the Council within a period of two months of notification of that act to the European Parliament and the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by two months at the initiative of the European Parliament or of the Council.

Article 11

Revision of the Directive

Without prejudice to the provisions laid down in the second subparagraph of Article 12(1), the Commission shall, by 7 November 2016, submit a report to the European Parliament and to the Council on the application of this Directive by the Member States. In its report, the Commission shall focus in particular on, and shall, as appropriate, make proposals to cover, the following aspects:

- an assessment of whether other road-safety-related traffic offences should be added to the scope of this Directive,
- an assessment of the effectiveness of this Directive on the reduction in the number of fatalities on Union roads,
- an assessment of the need for developing common standards for automatic checking equipment and for procedures. In this context, the Commission is invited to develop at Union level road safety guidelines within the framework of the common transport policy in order to ensure greater convergence of the enforcement of road traffic rules by Member States through comparable methods and practices. These guidelines may cover at least the offences listed in points (a) to (d) of Article 2,
- an assessment of the need to strengthen the enforcement of sanctions with regard to road-safety-related traffic offences and to propose common criteria concerning the follow-up procedures in the case of non-payment of a financial penalty, within the framework of all relevant Union policies, including the common transport policy,

- the possibilities for harmonising traffic rules where appropriate,
- an assessment of the software applications as referred to in Article 4(4), with a view to ensuring proper implementation of this Directive as well as guaranteeing an effective, expeditious, secure and confidential exchange of specific VRD.

Article 12

Transposition

1. Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive by 6 May 2015. They shall forthwith communicate to the Commission the text of those provisions.

When Member States adopt those provisions, they shall contain a reference to this Directive or be accompanied by such a reference on the occasion of their official publication. Member States shall determine how such reference is to be made.

By way of derogation from the first subparagraph, the Kingdom of Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland may postpone the deadline referred to in the first subparagraph until 6 May 2017.

2. Member States shall communicate to the Commission the text of the main provisions of national law which they adopt in the field covered by this Directive.

Article 13

Entry into force

This Directive shall enter into force on the fourth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Article 14

Addressees

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Strasbourg, 11 March 2015.

For the European Parliament
The President
M. SCHULZ

For the Council
The President
Z. KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA

ANNEX I

Data elements necessary to conduct the search referred to in Article 4(1)

Item	M/O ⁽¹⁾	Remarks
Data relating to the vehicle	M	
Member State of registration	M	
Registration number	M	(A ⁽²⁾)
Data relating to the offence	M	
Member State of the offence	M	
Reference date of the offence	M	
Reference time of the offence	M	
Purpose of the search	M	Code indicating the type of offence as listed in Article 2 1. = Speeding 2. = Drink-driving 3. = Failing to use a seat belt 4. = Failing to stop at a red traffic light 5. = Use of a forbidden lane 10. = Driving under the influence of drugs 11. = Failing to wear a safety helmet 12. = Illegally using a mobile phone or any other communication devices while driving

⁽¹⁾ M = mandatory when available in national register, O = optional.

⁽²⁾ Harmonised code, see Council Directive 1999/37/EC of 29 April 1999 on the registration documents for vehicles (OJ L 138, 1.6.1999, p. 57).

Data elements provided as a result of the search conducted pursuant to Article 4(1)

Part I. Data relating to vehicles

Item	M/O ⁽¹⁾	Remarks
Registration number	M	
Chassis number/VIN	M	
Member State of registration	M	
Make	M	(D.1 ⁽²⁾) e.g. Ford, Opel, Renault
Commercial type of the vehicle	M	(D.3) e.g. Focus, Astra, Megane
EU Category Code	M	(J) e.g. mopeds, motorbikes, cars

⁽¹⁾ M = mandatory when available in national register, O = optional.

⁽²⁾ Harmonised code, see Directive 1999/37/EC.

Part II. Data relating to owners or holders of the vehicles

Item	M/O ⁽¹⁾	Remarks
Data relating to holders of the vehicle		(C.1 ⁽²⁾) The data refer to the holder of the specific registration certificate.
Registration holders' (company) name	M	(C.1.1) Separate fields shall be used for surname, infixes, titles, etc., and the name in printable format shall be communicated.
First name	M	(C.1.2) Separate fields for first name(s) and initials shall be used, and the name in printable format shall be communicated.
Address	M	(C.1.3) Separate fields shall be used for street, house number and annex, post code, place of residence, country of residence, etc., and the address in printable format shall be communicated.
Gender	O	Male, female
Date of birth	M	
Legal entity	M	Individual, association, company, firm, etc.
Place of Birth	O	
ID Number	O	An identifier that uniquely identifies the person or the company.
Data relating to owners of the vehicle		(C.2) The data refer to the owner of the vehicle.
Owners' (company) name	M	(C.2.1)
First name	M	(C.2.2)
Address	M	(C.2.3)
Gender	O	Male, female
Date of birth	M	
Legal entity	M	Individual, association, company, firm, etc.
Place of Birth	O	
ID Number	O	An identifier that uniquely identifies the person or the company.
		In case of scrap vehicles, stolen vehicles or number plates, or outdated vehicle registration no owner/holder information shall be provided. Instead, the message 'Information not disclosed' shall be returned.

⁽¹⁾ M = mandatory when available in national register, O = optional.

⁽²⁾ Harmonised code, see Directive 1999/37/EC.

ANNEX II

TEMPLATE FOR THE INFORMATION LETTER

referred to in Article 5

[Cover page]

.....
.....

[Name, address and telephone number of sender]

.....
.....

[Name and address of addressee]

INFORMATION LETTER

regarding a road-safety-related traffic offence committed in

[name of the Member State of the offence]

On a road-safety-related traffic offence committed with the vehicle with registration

[date]

number make model

was detected by

[name of the responsible body]

[Option 1] (1)

You are registered as the holder of the registration certificate of the abovementioned vehicle.

[Option 2] (1)

The holder of the registration certificate of the abovementioned vehicle indicated that you were driving that vehicle when the road-safety-related traffic offence was committed.

The relevant details of the offence are described on page 3 below.

The amount of the financial penalty due for this offence is EUR/national currency.

Deadline for the payment is

You are advised to complete the attached reply form (page 4) and send it to the address shown, if you do not pay this financial penalty.

This letter shall be processed in accordance with the national law of

[name of the Member State of the offence].

Relevant details concerning the offence

(a) Data concerning the vehicle with which the offence was committed:

Registration number:

Member State of registration:

Make and model:

(b) Data concerning the offence:

Place, date and time where the offence was committed:

.....
.....
.....
.....

Nature and legal classification of the offence:

.....
.....
.....
.....

speeding, failing to use a seatbelt, failing to stop at a red traffic light, drink-driving, driving under the influence of drugs, failing to wear a safety helmet, use of a forbidden lane, illegally using a mobile telephone or any other communication devices while driving ⁽¹⁾

Detailed description of the offence:

.....
.....

Reference to the relevant legal provision(s):

.....
.....

Description of or reference to the evidence for the offence:

.....
.....

(c) Data concerning the device that was used for detecting the offence ⁽²⁾:

Type of device for detection of speeding, failing to use a seatbelt, failing to stop at a red traffic light, drink-driving, driving under the influence of drugs, failing to wear a safety helmet, use of a forbidden lane, illegally using a mobile telephone or any other communication devices while driving ⁽¹⁾:

Specification of the device:

.....
.....

Identification number of the device:

.....
.....

Expiry date for the last gauging:

.....
.....

(d) The result of the application of the device:

.....
.....

[example for speeding; other offences to be added:]

The maximum speed:

.....
.....

The measured speed:

.....
.....

The measured speed corrected for margin of error:

.....
.....

⁽¹⁾ Delete if not applicable.

⁽²⁾ Not applicable if no device has been used.

Reply form

(please complete using block capitals)

A. Identity of the driver:

— Full name:

.....
.....

— Place and date of birth:

.....

— Number of driving licence: delivered (date): and at (place):
.....

— Address:
.....
.....
.....

B. List of questions:

1. Is the vehicle, make, registration number, registered in your name? yes/no ⁽¹⁾

If not, the holder of the registration certificate is:
(name, first name, address)

2. Do you acknowledge that you committed the offence? yes/no ⁽¹⁾

3. If you do not acknowledge this, please explain why:

.....
.....

Please send the completed form within 60 days from the date of this information letter to the following authority:

at the following address:

INFORMATION

This case will be examined by the competent authority of

[name of the Member State of the offence]

If this case is not pursued, you will be informed within 60 days after receipt of the reply form.

⁽¹⁾ Delete if not applicable.

