

# European Railway Safety Culture Declaration

Conferenza Cultura della Sicurezza  
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## Raising awareness of Railway Safety Culture



*First European Rail Safety Summit, Dubrovnik, 10-12 April 2018*

## *European Safety Culture Declaration*

- Demonstrates the commitment of European railway leaders to raise awareness and promote a positive safety culture throughout the entire sector
- To promote and create a common understanding of railway safety culture
- More than 60 signatories
- National safety culture events
- Future development
  - Towards a version 2 to integrate improvements from the sector



*To sign (print out the declaration, sign it, upload it)*

<http://web-analytics.era.europa.eu/cn/abgcr/Declaration>

# Declaration – plan for the second edition

- Comments from the sector have been incorporated
- Next step: acceptance from the signatories, to ensure we still have their signature and support.
- Release of version 2 – early 2019

## *The European Railway Safety Culture Declaration*

United for Railway Safety

This declaration demonstrates the commitment of European railway leaders to raise awareness and promote a positive safety culture throughout the entire industry. A positive safety culture reinforces the effects of a Safety Management System, improving the capability and efficiency of safety management.

As railway leaders signing this declaration, we agree the following:

- *Safety is a main driver of the efficiency and reliability of railway services. Safety should not be compromised when different business goals conflict. Our vision statements, targets and indicators, resource allocation, and all aspects of daily operations will support this. Good safety management is always risk based.*
- *Our organisations will promote safety, reporting and just culture principles amongst management and employees and with other parties, including our contractors, suppliers, and service providers. Together, we will actively foster mutual respect, support and cooperation to build trust across our organisations and create a shared understanding of workplace reality.*
- *Safety is an individual responsibility commensurate with the training, experience, and professional standards that fit the role or function. Our organisations are responsible for encouraging positive safety behaviour and providing the appropriate environment to allow work to succeed safely, including job design, tools, training and procedures.*
- *In an operational railway environment, individuals, despite their training, expertise, experience, abilities, and good will, may be faced with situations where the limits of human performance combined with unwanted and unpredictable systemic influences may lead to an undesirable outcome.*
- *Investigation and analysis of occurrences should focus first on system performance, the conditions and factors that influence the work practice rather than on apportioning blame or individual responsibility. This approach is to be followed all times except in cases of gross negligence, wilful violations and destructive acts which seriously compromise the level of railway safety.*
- *Positive safety behaviour and initiatives are to be captured and shared within the railway industry to demonstrate that our organisations value the continued improvement of safety.*
- *Staff at all levels in our organisations will define how they intend to continuously develop, promote and regularly assess organisational principles and practices to foster a positive safety culture.*

Together, we can reach our goal for the European Union to be the world leader in railway safety.

## *The European Railway Safety Culture Declaration*

United for Railway Safety

This declaration demonstrates the commitment of European railways and authorities to raise awareness and promote a positive safety culture. A positive safety culture reinforces the effects of a Safety Management System, improving the capability and efficiency of safety management.

As railway leaders signing this declaration, we agree the following:

- *Safety is a main driver of the efficiency and reliability of railway services. Safety must not be compromised when different business goals conflict. Our vision statements, targets and indicators, resource allocation, and all aspects of strategy and daily operations will support this. Good safety management is proactive relying on a risk based approach.*
- *Our organisations will promote safety, reporting and just culture principles amongst management and employees and with other parties, including authorities, contractors, suppliers, and service providers. Together, we will actively foster mutual respect, support and cooperation to build trust across our organisations and create a shared understanding of workplace reality.*
- *Safety is an individual responsibility commensurate with the training, experience, and professional standards that fit the role or function. Our organisations are responsible for encouraging positive safety behaviour and providing the appropriate environment to allow work to succeed safely, including job design, tools, training and procedures.*
- *In an operational railway environment, individuals, despite their training, expertise, experience, abilities, and goodwill, may be faced with situations where the limits of human reliability combined with unwanted and unpredictable systemic influences may lead to an undesirable outcome. Our organisations are committed to taking the necessary steps to manage the risks related to the limits of human reliability.*
- *Investigation and analysis of occurrences shall address system performance, the conditions and factors that influence the work practice rather than on apportioning blame or individual responsibility. This approach is to be followed except in cases of gross negligence, wilful violations and destructive acts which seriously compromise the level of railway safety.*
- *Positive safety behaviour and initiatives are to be captured and shared within and across organisational boundaries to demonstrate that we value the continued improvement of safety.*
- *Individuals at all levels in our organisations are part of actively defining how to continuously develop, promote and regularly assess organisational principles and practices to foster a positive safety culture.*

Together, we can reach our goal for the European Union to be the world leader in railway safety.

- This declaration demonstrates the commitment of European railway leaders to raise awareness and promote a positive safety culture throughout the entire industry. A positive safety culture reinforces the effects of a Safety Management System, improving the capability and efficiency of safety management.

As railway leaders signing this declaration, we agree the following:

- *Safety is a main driver of the efficiency and reliability of railway services. Safety should not be compromised when different business goals conflict. Our vision statements, targets and indicators, resource allocation, and all aspects of daily operations will support this. Good safety management is always risk based.*
- *Our organisations will promote safety, reporting and just culture principles amongst management and employees and with other parties, including our contractors, suppliers, and service providers. Together, we will actively foster mutual respect, support and cooperation to build trust across our organisations and create a shared understanding of workplace reality.*

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- *Positive safety behaviour and initiatives are to be captured and shared within the railway industry to demonstrate that our organisations value the continued improvement of safety.*
- *Staff at all levels in our organisations will define how they intend to continuously develop, promote and regularly assess organisational principles and practices to foster a positive safety culture.*



*“Safety requires time and resources, but above all a **commitment** –  
from the top to the bottom.*

*Let’s not leave anyone behind!*

*As leaders, your **behaviour** counts more than anyone else’s.  
You have a major influence on **culture** and this is why we expect you  
to be **safety leaders.**”*



[EU Transport Commissioner Violeta Bulc, April 2018](#)



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