Press Release

Road safety success in many cities around the world

Zero road fatalities in nine out of ten years: Legionowo wins DEKRA Vision Zero Award

- Polish city is the tenth recipient since 2016
- More than 1,600 cities have achieved the goal in at least one year
- Proof that Vision Zero is not an unattainable utopia, but worth pursuing

The Polish city of Legionowo has received the 2026 DEKRA Vision Zero Award. The international expert organization recognizes the successful road safety efforts in the city in the Mazovia Voivodeship near the capital of Warsaw. During the ten-year period from 2015 to 2024, Legionowo recorded nine years without a single road fatality in the city's built-up areas. This is the best performance in all 30 countries whose data the DEKRA experts analyzed.

The award was handed last night at DEKRA's Annual Reception in Brussels to Nina Małachowska, Director of the Representative Office of the Mazovia to the EU. Ms Małachowska said: "This is a proud moment for the city of Legionowo and everyone involved in this project. Located just 20 kilometers north of Warsaw, Legionowo has the highest population density in Poland. As Mazovia is the country's largest and busiest region, ensuring road safety and efficient infrastructure are among our most complex daily challenges. The project recognized today directly addresses these issues and at the same time improves the everyday quality of life for our citizens. Receiving the DEKRA Award is a historic milestone for us. It provides concrete proof that eliminating road fatalities is not just an ambition, but a realistic goal."

DEKRA CEO Stan Zurkiewicz said: "Vision Zero is the promise that everyone gets home safely – taken seriously: No fatalities and no serious injuries on our roads. Some call it an illusion. Cities like the one we honor tonight prove otherwise. With the DEKRA Vision Zero Award, we recognize cities and their leaders who have turned this vision into measurable results – by repeatedly achieving years without a single road fatality. They show that road safety is not a matter of chance. It is a matter of dedication, leadership and collaboration."

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Legionowo, with a population of just under 53,000, is the only city in the 30 countries analyzed which achieved nine zero-fatality years in the ten-year period. Mayor Bogdan Kiełbasiński said the award was great honor and confirmed the efforts to improve road safety were delivering tangible results: “Achieving such a high level of safety would not have been possible without the responsible behavior of our residents, the commitment of municipal services – including the educational and preventive initiatives undertaken by the Police and Municipal Guard in Legionowo – and the cooperation of all the individuals and institutions that work every day to keep our streets safe.”

The Mayor also stated that the city viewed the award as a commitment to continue the efforts for Legionowo to be a welcoming, well-organised and safe place. “Initiatives such as the DEKRA Vision Zero Award are extremely valuable because they promote good practices and raise awareness of the importance of road safety.”

Since 2016, the DEKRA Vision Zero Award has been given to a European city with a population of 50,000 or more and an especially impressive road safety performance. The award goes to the city with the most zero-fatality years within a ten-year period and, in case of several equal candidates, the highest population.

Interactive DEKRA Vision Zero Map

The DEKRA Vision Zero Map shows all available data from national statistics, received via the IRTAD network, which DEKRA experts have been analyzing since 2014. According to the data, more than 1,600 cities around the world have already achieved the goal of zero road deaths in at least one year since 2009, almost 950 in Europe alone. The interactive map can be accessed at www.dekra-vision-zero.com. It includes data from 23 European countries, the U.S., Canada and Mexico, Colombia and Chile, as well as Japan and Australia.

DEKRA Road Safety Report 2026, “Working in Road Traffic”

The event in Brussels also saw the presentation of the 2026 DEKRA Road Safety Report, “Working in Road Traffic”, given by Jann Fehlauer, Executive Vice President of DEKRA Group. “Road safety is like a jigsaw puzzle, probably consisting of thousands of pieces – with many challenges and also frustrating setbacks looking for the right pieces that ultimately have to fit together. But it is also associated with successes that undoubtedly have already been achieved, as well as opportunities for a safe future.”

Agnieszka Walter-Drop, Director-General for Cohesion, Agriculture and Social Policies in the European Parliament, said: “Safe roads aren’t just a goal, they are a

responsibility we all share. This conversation is about far more than numbers of accidents. It is about the lives we safeguard, the families we protect and the future we collectively shape. In a world where roads grow busier, vehicles grow smarter and journeys grow faster and longer, safety must never be an afterthought – it must be our guiding principle."

Livia Spera, General Secretary of the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF), called upon stakeholders to address the root causes that jeopardize safety on our roads – among others, fatigue in professional drivers due to working conditions and lacking enforcement of legislation. "In which other sectors would we accept people falling asleep while they are working? Would we accept it in schools, in offices, in shops? No. But still, this happens regularly among professional drivers according to what our members tell us. Addressing fatigue among truck drivers is a societal issue - we need a cooperative approach."

The 19th edition of the DEKRA Road Safety Report looks at our roads as a workplace and makes concrete recommendations as to how road safety for people working in traffic can be improved. The report can be found online at www.dekra-roadsafety.com.

Captions:

1: The Polish city of Legionowo has received the DEKRA Vision Zero Award 2026 – DEKRA CEO Stan Zurkiewicz handed it to Nina Małachowska, Director of the Representative Office of the Mazovia to the EU.

2: The Polish city of Legionowo has received the DEKRA Vision Zero Award 2026. From left: Oliver Deiters, Managing Director of the DEKRA Representation to the EU; Agnieszka Walter-Drop, Director-General for Cohesion, Agriculture and Social Policies in the European Parliament; Nina Małachowska, Director of the Representative Office of the Mazovia to the EU; DEKRA CEO Stan Zurkiewicz; Jann Fehlauer, Executive Vice President of DEKRA Group.

3: The DEKRA Vision Zero Award was handed out in Brussels at the presentation of the DEKRA Road Safety Report 2026, "Working in Road Traffic".

Pictures: Alexander Louvet / DEKRA

About DEKRA

For more than 100 years, DEKRA has been a trusted name in safety. Founded in 1925 with the original goal of improving road safety through vehicle inspections, DEKRA has grown to become the world's largest independent, non-listed expert organization in the field of testing, inspection, and certification. Today, as a global partner, the company supports its customers with

comprehensive services and solutions to drive safety and sustainability forward. In 2025, DEKRA generated revenue of 4.4 billion euros. More than 48,000 employees are providing qualified and independent expert services in approximately 60 countries across five continents. DEKRA holds a Platinum sustainability rating from EcoVadis, placing it among the top 1% of the globally assessed companies.