June 2026

ProtAct-Us

from long-term consequences of road crashes

3rd Newsletter

Enabling safer and resilient Transport and Smart Mobility services for all road users

25 months of ProtAct-Us in Numbers

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News from ProtAct-Us

Reconstruction of Critical Use Cases for Long-term Injuries

Deliverable 4.1

Deliverable D4.1 presents a comprehensive reconstruction of critical use cases for long-term injuries resulting from road crashes, covering various road user groups including pedestrians, cyclists, children, occupants of passenger cars, and passengers of public transport systems. The report systematically analyses injury scenarios, combining real-world data and modelling approaches to better understand the mechanisms leading to long-term consequences.

Key Findings and Conclusions:

The deliverable highlights the diverse injury risks across different road user groups and mobility types, demonstrating the importance of targeted safety measures for each category.

Detailed use cases illustrate how factors such as collision type, occupant position, and vehicle characteristics influence injury severity and long-term outcomes.

The analysis provides a solid foundation for designing effective mitigation strategies, informing the development of preventive measures, vehicle safety systems, and policy recommendations.

Overall, D4.1 contributes to a better understanding of critical injury scenarios, supporting the ProtAct-Us goal of enhancing road safety and reducing long-term consequences from traffic accidents.

The full Deliverable 4.1 is now available for download on the **ProtAct-Us** website.

News from ProtAct-Us

Gender-sensitive research in ProtAct-Us: why it matters

Ottavia E. Ferraro, Anna Morandi, Cristina Montomoli

News Article

Within the International Day of Women and Girls in Science and International Women's Day, **ProtAct-Us** reflects on the value of gender-sensitive research. Looking at results through a gender perspective helps capture differences in behaviours, risk exposure, care pathways, and recovery experiences.

By integrating gender-stratified findings, **ProtAct-Us** aims to contribute to stronger evidence and to more person-centred knowledge for prevention, care, and long-term recovery.

> "(...) gender sensitivity in this context is less focused on quota-based inclusion and more on analytical awareness."

Article Quote

See the full article on ProtAct-Us website.

Full article

News from ProtAct-Us

Prevention of Injuries with Long-term Consequences in Vehicle Crashes

Johannes Prinz, Julian Becker, Maximilian Praster, Werner Leitgeb

Paper

In the **ProtAct-Us** project, the Institute for Automotive Engineering (ika) of RWTH Aachen University in collaboration with Aachen University Hospital (UKA), investigates methods to assess and reduce the risk of long-term effects for crash victims with bone fractures, supporting the development of safer vehicles and improved road safety.

"By understanding the force distributions and stresses that result from crash simulations, targeted measures can be developed to prevent such bone fractures from occurring in the first place."

Paper Quote

The article examines strategies to prevent injuries with long-term consequences and highlights the importance of enhanced risk assessment in vehicle safety development. Long-term injuries from road crashes have often been overlooked in vehicle design, despite frequently requiring extensive medical care.

See the full paper on ProtAct-Us website.

Full paper

News from ProtAct-Us

Advancing Road Safety Through Data: Challenges, Solutions, and Policy Insights from EU Road Safety Projects

EU Road Safety Cluster

Cluster Paper

"The cluster joint effort also presents project solutions to overcome data challenges, enphasising best practices of data management and the use of advanced analytics and harmonisation methodologies and tools."

Paper Quote

The EU Road Safety Cluster has published a joint paper with contributions from 11 EU-funded projects, including **ProtAct-Us**, highlighting its active role in advancing a data-driven approach to road safety research and policy.

By addressing the challenge of transforming fragmented and diverse data into integrated, predictive, and policy-ready insights, the paper demonstrates how such analyses can support evidence-based policymaking, foster innovation, and contribute directly to Europe's Vision Zero ambition of eliminating road deaths and serious injuries.

See the full paper on ProtAct-Us website.

Full paper

News from ProtAct-Us

The deliverables **D1.1**, **D1.2**, and **D1.3**, highlighted in our first newsletter, are now officially available for download on the **ProtAct-Us** website. Dive in to explore the latest insights and results from the project and stay up-to-date with the ongoing work!

Initial findings on serious injury and long-term consequences

Deliverable 1.1

Description of road user related baseline use case

Deliverable 1.2

ProtAct-Us concept for injury mitigation, assessment, and benefits

Deliverable 1.3

The deliverables **D5.1** and **D5.2**, covering the Dissemination and Exploitation of **ProtAct-Us** results, are also now available for download on the website. Discover how the project is sharing knowledge and extending impact!

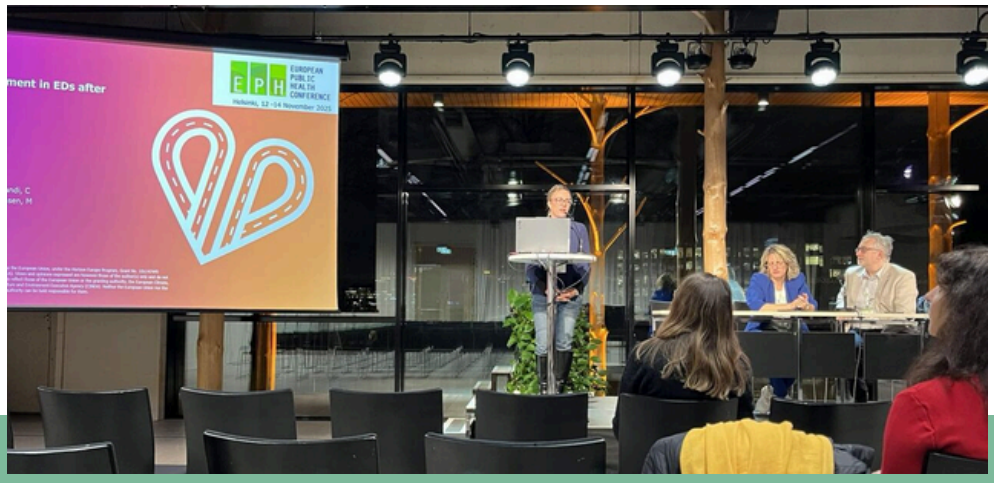
Plan for dissemination and exploitation of results (PDER)

Deliverable 5.1

Plan for dissemination and exploitation of results (PDER) – Interim report

Deliverable 5.2

ProtAct-Us Networking



18th European Public Health Conference

Helsinki, Finland

12-14 November 2025

ProtAct-Us was represented by the **Hellenic Mediterranean University (HMU) LaHeRS Laboratory of Health and Road Safety** at the 18th European Public Health Conference in Helsinki. This event brought together researchers, policymakers, and public health professionals to discuss innovative strategies for health promotion, prevention, and care.

Stavroula Lioliou presented the study protocol on **"Mental Health Assessment in Emergency Departments after Road Traffic Injuries: a study protocol"**. This work reflects **ProtAct-Us**' commitment to understanding the psychological and social impacts of road traffic injuries and advancing approaches that support post-crash mental health and recovery.

Participation in the event increased the project's visibility within the European public health community and enabled valuable exchanges on **integrating mental health assessment into trauma care and road safety policies.**

ProtAct-Us Networking

RTR Conference 2026

Brussels, Belgium

10-12 February 2026

ProtAct-Us participated in the RTR Conference, one of Europe's leading events for road transport research and innovation. The project presented an overview of its activities, including its integration within the cluster and ongoing work on road safety data.

During the session **"Reducing severe injuries and long-term consequences of road crashes"**, **ProtAct-Us** highlighted the strong synergies with the sister project IMPROVA Road Safety. While both projects share common objectives, their complementary approaches strengthen their collective impact on road safety research. Key topics discussed included the psychological impact of road crashes, gender and individual differences in long-term consequences, and the importance of raising awareness within public health and road safety communities.

See the full session on the YouTube video.

Full session

ProtAct-Us Networking

ESAR 2026

Hannover, Germany

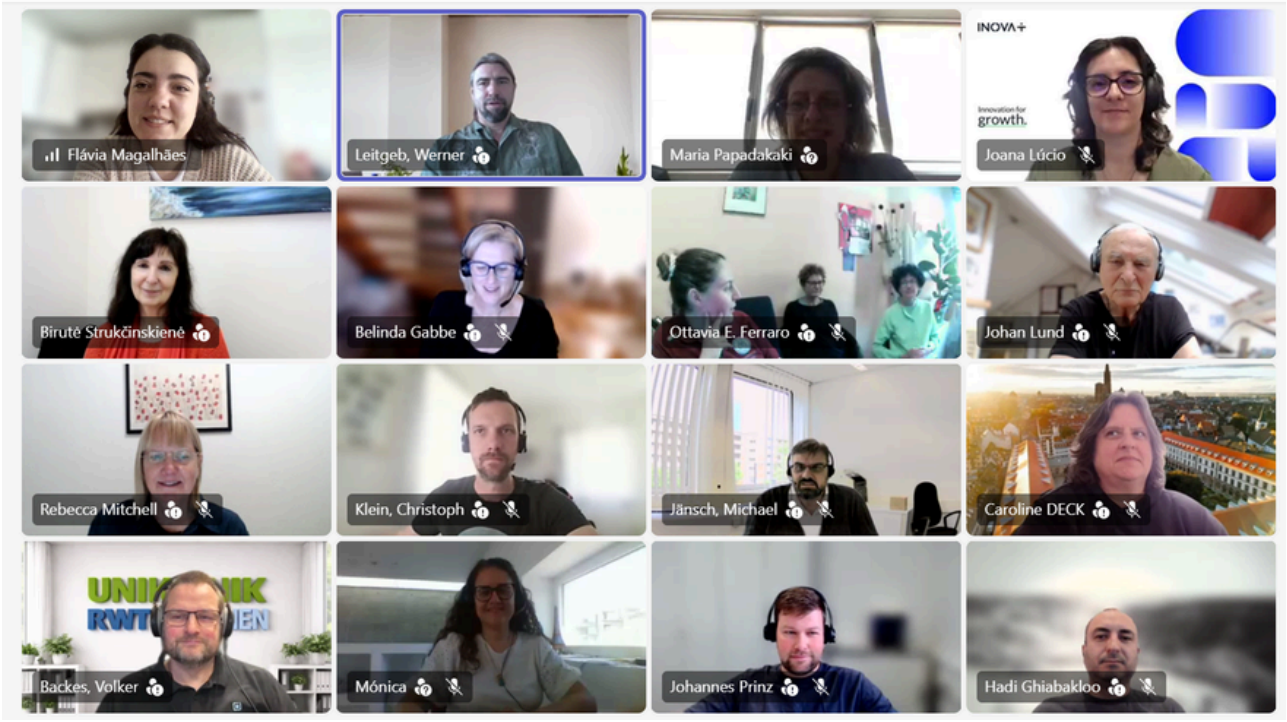
25-26 March 2026

ProtAct-Us participated in the 10th International Expert Symposium on Accident Research (ESAR), which took place on March 25–26, 2026, at Hannover Medical School (MHH), Germany.

ESAR is a leading scientific forum in accident research, providing a **platform for authorities, medical institutions, and technical organizations to exchange knowledge**. The symposium brought together experts to discuss new research methods, results, and experiences in accident prevention and reconstruction.

ProtAct-Us' participation provided an excellent opportunity to share research insights, engage with international experts, and contribute to advancing road safety knowledge.

Advisory Board



ProtAct-Us recently held an online Advisory Board meeting on May 21, 2026, bringing together partners and advisors to review progress and discuss key developments.

Discussions focused on data collection and analysis, including challenges in obtaining responses and strategies to improve participation. The meeting also addressed ways to integrate medical information to enhance understanding of long-term impacts from road traffic injuries.

The meeting provided a valuable platform for knowledge exchange, coordination, and strategic planning, ensuring **ProtAct-Us** continues to advance its mission of improving understanding and prevention of long-term consequences of road traffic injuries.

Upcoming Events

16th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion (Safety 2026)
Sept 2-3, 2026 | Capetown, South Africa

IRCOBI Conference
Sept 8, 2026 | Munich, Germany

Connecting Europe Days (CED)
Sept 28 to Oct 1, 2026 | Brussels, Belgium

Carhs Conference Human Modelling Symposium
Nov 11-12, 2026 | Aschaffenburg, Germany

European Public Health EPH
Nov 11-13, 2026 | Bilbao, Spain

CONTACTS

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