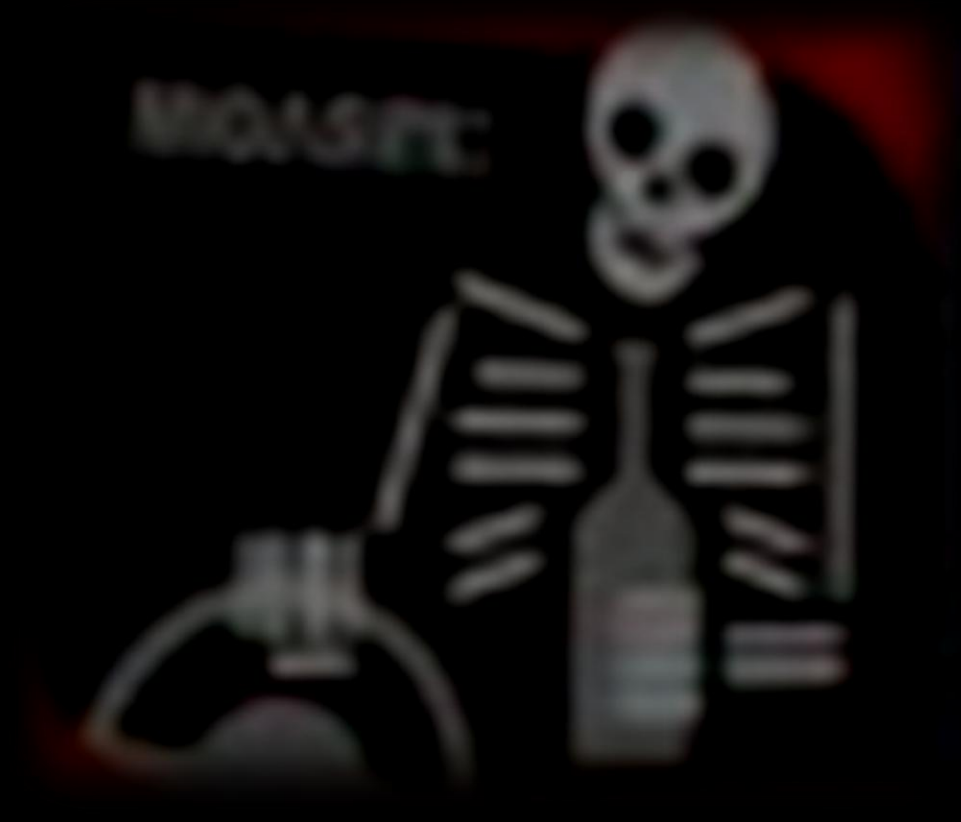


DRINKING AND DRIVING ? NO, THANKS!

REGULATIONS AND LAWS CONCERNING DRINKING-ABUSE IN BULGARIA



According to the statistics of the World Health Organization Europe is the continent where people drink the most. The average European drinks about 12 liters of alcohol per year.



The data from an international survey on alcohol consumption in Europe showed that teenagers came first. The result was terrifying - 9 boys and 4 girls (out of 100) at the age of 11 or over consumed alcohol every week.

The European commissioners of health have lodged a proposal to limit alcohol consumption in EU countries. It provides:

WARNING

CONSUMATION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE A CAR AND MAY CAUSE HEALTH PROBLEMS



WARNING

WOMEN SHOULD NOT DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY BECEUSE OF THE RISK OF BIRTH DEFECTS

- to put warning labels on bottles of beer, wine and spirits. To show how harmful to human health they are, similar to the inscriptions on the boxes of cigarettes.
- The long term objective of the program is gradual suppressing of alcohol advertisements.

Is an underaged forbidden to drink alcohol?

Nobody can forbid you to drink alcohol, but the person who sells or provides alcohol beverages will be punished.



What is the penalty for selling alcohol to underaged?

- the Penal Code fine is 500 lv. for whoever sells alcohol to a person under the age of 18. If the violation is repeated the punishment is a year imprisonment and a fine up to 2000 lv.

- Ban for selling alcohol (The Law of Health) :

- to people under 18 years old;

- to drunk people;

- on the territory of kindergartens, schools, pupils' hostels, hospitals and at sport events;

- public events, organized for pupils and children;

Violators are punished with a fine of 50 to 300lv.

If I am accompanied by a parent or guardian in drinking establishments, can I drink alcohol?

If you are accompanied by one of your parents, you are allowed to enter clubs or pubs after 10 pm, but the ban for being served alcohol remains.



Who must keep an eye on the children's discipline?

-Regional Inspectorate for Protection and Control of Public Health (RIPHPC), police and their parents.



Driving after using alcohol is one of the main reasons for the war on the roads in Bulgaria.

How are alcohol and drugs found in the blood?


- with medical research (blood test) or technical device – alcohol tester.

How does alcohol influence the driver 's behavior?

-slows reactions;

-affects the concentration of the movements;

-affects the possibility for speed control;



In Bulgaria, the BAC(Blood alcohol concentration)limit is 0,5‰

1.Sanctions on the Road Traffic Act.

A person, who drives with alcoholic concentration in blood:

-over 0.5 to 1.2‰ is punished with taking your driving licence for a period of 1 to 12 months and a fine of 200 to 500 lv. For public transport driver the punishment is from 2 to 12 months and a fine of 300 to 600 lv. If the violation is repeated again, the punishment is deprivation of the right to drive for a period of 1 to 3 years and a fine of 1000 to 2000lv.

A driver who refuses blood test or to be checked with an alcohol tester is punished with deprivation of the right to drive for a period of 12 to 18 months and a fine of 500 to 1000 lv.

The owner who gives his vehicle to a drunk person is punished with a fine of 100 to 300 lv.



Each driver has 39 Traffic control points in the file, which are withdrawn for violations of the Road Traffic Act , as follows:

- driving with alcoholic concentration in the blood over 0.5 to 1.2‰ inclusive - 10 c.p.;**
- when the offense of point 1 is repeated again - 13 c.p.;**
- a driver who refuses blood test or to be checked with an alcohol tester- 12 c.p.**

2. The Criminal Liability.

A drunk driver who violates traffic and causes injury or the death of another person, is punished with:

- 5 to 8 year imprisonment for causing a severe injury;
- 3 to 15 year imprisonment for death;



Driving vehicle with alcoholic concentration in the blood above 1.2‰ is punished by a year imprisonment.

3. Law for administrative violations and penalties.

If the person is a professional driver and his violation is due to alcohol use is punished with a temporary ban from driving for a month.



Future changes in the Law

For drivers (rookie) with experience less than a year:

- driving between 11 p.m and 6 a.m will be forbidden.
- will be required to drive with 10 km / h slower than the indicated speed by the appropriate road sign.
- will not be allowed to ride more than two companions under the age of 18.

National media campaigns:

- “I don’t’ drink and drive”
- “Alcohol is a bad driver”
- “If you have drunk, stop and let me get off”

“Alcohol is a bad driver”

Its aim is at paying attention to the way how alcohol affects our perceptions and behavior on the road when driving. At least 100 000 sticker on cars with visions promote responsible driving will be distributed in 2008-2009.





Think before drinking

and before driving...

before the Dead End!!!

138 "Prof. Vassil Zlatarski"
Comprehensive School



By Nina Nikolova