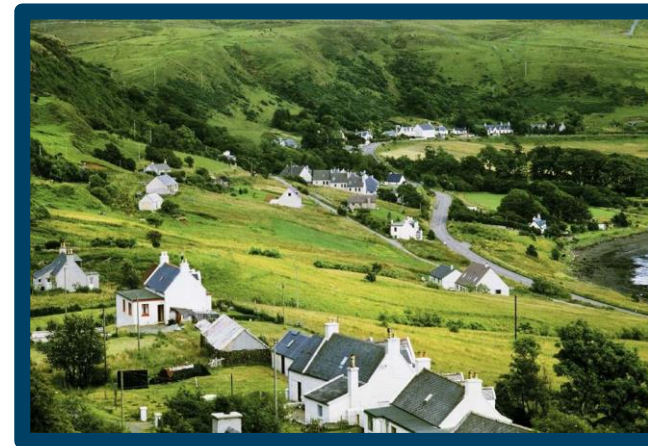


# Safety and Security in Urban and Rural Local Environments

Adriana Gjergjek, Stiven Bozhinoski, Živa Drobnič Kvartuč and Zala Gujtman



# Discussion - main findings

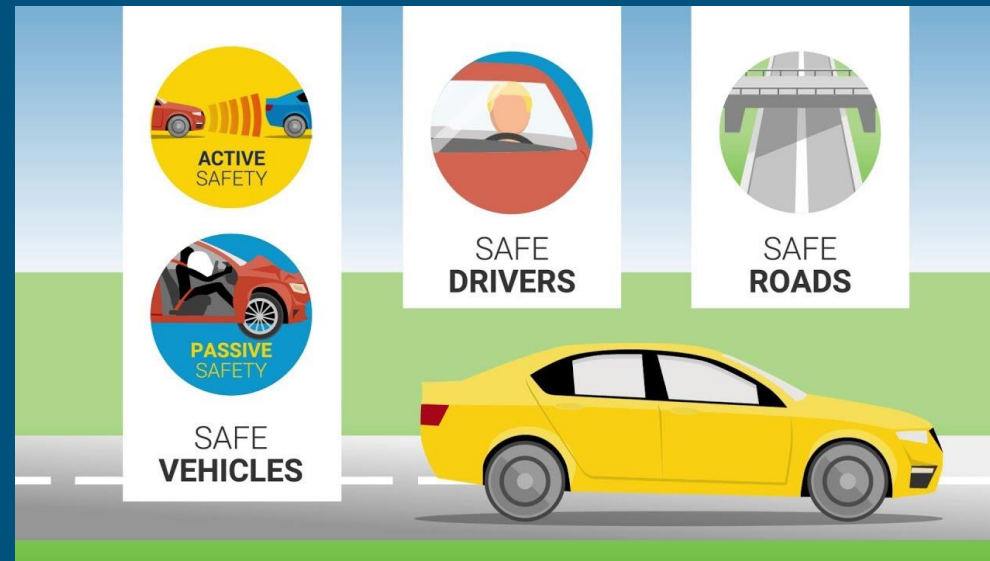
- ▶ safety and security = police?
- ▶ SOCIAL SECURITY - different forms of financial/economic or social aid
  - ▶ good economy, poverty prevention (reduction), reducing social/economic inequalities - jobs
    - ▶ contributing to (local) community development
    - ▶ financing different projects to provide safety and security of local communities
- ▶ Slovenia: Eurobarometer, importance of public health care and social security
- ▶ Statøpis: 13,3 % risk of poverty in Slovenia



# Discussion - main findings

## ▶ ROAD SAFETY

- ▶ urban environments:
  - ▶ high traffic density due to daily commuters from rural areas (school, work) - more traffic accidents
- ▶ rural environments:
  - ▶ lack of road maintenance and repairs
  - ▶ unsuitable pedestrian and cyclist paths
  - ▶ higher traffic density (lack of public transport)



# Discussion - main findings

- ▶ PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY: related to quality of life and tidiness of local environments
- ▶ perceived threats
  - ▶ urban environments - poverty, unemployment, vandalism, drug use
- ▶ self-protection measures
  - ▶ urban: locks, lights with motion sensors
  - ▶ rural: watchdogs, protective fences
- ▶ different perceptions of the police based on the environment
- ▶ crime statistics
- ▶ surveying citizens about their perceptions of safety and security in local environments (safety issues, specific for the environment)
- ▶ community policing officers: not well-known in local environments



# Discussion - main findings

## COMMUNITY POLICING - a comparison between two municipalities (Puconci and Cerknica)

### Municipality of Puconci

- better relations with community policing officers are needed
- GENERAL MEETINGS: discussion about previous work, results and achievements of the past year, plans and objectives for the future = an opportunity for CPO to build better relations with local residents

attendees: local residents

CPO - gathering information about local residents' perceptions of crime, establishing new and better relations, better noticeability among local residents

### Municipality of Cerknica

- good relations and noticeability of CPO
- residents have better perceptions of local police
- less fond of local traffic wardens



### Unified regulations for community policing on a national level

- reducing different public perceptions of community policing among regions
  - Unified guidelines = better participation of CPOs in local communities, better cooperation
  - better social cohesion and public perceptions of the police
- attending official events, celebrations and ceremonies, anniversaries, as well as unofficial events (socialising, picnics)
- younger generation - police visits and presentations of police work in schools





# Discussion - main findings

- ▶ FOREIGN COUNTRIES: remoteness of rural environments
- ▶ Slovenia: a smaller country (shorter distances)
  - ▶ Slovenian Police: hierarchical organisational structure
    - ▶ General Police Directorate
    - ▶ 8 Police Directorates
    - ▶ 111 Police Stations
- ▶ police responsiveness - differs due to various factors (preparedness and organisation of different police stations and policemen themselves)

