



Data Collection Advisory Panel

Working together on data collection to improve fire safety in buildings.

1. Why an Advisory Panel on Data Collection?

We need to collect and analyse fire statistics in order to develop appropriate responses to tackle fire safety in buildings. In 2016, Fire Safe Europe (FSEU) supported a round-table with the Slovak presidency of the EU. During the round-table event, Fire Safe Europe presented the results of a survey on fire safety practices at Member States level, to which 14 EU countries answered. The results showed that fire death and fire injury are not defined in the same way from one EU country to the next.

In 2017, the European Commission conducted a study on the need to regulate the toxicity of smoke produced by construction products in fires. The study revealed significant data gaps when it comes to the way fire statistics are collected and evaluated at EU level. Without comparable and accurate data, it is difficult to assess the effectiveness of regulatory solutions and to identify best practices.

As a consequence of this, the European Union is now taking steps to collect fire data. In 2018, Members of the European Parliament tabled an amendment to fund an EU project on Mending data gaps and paving the way for pan-European fire safety efforts.

In 2018, Fire Safe Europe worked to raise awareness on the importance of an EU-wide effort on collecting fire statistics further by organizing a series of webinars. The webinars invited experts from international and EU organizations who are collecting data and having an impact on improving safety to share their experiences and best practices. In 2019, Fire Safe Europe produced a one-page summary of the key lessons learnt from the webinar series and recommendations on how to approach the collection of fire statistics at EU level.

The European Fire Safety Community is launching an Advisory Panel which will give you the opportunity to work to provide input into this EU project and have a lasting impact on how data is collected across the EU.



2. What is the Advisory Panel and for whom?

This Advisory Panel brings together FSEU Members wanting to work on the topic of fire data collection. Members are expected to contribute actively to projects, by providing feedback on the panel's work and sharing information on relevant developments, for example changes in regulations or standards.

The work of the Advisory Panel is overseen by the Technical Chair of Fire Safe Europe.

The Advisory Panel shall:

- Be comprised of relevant stakeholders such as firefighters, academics, fire safety engineers, and stakeholders from several industries, national bodies and organisations working on data collection;
- Contribute with diverse skills and experiences;
- Provide knowledge-based input into the activities of the Advisory Panel;
- Share Fire Safe Europe's objectives.

Benefits of joining this Advisory Panel:

- Share your professional expertise and experiences with enthusiastic peers;
- Provide valuable input to an EU-wide effort to mend data gaps and collect comparable fire statistics;
- Be a part of a project that has a clear objective and deliverables to improve fire safety;
- Have a lasting impact on how data is collected across the EU;
- Expand your professional network.

3. The specific scope of the Advisory Panel's work

The scope of this Advisory Panel will be limited to fire safety in buildings; however, the Advisory Panel is encouraged to pool expertise and draw lessons from other sectors.

The aim of the Advisory Panel is not to duplicate existing research on fire data, but rather to collaboratively develop deliverables which incorporate existing work on the topic.

Everything that the Advisory Panel produces must be in accordance with the objectives Fire Safe Europe as stated in Article 4 of FSEU's Articles of Association and Internal Rules (2019) association. (The Articles of Association can be found on the Community Resources)



4. What is the objective of the Advisory Panel?

Support the European Commission's Fire Information Exchange Platform (FIEP) work on fire data collection by:

- Developing a Europe-wide fire glossary of common terminologies for fire safety.
- Identifying best practices and ideas to collect fire statistics at European level.

5. Deliverables

The Advisory Panel will produce:

- A Europe-wide Fire Glossary of relevant fire safety terminologies, that can be shared between stakeholders to ensure a common understanding.
- A guidance document of best practices for fire data collection at European level.

6. Organizational Structure

The work of the Advisory Panel is developed in consultation with the Chair. The Board may provide guidance on the strategic objectives and deliverables and can raise questions to be addressed by the Advisory Panel.

The Advisory Panel shall not be involved in the decision making of Fire Safe Europe's governing bodies and cannot establish its own positions. All of the Advisory Panel's work must be reviewed and approved by the Board before publication and dissemination.

7. Mode of Operations

The Advisory Panel works via online meetings on the European Fire Safety Community platform, conference calls or other forms of technology-enabled interaction.

The Advisory Panel meets minimum three times annually and written notices of upcoming meetings will be emailed to members at least two weeks in advance, with the exception of emergency meetings. Minutes of the meetings will be recorded and distributed.

8. Contact Person

The Advisory Panel members shall refer to the Chair and/or to the Fire Safe Europe Secretariat in regard to any inquiries, questions and issues relating to their work. For more information about the Advisory Panel, please contact the Fire Safe Europe Secretariat at secretariat@firesafeeurope.eu.