



Noise

Overview

There were no significant changes in the period covered by this report. The new Law on Environmental Noise Protection has not yet been adopted. There has been some progress in enforcing regulations. The City of Belgrade has begun the project *Acoustic Zoning of the City*, and Studies on the conditions that must be met by the hospitality sector in order to protect against noise on the territory of Belgrade. The City of Novi Sad has made plans to develop a Strategic Noise Map for the entire territory of the city, but the precise start and end dates have not been defined.

Strategic and Legislative Framework

Since 2010, regulations in the field of noise protection in the Republic of Serbia (Law on Protection from Noise in the Environment (Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 36/09, 88/10), Regulation on Noise Indicators, Limit Values, Methods for Assessing Noise Indicators, Harassment and Harmful Effects of Noise in the Environment (Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 75/10), Rulebook on the Methodology for Drafting Action Plans (Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 72/10) and Rulebook on the Content and Methods for Developing Strategic Noise Maps and the Manner of their Presentation to the Public (Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 80/10)) are partially harmonized with EU regulations in this sector. Full implementation of Directive 2002/49/EC is planned for the end of 2021. This includes the development of strategic noise maps and action plans for five agglomerations (Belgrade, Novi Sad, Niš, Kragujevac and Subotica), roads, railways and Belgrade airport (MEI, 2018). The City of Niš developed a Strategic Noise Map in 2019, and is the only city conducting 24-hour continuous monitoring. No city has an Action Plan. Based on the experience gained during the development of the Strategic Noise Map for the City of Niš, a set of Guidelines were developed, in the form of a manual for the development of strategic noise maps in the Republic of Serbia (MEP, 2019).

Additionally, apart from the five agglomerations that regularly monitor noise, a large number of local self-governments do not monitor noise and do not submit data to the Environmental Protection Agency.

A Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Protection from Noise in the Environment, which should include changes to competencies, new methods for assessing indicators, reporting mechanisms, introduction of the "polluter pays" principle, as well as deadlines for compliance with obligations set by Directive 2002/49/EC and the obligation to apply a single method of calculating noise levels for the entire EU area – CNOSSOS (Directive 2015/996), was not adopted, although adoption of the Draft Law was planned (GRS, 2020).

The Implementation of Regulations

Based on available data, partial progress was made in 2020 in this sector. The City of Belgrade began the *Acoustic Zoning of Belgrade* project (CB, 2019) in August 2019. The deadline for completing the project is 28 months. Additionally, in July 2019, the City of Belgrade began drafting a Study on the conditions that must be met by catering facilities in order to protect against noise on the territory of Belgrade (CB, 2019). The deadline for preparing the study is 17 months. At the request of the City of Belgrade, a Study of the state of endangerment of Belgrade by noise from catering facilities was developed (Mijić et al, 2020).

The City of Novi Sad has approved the development of a Strategic Noise Map for the entire territory of the City of Novi Sad, through a Decision on Amending the Environmental Protection Program of the City of Novi Sad for the period 2015-2024 – Action Plan for the implementation of the Environmental Protection Program of the City of Novi Sad (2020-2024) (CNS, 2020), but a precise deadline has not been defined.

Only the cities of Subotica and Kragujevac conduct regular environmental noise monitoring activities.

Financing

In 2020, the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia did not allocate funds for the area of noise. All five agglomerations have allocated funds in the budget for 2020 for programs for monitoring the level of communal noise. Additionally, the City of Belgrade has provided funds for the Acoustic Zoning of Belgrade, Research on Methods of Indicative Measurements of Noise Levels in the Environment in Belgrade, and preparing a Study on the conditions that must be met by catering facilities for noise protection in the City of Belgrade, through the Program for Allocating Budget Funds for Environmental Protection in the City of Belgrade for 2020, and Amendments to the aforementioned Program (GB, 2020).

Recommendations



Strategic and Legislative Framework

1. Adopt the new Law on Environmental Noise Protection.
2. Fully harmonize bylaws with Directive 2002/49/EC.
3. Introduce uniform methods for calculating noise levels in accordance with Directive 2015/996 (CNOSSOS).



The Implementation of Regulations

4. Begin developing strategic noise maps for the other four agglomerations (Belgrade, Novi Sad, Kragujevac and Subotica), as well as for the "Nikola Tesla" Airport, and develop action plans for all agglomerations.
5. Work on noise training (especially at the local level).
6. Introduce 24-hour continuous noise monitoring and make data available through a unified presentation of automatic noise monitoring.
7. Implement acoustic zoning of all local self-governments.
8. Assess the harmful effects of noise on human health and the environment.
9. Introduce local self-government control over the implementation of noise monitoring and submission of noise monitoring results to the Environmental Protection Agency.

- 10.** Expand competencies – authorize the environmental inspectorate and municipal police to independently measure the level of communal noise.
- 11.** Verify that organizers of public gatherings, entertainment and sports events and other outdoor and indoor activities have submitted data on noise protection measures in their applications for holding public gatherings and activities, if the use of sound and other devices may exceed the prescribed limit values.



Financing

- 12.** Provide funds for the implementation of plans (and obligations) in the field of noise protection.

References

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MUNICIPAL NOISE LEVELS IN BELGRADE IN 2019

PERMITTED NOISE LEVELS

Day: 65 dB(A), Evening: 65 dB(A), Night: 45 dB(A)

			
Jurija Gagarina 193	55.7	55.7	48.9
Bulevar kralja Aleksandra 69	65.7	65.6	61.9
Kraljice Natalije 66	62.7	61.9	58.5
Vojvode Stepe 64	67.5	66.8	62.7
Bulevar despota Stefana 122	68.2	67.5	64.4
Glavna 28, Zemun	65.6	64.8	61.0
Jug-Bogdanova 2	67.5	67.3	63.4
Blagoja Parovića 35	60.7	58.1	54.3
Dalmatinska 1	60.6	60.3	54.8
Bulevar vojvode Mišića 43	67.0	66.0	62.4

* Source: Beograd u brojkama (Belgrade in Numbers) 2020