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Emergency 112 on the map before the summer holidays

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'The European Commission has this week stepped up its efforts to promote the use of the charge-free European emergency number 112 in the EU.

As of this week, the new website: ec.europa.eu/112 will tell citizens how to use 112 and what to expect from it, particularly when they travel within the EU. It also shows how 112 functions in each member state: how quickly calls are answered and in which languages.

"The millions of EU citizens going on holidays this summer only need to remember one emergency number: 112," said EU Telecoms Commissioner Viviane Reding.

"While 112 is now available in all but one country across the EU, I call on Member States to make 112 better known and more effective. All EU citizens should know they can dial 112 to reach emergency services. I especially urge those Member States yet to introduce caller location, which helps emergency services find accident victims, to do so for all 112 calls as soon as possible. I am also counting on rapid action from the Bulgarian authorities to finally make 112 available nationwide."

This February, the Commission asked national authorities to improve public awareness of 112, after a survey showed that only 22 percent of EU citizens know they can call 112 throughout Europe in an emergency.

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