

# A critical perspective on the implementation of the EU Council Seveso Directives in France, Germany, Italy and Spain.

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- 3 A critical perspective on the implementation of the EU Council Seveso Directives in
- 4 France, Germany, Italy and Spain.
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23 ABSTRACT

From 1982 to 2012, an important legislation, known as Seveso Directives I-II-III and 24 amendments, was adopted in the European Union to regulate and prevent major industrial 25 accident hazards. This European legislation was transposed, applied and implemented in each 26 European Member State and after nearly forty years it is worthwhile to look back and also to 27 look forward to key issues relevant to actual Seveso implementation. Authors of this paper are 28 all members (retired or active) of the Loss Prevention Working Party of the European 29 Federation of Chemical Engineering, which started in 1971. This article examines and 30 compares, for the four EU Member States France, Germany, Italy and Spain, the structures 31 and practices for the implementing of the European rules. Difficulties, variations in 32 application and the quality of enforcement of this complex process are critically discussed, 33 including proper analysis of worked examples. Finally, a particular attention is paid to the 34 different ways in which the control and inspection practices of each of the Member States 35 concerned are implemented. 36

37 KEYWORDS:

38 Seveso legislation – implementation – inspection practices – LUP criteria

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48	HIGHLIGHTS
49	• Process safety accidents have not decreased in number nor in severity.
50	• The implementation of the Seveso directives has progressed over time.
51	• Quantitative risk analysis assessment criteria should be standardized.
52	• Inspection arrangements for Seveso establishments should be reinforced or improved.
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55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75	
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#### 80 List of symbols and abbreviations

- 81 AEGLs Acute Exposure Guideline Levels
- 82 AEGL 1 Level 1 Notable discomfort, irritation, or certain asymptomatic non-sensory
- effects. However, the effects are not disabling and are transient and reversible upon cessationof exposure.
- AEGL 2 Level 2 Irreversible or other serious, long-lasting adverse health effects or an
- 86 impaired ability to escape.
- 87 AEGL 3 Level 3 Life-threatening health effects or death.
- 88 CLP Classification, Labelling, Packaging
- BGPR Direction Générale de la Prévention des Risques (General Directorate for Risk
   Prevention)
- 91 DREAL Direction Régionale de l'Environnement, de l'Aménagement et du Logement
- 92 (Regional Directorate for the Environment, Planning and Construction)
- 93 EIA Environmental Impact Assessment
- 94 ERPGs Emergency Response Planning Guidelines
- 95 ERPG-3 is the maximum airborne concentration below which nearly all individuals could be
- 96 exposed for up to 1 hour without experiencing or developing life-threatening health effects.
- 97 ERPG-2 is the maximum airborne concentration below which nearly all individuals could be
- exposed for up to 1 hour without experiencing or developing irreversible or other serious
- health effects or symptoms which could impair an individual's ability to take protective
- action.
- 101 ERPG-1 is the maximum airborne concentration below which nearly all individuals could be
- 102 exposed for up to 1 hour without experiencing more than mild, transient adverse health effects
- 103 or without perceiving a clearly defined objectionable odour.
- 104 GDP Gross Domestic Product
- 105 ICPE Installations Classées Pour l'Environnement (Environmentally Classified Facilities)
- 106 IDLH Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (NIOSH)
- 107 IPPC Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control
- 108 KAS Kommission für Anlagensicherheit (Commission for Plant Safety)
- 109 LC n Lethal concentration (LC 1, LC 5, LC 50, LC 80...) means the toxic concentration in the
- 110 air that causes the death of n % of the affected population
- 111 LFL Lower Flammability Limit
- 112 LOC Loss Of Containment
- 113 LPG Liquefied Petroleum Gas

114	LUP Land Use Planning
115	RISP Port Safety Integrated Report
116	SEA Strategic Environmental Assessment
117	
118 119	SEI Threshold of Irreversible Effects (Seuil des Effets Irréversibles)
119	SEL Threshold for Lethal Effects (Seuil des Effets Létaux)
121 122	SELs Threshold for significant Lethal Effects that causes the death of s % of the affected population (Seuils des Effets Létaux significatifs)

- 123SMS Safety Management System
- 124 TEEL Temporary Emergency Exposure Level
- 125 TEEL-1 The maximum concentration in air below which it is believed nearly all individuals
- 126 could be exposed without experiencing other than mild transient adverse health effects or
- 127 perceiving a clearly defined objectionable odour.
- 128 TEEL-2 The maximum concentration in air below which it is believed nearly all individuals
- 129 could be exposed without experiencing or developing irreversible or other serious health
- 130 effects or symptoms that could impair their abilities to take protective action.
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#### 136 **1 - Introduction**

From a risk perspective, Seveso disaster (1976) had been a watershed and could be regarded 137 as a "black swan" just considering its legislative follow-out giving rise to specific directives 138 139 used as the basis of regulations also outside of the European Union (Fabiano et al., 2017). Since then, an impressive number of European regulations relating to process safety and risk 140 management have evolved over time. Nevertheless, the persistence of new major accidents is 141 142 still notorious. For example, by limiting itself to the four countries France, Germany, Italy and Spain, the table 1 summarizes an overview of some industrial accidents for the period 1970 -143 2018. 144

145 Table 1 – Overview of some industrial accidents for the period 1970 – 2018 (Extract from the
146 databases Aria - eMars and Zema).

As it stands, it is difficult to reach a conclusion on the effectiveness of the EU Seveso 147 Directives on the incidence of accidents. Indeed, enforced rules compel companies to analyze 148 and consider critically the safety level of their plants and that is an added value of Seveso 149 Directives. The stepwise increase in comprehensiveness of the Directives is due to the 150 evolution in insight of factors of influence, sometimes becoming clear only after a disastrous 151 accident, and further to approaches that promise improvement, such as the safety management 152 system. That despite the improvements still accidents happen is due to a number of factors, 153 such as present methods do not guarantee perfect hazard identification and skip turn-arounds 154 155 and other abnormal situations. Risk assessment is often only qualitative and it is fallible, even when it is quantitative. So, the sole risk assessment will never be sufficient to prevent 156 accidents. Further, plants become more complex due to additional requirements (e.g., energy 157 158 saving), new designs and technology with more automation, and aging. In the same way, all aspects of human factors play a significant role in major accidents causation, as shorter time 159

160 on the job, less dedication, additional complications in case of outsourcing and training 161 deficiencies to name a few. Expectation is that digitalization will further improve safety, but 162 we shall have to wait and see. All this will make that a further revised version of Seveso 163 Directives may be needed.

164 This has led to the promotion of regulatory leaps that are gradually leading to tighter 165 legislation. The respective EU Seveso I - II - III Directives and their amendments have 166 therefore proposed a regulatory framework of strategic process safety and risk management 167 principles, which Member States must transcribe, apply and implement. The context of this 168 implementation obviously depends, among other things, on the various pre-existing national 169 regulations, the nature of the territories, their history and the criteria adopted in each member 170 state to give an appropriate answer to the aims of these Directives.

171 The open scientific literature contains few results on the implementation of the EU Seveso directives, especially in terms of comparison between the Member States. Hawksley (1992) 172 173 compared the differences and contrasts in implementation of the safety reports required in the 174 EU Seveso I Directive in the Member States Germany - The Netherlands and UK. Schütz and Wiedermann (1995) designed in Germany a prototype package for the hazardous incident 175 public information in the relation with the implementation of the second amendment 176 177 88/610/EEC of the EU Seveso I Directive. Rosen (1998) analyzed the challenge presented by implementation of the EU Seveso I and II Directives in Italy. Pineau (1999) described the 178 implementation and application of the EU Seveso I and II Directives in France. Vérot (2002) 179 detailed the compliance of the French regulations with the EU Seveso II Directive. Versluis 180 (2004) showed the variability of the degree of fit in relation to the Safety Data Sheets 181 182 Directive in the four Member States Germany - The Netherlands - Spain and UK. Ham et al (2006) compared the implementation of the EU Seveso II Directive in the Netherlands and 183 France. Pey et al. (2009) examined the main differences on European regulations in the frame 184

of Seveso Directive. Pozzo (2010) discussed in practice the concrete implementation of the 185 186 EU Seveso I and II Directives in an enlarged Europe. Farret (2014) reported the divergences and convergences of the hazard assessment implementation in France - Germany - The 187 Netherlands and UK. Suffo and Nebot (2015, 2016) studied, within the framework of the EU 188 Seveso II Directive, the importance of the "neighbouring" factor in the implementation of 189 territorial risk in Andalusia (South Spain). Swuste and Reniers (2017) considered the 190 effectiveness of the application of European legislation in Belgium and the Netherlands. 191 Finally, more generally, Besserman and Mentzer (2017) analyzed the global process safety 192 regulations at the continental level in USA - EU - UK - China and India. In summary, with the 193 194 exception of the article by Swuste and Reniers (2017), the papers identified are limited either to particular articles or to specific cases in the review of the EU Seveso Directives. 195

This paper is authored by four members of the Loss Prevention Working Party of the 196 European Federation of Chemical Engineering, which started in 1971 as a reaction to some 197 notable accidents by a group of motivated safety pioneers (De Rademaeker et al., 2014). The 198 focus of the paper attempts to compare, for the four EU Member States France, Germany, 199 Italy and Spain, the reality of their structures and practices for implementing European rules. 200 After this introduction the article is organized in four further sections. A first chronological 201 202 survey of the EU Council Seveso Directives is reported. Then, the national transposition by the corresponding Member States is described together with the respective main government 203 laws and decrees, while also mentioning the competent and implementing authorities. The 204 effectiveness of the respective implementations by Member States is then gradually discussed 205 in accordance with the requirements of the EU Directives. Some examples and worked case-206 207 studies showing notable variations in implementation are commented on. Next the important issue of establishment inspection is analyzed to show the strengths and weaknesses of the 208

completeness of the decisions applied in the four EU Member States examined. Summary ofthe study and concluding remarks on required future efforts are provided in the final section

#### 211 **2 – Materials and methods**

In order to meet the objectives of the critical comparison of the implementation of the EU Council Seveso directives in the four countries concerned, official documents available to the public both at European and national level were examined.

The Aria, e-Mars and Zema databases made it possible to inventory the main industrialaccidents during the period 1970 - 2018.

The three EU Seveso Directives were consulted in the Official Journals of the EuropeanCommunity (OJEC).

The evaluation reports on the practical implementation, compiled from each report required and submitted by the Member States and drawn up by the EU Council during the period 1988 - 2017, were studied. The content and quality of these reports showed the gradual improvement of implementation over time.

The crucial issue of control and inspection practices of Seveso establishments was first reviewed by examining the specific inspection procedures implemented in each Member State concerned. Then the detailed compliance of the four Member States with the European inspection requirements was based on the feedback reports from EU Council.

227 Finally, relevant case studies are presented, either original, or taken from the scientific

228 literature

229

#### 230 **3** – Chronological survey of the EU Council Seveso directives

231 3.1 – EU Seveso I Directive (OJEC, 1982)

As a consequence of the pressure relief venting following a reactor runaway accident in an ICMESA plant (belonging to the Roche pharmaceutical group) at Seveso (Italy) in 1976, the EU Council Directive 82/501/EEC (known as the EU Seveso I Directive) on major-accident hazards of certain activities was adopted in 1982 by the Council of European Union in order to prevent and control such accidents. This legislation required, amongst other things:

- The production of a safety report detailing how major accidents are prevented andcontrolled.

An assessment of the possible major accidents, their likely consequences and
approximate frequencies.

- The development of on-site emergency plans.

242 - The production of an off-site emergency plan by the local authorities responsible for243 such matters.

Following the MIC release tragedy at Union Carbide plant in Bhopal (India) in 1984 (Palazzi 244 et al., 2015) and the fire in a storage facility of Sandoz company in Basel (Switzerland) in 245 246 1986, with the release of hazardous chemicals into the Rhine river and transboundary 247 environmental damages (Brüggemann and Halfon, 1990), three amendments to the Seveso I Directive were published, namely: Directive 87/216/EEC (OJEC, 1987) - Directive 248 249 88/610/EEC (OJEC, 1988) and Directive 91/692/EEC (OJEC, 1991). These amendments aimed at broadening the scope of the Directive, in particular to clarify the inclusion of storage 250 of dangerous substances in the scope of the directive and include information to be given to 251 the public in the event of an accident. 252

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254 3.2 – EU Seveso II Directive (OJEC, 1997)

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The Directive "Seveso I" was finally subjected to a fundamental review by the European 256 257 Commission. Indeed, a number of problem areas were identified giving rise to set up a new Directive (96/82/EC) known as Directive "Seveso II" and replacing the precedent. The new 258 259 legislation came into force across member states in 1999. It is based on the experiences accumulated during the implementation of Seveso I, in particular from lessons learnt from 260 accidents. It includes a revision and extension of the scope; the introduction of new 261 requirements relating to safety management systems; emergency planning and land-use 262 planning and a reinforcement of the provisions on inspections to be carried out by member 263 states. The aim of this Directive is on the one hand with the prevention of major hazards 264 265 involving dangerous substances and on the other hand with the limitation of consequences of accidents that still may occur with impacts for people and environment. 266

267 There are a number of ways which the new directive differs from the old:

268 The scope of Seveso II has been broadened and simplified, referring to the presence of dangerous substances at establishments in excess of threshold quantities, while Seveso 269 270 I referred either to listed substances in connection with certain industrial activities or to the separate storage of substances. It covers both industrial activities as well as the 271 storage of dangerous chemicals in quantities above listed threshold limits. The 272 Directive can be viewed as providing for three levels of proportionate controls, where 273 larger quantities mean more controls. In this sense a company who holds a quantity of 274 dangerous substance less than the lower threshold levels given is not covered by the 275 directive. On the other hand, companies that hold a larger quantity of dangerous 276 substance, which is above the lower threshold contained in the Directive, will be 277 covered by lower tier requirements. Finally, companies that hold quantities of 278 dangerous substances above the upper threshold contained in the Directive will be 279 covered by all requirements of the Directive. 280

In relation with hazardous substances, the Seveso II Directive introduced a significant difference in relation to the previous Directive as it considers that the "presence of dangerous substances shall mean the actual or anticipated presence of such substances in the establishment, or the presence of those which it is believed may be generated during loss of control of an industrial chemical process". Being this latest a clear concern in terms of potential hazards, but hardly considered in implementation guidance's, inspections and controls.

The measures to be undertaken by operators of establishments to prevent and limit the
consequences of major-accidents have been redefined and now include the setting up
of a "Major-Accident Prevention Policy". The intention is to emphasize the
importance of setting up safety management systems as important elements to
promote high levels of protection.

- Increased emphasis on measures to minimize environmental impacts of major accidents including emergency preparedness, land-use planning, identification of
   possible domino effects and information to public.
- To obtain uniform levels of protection throughout the European Union, the Member
   States are required to ensure that the Competent Authorities assess the Safety reports
   and in particular are required to organize a system of ongoing inspections.

The purpose of the Directive is the prevention of major accidents and to harmonize the
 efforts in this field within the EU. Seveso II is related to the new EU legislation on the
 protection of safety and health of workers. The Directive contains general and specific
 obligations on both operators and Member States Authorities falling into the
 categories of the two aims of the Directive, *i.e.* to control measures aimed at the
 prevention of major accidents and to control measures aimed at the limitation of

consequences of major accidents. One obligation of Operators of establishments of
 utmost importance is the production of a Safety Report demonstrating that.

307 - A major accident prevention policy and a safety management system for
308 implementing it must be in effect.

Major accident hazards have to be identified and necessary measures have to be taken
to prevent such accidents and limit their consequences for people and environment.
Adequate safety and reliability have to be incorporated into the design, construction,
operation and maintenance linked to major accident hazards.

Internal emergency plans have to be drawn up and information has to be supplied to the Authorities enabling an emergency plan to be drawn up. Notwithstanding its advance when compared to the older Directive, important areas were excluded from the scope of Seveso II including nuclear safety, the transport of dangerous substances and intermediate temporary storage outside establishments and the transport of dangerous substances by pipelines.

Wettig et al. (1999) have explained in detail the background and content of the Seveso I and IIDirectives.

In the light of more recent industrial accidents, for example Enschede (2000), Baia Mare (2000) and Toulouse (2001), the Seveso II Directive was extended by Directive Amendment 2003/105/EC (OJEC, 2003) to cover risks arising from storage and process activities in mining, from pyrotechnic and explosive substances and from storage of ammonium nitrate and ammonium nitrate based fertilizers. Vierendeels et al (2011) analyzed the parameters of the emergence of the amendment, which influenced change during the legislative process.

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328 3.3 – EU Seveso III Directive (OJEC, 2012)

The Seveso-III-Directive (2012/18/EU) aims at the prevention of major accidents involving 329 330 dangerous substances. However, as accidents may nevertheless occur, it also aims at limiting the consequences of such accidents not only for human health but also for the environment. 331 332 The Directive covers establishments where dangerous substances may be present (e.g. during processing or storage) in quantities exceeding certain thresholds. Excluded from the Directive 333 are certain industrial activities which are subject to other legislation providing a similar level 334 of protection (e.g. nuclear establishments or the transport of dangerous substances). 335 Depending on the amount of dangerous substances present, establishments are categorized in 336 lower and upper tier and the latter are subject to more stringent requirements. The legal 337 338 framework established by the Directive creates a continuous improvement cycle of prevention, preparedness and response to major accidents. The cycle is closed by provisions 339 on lesson learning. Operators are obliged to take all necessary measures to prevent major 340 341 accidents and to limit their consequences for human health and the environment. The requirements include: 342

- -Notification of all concerned establishments (Article 7);
- -Deploying a major accident prevention policy (Article 8);
- -Producing a safety report for upper-tier establishments (Article 10);
- -Producing internal emergency plans for upper tier establishments (Article 12);
- -Supply of information in case of accidents (Article 16).
- 348 Member States need to ensure that a number of requirements are fulfilled, those include:
- -Establishing external emergency plans for upper tier establishments (Article 12);
- -Considering major accident prevention in land-use planning policies for the siting of
- 351 establishments (Article 13);
- 352 -Making relevant information publicly available (Article 14);

- -Ensuring that any necessary action is taken after an accident including emergency measures,
- actions to ensure that the operator takes any necessary remedial measures and informing the
- 355 persons likely to be affected (Article 17);
- -Reporting accidents to the Commission (Article 18);
- -Prohibiting the unlawful use or operation of establishments (Article 19);
- **358** -Conducting inspections (Article 20).
- 359 Member States may maintain or adopt stricter measures than those contained in the Seveso360 Directive.
- 361 Citizens' rights must be respected:
- -The public concerned needs to be consulted and involved early in the decision making for
- 363 specific individual projects (Article 15);
- -Subject to the conditions outlined, Member States need to make available any information
- held pursuant to the Seveso Directive (Articles 14 and 22 under consideration of Article 11);
- -Access to justice needs to be granted on the cases listed in Article 23.
- 367

#### **368 4** – National transposition by the States

The European Commission expects that the directives are transposed into the national regulations of the various member states. On the one hand, this requirement, which seemed simple at first sight, has in fact created many difficulties during its effective application. Indeed, a directive can either be translated verbatim, or all articles as parts included in preexisting legislation, which must necessarily be up to date.

374 On the other hand, the diversity of regulatory authorities in Member States may also be a 375 potential source of transcription variability. Some countries have already established 376 structured procedures. Others are in the process of drafting new rules or may not yet have377 structure and legislation to estimate major accident risks.

For the record, a brief reminder of some of the definitions used in the paper seems useful. First, Council regulations obtain direct legal effect, immediately after their entry in force and need no transposition. On the other hand, transposition of a directive is the legal or regulatory act by which an EU directive is incorporated into the national body of laws. Application is the practical enforcement of the national transposing provisions to a concrete situation or to a number of situations. Implementation is the general term covering both transposition and application.

385 4.1 - Governmental laws and regulatory sub- and infra-structures

386 The EU Commission is responsible for monitoring the application of EU Community law in

the Member States. It must therefore first check that the Community directives are correctly

388 and fully transposed into national regulatory and administrative legislation.

Table 2 shows for each Member State the hierarchy of the various transposition regulations
adopted such as Law, Act, Ordinance, Decree, Amendment and Circular.

391 *Table 2 – Inventory of the national laws and decrees transposing the EU Seveso regulations.* 

392 Table 3 shows for each Member State the different national and regional authorities 393 responsible for the transposition and implementation of the EU Seveso Directives. It should 394 be noted that, for France, the application is strictly in accordance with national directives, the Prefect being the guarantor at the departmental level. On the other hand, for Germany, Italy 395 and Spain, the duality of Nation - Region or Province is clearly marked. Germany is a federal 396 397 country composed of 16 Länder, Italy has 20 Regions and Spain has 17 Autonomous 398 Communities. The relationship between the national level and the respective Länder, Regions and Communities is regulated. For example, all German countries (16 Länder) like North-399

Rhine Westphalia (Stuermer, 2019) and Sachsen (Gamer, 2015), Catalonia (Segui et al, 2014)
in Spain and Lumbardy (Pozzo, 2009), Piedmont (Camuncoli et al, 2013) in Italy retain local
responsibility, which can result in differences in the way situations are assessed at the
territorial level.

404 Table 3 – Main competent and implementing authorities responsible for the application of the
405 EU Seveso I – II and III directives.

406 4.2 – Effectiveness of the transposition

The application of the process of transposing the EU Seveso I Directive into Member States' legislation has often been seen as difficult. The final date for transposition was fixed on 08 January 1984. Between 1982 and 1991 this Directive was amended three times in an effort to clarify its provisions and in response to the concerns of the Member States. This situation has therefore naturally complicated and delayed the transposition, but also the application and implementation of the EU Seveso I Directive in the four states concerned.

As an example, the state of transposition of EU Seveso I Directive 82/501/EEC (as amended)
within the European Community was as follows (COM, 1994):

415

416 France

Transposition of the second amendment has been carried out by administrative instruction. Public information is already freely available and the public have access to the safety report produced, with the exception of certain confidential information. Information to June 1993 indicated that 377 establishments were covered by the provisions of Article 5 of Council Directive 82/501/EEC including the additional establishments covered as a result of the second amendment.

423

424 Germany

Transposition of the second amendment has been carried out by the amended version of the
Twelfth Ordinance implementing the Federal Emission Control Act (Major Accident
Ordinance) of 20 September 1991. Approximate information received up to July 1990
indicated 283 establishments were covered by the provisions of Article 5 of Council Directive
82/50 1/EEC.

430 Since implementation of the second amendment and after re-unification of Germany, up to431 date information is not available.

432

433 Italy

Work to prepare for the transposition of the second amendment has been underway for some time but no detailed and up to date information is available. Information received for the end of 1992 indicated that 329 establishments were covered by the requirements of Article 5 of Council

438 Directive 82/501/EEC.

439

440 Spain

441 Transposition of the second amendment was completed by Royal Decree 952/1990.
442 Information for the end of 1992 indicated approximately 270 establishments were covered by
443 Article 5 of Council Directive 82/501/EEC.

444

Subsequently, the deadline for transposition of the EU Seveso II Directive was set at 3 February 1999, 24 months after the date of entry in force. The practice was facilitated for the four Member States concerned, as its initial content was much more completed and detailed than the drafting of the previous Directive. However, two factors have nevertheless disrupted the actual transposition timetable in different ways. On the one hand, delays were noted intransposition.

For example, even in the simple case of the transposition of the Safety Data Sheets Directive,
the different resilience in time of Germany and Spain was respectively 29 months and 25
months delay after the required date (Versluis, 2003).

454 On the other hand, some infringements for failure to comply have slowed down transposition.

For example, the European Commission has initiated an infringement procedure against Germany for excessive delays in transposition due to conflicts of opinions regarding the procedures adopted between the German Federal Ministry responsible for adapting the legal framework (Main decree in May 2000) and the Länder (having the responsibility to implement the established regulations). As a result, all the requirements were not fully transposed until 2003 (Pozzo, 2009).

Finally, EU Seveso III does not make any substantive changes to the existing national rules. Rather, it aims to improve their coherence and clarity and to achieve better coordination with other Community legislation and to the harmonization with the newly developed UN Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) according to Chapter 19 plan of Agenda 21 approved at the 1992 Rio UN Conference on Environment & Development, concerning "Environmentally Sound Management of Toxic Chemicals".

In the next chapters of this paper, the evaluation of the implementation of the directives willtake precedence in the comparison of the enforcement of the laws and articles concerned.

469

### 470 **5 – Practical implementation by the concerned states**

After the transposition stage, the implementation of each of the articles of the EU Seveso
Directives and their amendments must be applied by each Member State. The completeness
and effectiveness of this implementation exercise is analysed and evaluated by the EU

474 Council on the basis of the periodic reports prepared by each Member State. After a long and
475 difficult period of breaking-in of this procedure for the application of the EU Seveso I
476 Directive, a gradual and continuous improvement of the implementation has been observed
477 over time for the other two EU Seveso II and III Directives.

478 5.1 – National implementation of the EU Seveso I directive

Article 18 of the EU Seveso I directive provides, that five years after notification of the Directive, a report on its application must be drawn on the basis of the information reported by the Member States. The cut-off date was set at 31 October 1987. Most of the summary of the content of this first report published on 18 May 1988 is presented for each Member State (COM, 1988):

484 France

French legislation on major-accident hazards predates the Directive. It is therefore not surprising to note that there are some differences, e.g. in the definition of "industrial activity". The authorization procedure covers a much wider field than that coming under Article 5 of the Directive. It is felt that more inspectors are needed.

489

490 Germany

The Federal German measures implementing the Directive were introduced practically at the same time as the Directive. Manufacturers of dangerous installations subject to the twelfth Ordinance of the Immission Control Act have had time to produce the reports on safety and the on-site emergency plans. In respect of some substances there were stricter provisions (lower threshold quantity installations) than those provided for in the Directive. Nevertheless, there were still some differences between the twelfth Ordinance of the Immission Control Act and the Directive. For instance there is no reference to the 500 meters rule or the derogations

provided for in certain cases. The question remains whether the provisions on informing the 498 499 public are adequate. However, since the accident in Basel, a proposal amending the twelfth Ordinance has been drawn up with a view to tightening up certain provisions. On the practical 500 501 level it is felt that there should be more and better-qualified inspectors and that there is a need for guidelines on general administrative and enforcement practices, examining and drawing 502 up the safety reports and examining the in-company realization of the alarm- and emergency 503 504 plans (which was realized by appointing coherent administrative regulations for the Major 505 Accident Ordinance).

506

507 Italy

Notwithstanding the preliminary adoption of some generic legislative issues on the topic, the 508 Directive has been transposed into Italian law within a comprehensive and systematic 509 framework only in 1988, by the adoption of DPR 175, i.e. with a four years' delay with 510 respect to the deadline posed by the Directive. For this reason, the Decree 175/1988 enforced 511 also the subsequent Directive 87/216/CEE. Compared to other Countries, a sound technical 512 approach in the Directive application was enforced in Italy, by identifying an obligation of 513 declaration along with the notification one, foreseeing several authorities as responsible for 514 the overall application of the Directive. The following Prime Minister decree DPCM 31 515 516 March 1989 provided relevant technical guidelines for drawing up safety reports and carrying 517 out authority preliminary examinations. Unfortunately, other regulatory and administrative acts in the form of Decrees and Regulations by various Ministries were not promptly issued, 518 even though for example art. 12 of DPR 175 envisaged legislative acts pertinent general 519 safety standards and identification of areas with a high concentration of industrial activities. A 520 more in-depth view on the Italian perspective allows evidencing several shortfalls of the 521 Italian regulatory texts, due to its intersections with other national legislations that were 522

neither repealed, nor amended, thus causing difficulties in the Directive interpretation andpractical application.

525

526 Spain

For Spain the Directive entered in force on 1st January 1986, when the country only recently acceded to the European Communities. No written report was then transmitted to the Commission. According to information passed on orally to the Commission by the Spanish authorities, a Royal Decree has been drafted and should be adopted in the near future.

531

532

In reality, little information is available from Member States on the current state of implementation Council Directive 82/501/EEC and its amendments. This is mainly due to the fact that the powers initially granted to the Commission were not sufficient to enable it to require the necessary information to effectively monitor the practical implementation of the Directive. This problem is fixed in the current version of the proposal (COM 1994 4 final).

538

Other evaluation reports were then successively published for the respective periods 1994 –
1996 (OJEC, 1999, C 291), 1997 – 1999 (OJEC, 2002, C 28). For example, a verbatim extract
summarizes the content for the period from 1994 to 1997 for each Member State:

542 France

"63,000 establishments are covered by the Law of 16 July 1976 and are subject to
authorization. The authorization request must include, in particular, an impact assessment
and a risk assessment. These studies are crucial in implementing the prevention of major
accidents in terms of risk reduction at source, emergency planning, control of urbanization,
and information of the public".

548 Germany

"The German implementation of the Seveso-I Directive, the "Störfall-Verordnung" does not 549 refer to sites, but to installations. Therefore, all the answers given to the 1994-1996 550 551 questionnaires refer to installations. Installations covered by the "Störfall-Verordnung" are subject to a permitting process in accordance with the Immission Control Act and the 9th 552 Ordinance of the Immission Control Act (at this time named "Fundamentals of the Approval 553 554 *Procedure*") *before they might be constructed, operated or major changes conducted.* Within this permitting procedure the safety reports - if legally required - are examined and, where 555 appropriate, formal additional requirements are defined or other legal action is taken by the 556 557 responsible authorities for the permitting process. The safety reports are also a very important instrument for the further inspection of competent authorities and for the 558 evaluation of major changes of installations in the related permitting process. 559

Data concerning internal and external emergency plans have not been collected separately so far, as the responsibility for internal emergency plans lie by the operator of installations (latter Establishments) and the responsibility for external emergency plans by the Countries (Länder) or the municipalities respectively. However, all installations coming under Article 5 require an internal emergency plan, which is prepared in consultation with the responsible administration for external emergency plans and controlled by the competent authorities during their ongoing inspections".

567 Observations

In the period under review, there were no essential changes with regard to the Major Accident Control Policy of Germany. The number of installations, which fall into the range of the Störfall-Verordnung (Major Accident Ordinance) was subject to more or less considerable changes, when new Seveso-Directives with newly defined scopes of application (strongly influenced by new annexes for the dangerous substances inventory) were transposed to 573 German law. But this was usually soon consolidated, once the implementing ordinance was 574 adopted. Now that the German unification process and the related reorganization of industry 575 in the eastern Countries have long been completed, the requirements of the Seveso Directive 576 are now since many years qualitatively and quantitatively fulfilled. Moreover, German 577 regulations exceeded the requirements of the Directive at many points.

578 Germany has since brought its national legislation in line with the Seveso Directive and 579 stepped back from Seveso-Directive exceeding regulations which led to intense discussions in 580 the relevant committees and bodies and led to an infringement procedure initiated by the 581 Commission for delayed implementation years ago.

582 Italy

583 *"Problems were experienced in the implementation of the DPR 175/88 which transposes the* 

584 Seveso Directive into national law. As a result of this, the responsibility for the evaluation of 585 the safety report was decentralized to a local level, thus ensuring that the work was carried 586 out in the best possible manner".

587 Spain

"The answers given by the Dirección General de Protección Civil in relation to the report of
1994 concerned 75% of the industrial activities covered by the Seveso Directive and therefore
this information should be taken as provisional. The information given for 1995 and 1996
concerned 92% of the industrial activities.

In Spain, the questionnaire was sent to 19 regional autonomous communities and it is important to stress that in many cases some of the questions were not well understood. Therefore, the data given for the year 1994 by the autonomous communities covered only 75% of the total number of sites while in the years 1995 and 1996, the percentage of sites covered was 92%".

597

Globally the EU Seveso I Directive and its amendments have been successfully transposedinto national laws, regulations and administrative provisions in the four Member States.

During the reporting period, the practical implementation and enforcement of the EU Seveso I
Directive has significantly improved across the Member States. This is shown in particular
by:

604

603

- the growing number of safety reports received (from 2,942 in 1994 to 3,209 in 1996)

604

Year	France	Germany	Italy	Spain	Total
1994	633	1,773	418	118	2,942
1996	720	1,909	430	150	3,209

605

the growing number of safety reports examined (from 1,638 in 1994 to 1,799 in 1996)

Year	France	Germany	Italy	Spain	Total
1994	no data	1,544	no data	94	1,638
1996	no data	1,582	84	133	1,799

608

609 - the growing number of requests or legal actions taken by competent authorities

following the examination of safety reports (from 76 in 1994 to 134 in 1996)

611

-	Year	France	Germany	Italy	Spain	Total
-	1994	no data	no data	20	56	76
	1996	no data	no data	84	50	134

612

- the growing number of internal emergency plans (from 878 in 1994 to 950 in 1996)

	Year	France	Germany	Italy	Spain	Total
	1994	341	no data	418	119	878
	1996	370	no data	430	150	950
-						

7

- the growing	ng number of externa	l emergency plans	(from 494 in 1994)	4 to 519 in 1996)
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Year	France	Germany	Italy	Spain	Total
1994	227	no data	190	77	494
1996	227	no data	179	113	519

619 - the variation of the total number of sites (from 3,336 to 2,797)

Year	France	Germany	Italy	Spain	Total
1994	383	2,388	418	147	3,336
1996	392	1,828	430	147	2,797

The variations of the number of sites are not easy to compare as Member States had different approaches. For example, the large number of sites in Germany is mainly due to the fact that, under the Seveso I Directive, each installation of an industrial establishment has been counted under Article 1 of the Seveso I Directive, while the other Member States define an establishment composed of different installations as a single site. It is worth noting the potential confusion introduced by this ambiguity. However, in the Seveso I Directive, the term "establishment" was not used but the term "installations" with a list in Annex 1. The term "establishment" was introduced 

only for the first time in Seveso II - i.e. after 1996 - and considerably changed the
scope and number of units considered, as establishments often include more than one
installation. For the future, it should be noted that the Seveso II Directive used the
unequivocal system based on establishments.

634

- the growing number of sites inspected (from 138 in 1994 to 255 in 1996)

636

_	Year	France	Germany	Italy	Spain	Total
-	1994	no data	no data	40	94	138
	1996	no data	no data	179	76	255
637						
638	- the gro	owing number o	f sites that have g	iven informati	on to the public	(from 1,951 in

639 1994 to 2,207 in 1996).

640

Year	France	Germany	Italy	Spain	Total
1994	252	1,464	210	25	1,951
1996	252	1,612	319	24	2,207

641

642 5.2 - National implementation of the EU Seveso II directive

The responses provided by the four Member States to the implementation questionnaire of the EU Seveso II Directive were mostly complete. Overall the EU Seveso II Directive was mostly well implemented by the Member States. From the responses provided by Member States it appears that processes and structures are in place for implementing the Directive and only Italy is considered to have difficulties relating to the implementation of key features of the Directive. After the publication of several interim evaluation reports of the EU Seveso II Directive (Reports C 2010, C 2013 and COM 2017), this section presents a summary of the 5th and last report published for the period 2012 - 2014 (Calero, 2017) and a comparison with previous reporting periods. The importance of the existence of many Seveso establishments in France, Germany, Italy and Spain, as shown in table 4, militates for an indispensable evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the practice of this implementation.

655 Table 4 summarizes for each given Member State the evolution of the number of upper-tier establishment through the reporting period and shows that an overall increase can be observed 656 in the four Member States. Here at this point, it should be well considered that in 2012 the 657 658 Seveso Directive was changed to the Seveso III Directive, with considerable impact on the scope, respectively the number of affected establishments as the list of dangerous substances 659 in Annex I was altered and the CLP-System (Classification, Labelling, Packaging) introduced. 660 In 2014 Germany has the highest number of Seveso establishments with 1,141 upper-tier 661 establishments. It is followed by France with 639 and Italy 567. 662

663 *Table 4 – Evolution of the number of upper-tier Seveso establishments (2005 – 2014).* 

664 The summary of the practical implementation is now verbatim recapitulated for each Member665 State (Calero, 2017):

666 France

667 "The French response indicates that the provisions of the EU Seveso II Directive are mostly 668 fully implemented, with some issues identified with key aspects of the Directive in particular 669 the lack of external emergency plans for 75 establishments, the lack of testing of external 670 emergency plans for 45 establishments and the lack of annual inspection in 28 upper tier 671 establishments.

In France, there were a total of 1,178 establishments subject to the provisions of the EU 672 Seveso II Directive in 2014, of which 639 (54% of the total) were upper-tier establishments. 673 France reports that almost all upper-tier establishments apart from 23 had an external 674 emergency plan. For these, the competent authorities decided that an external emergency 675 plan was not needed in accordance with Article 11.6 of the EU Seveso II Directive. For an 676 additional 75 establishments, no plan had been drawn up by the end of the reporting period, 677 however the response indicated that the plans were either being produced or pending upon 678 the submission of further information in order to determine the required protective measures. 679 As such, it appears that this aspect of the EU Seveso II Directive will be soon in compliance. 680 681 At the end of the reporting period, 45 upper tier establishments' external emergency plans 682 had not been tested which does not appear to comply with the requirements of the EU Seveso *II Directive.* 683

Inspections were carried out at least once during the reporting period for 100% of upper-tier sites and 98% of lower-tier sites. Annual inspections were held in 611 establishments, representing 96% of total upper tier establishments. The fact that 4% of upper tier establishments were not inspected annually is highlighted as an aspect of the implementation of the Directive that may warrant further investigations".

689

690 Germany

691

<sup>692</sup> "The German response indicates that the provisions of the EU Seveso II Directive are almost <sup>693</sup> fully implemented. The main gap observed relates to the large number of upper-tier <sup>694</sup> establishments that were not inspected annually, with some not inspected at all during the <sup>695</sup> reporting period. Note that Germany uses a systematic appraisal of major accident hazards to <sup>696</sup> plan inspections. As such annual inspections are not required so this does not constitute a 697 compliance issue but rather a potential issue that might need further checks. In addition, for
698 83 upper-tier establishments external emergency plans had not been produced at the end of
699 the reporting period.

In Germany, there were a total of 3,264 establishments subject to the provisions of the EU 700 Seveso II Directive in 2014, of which 1,141 (34% of the total) were upper-tier establishments. 701 Germany reported that all upper-tier establishments apart from 165 had an external 702 703 emergency plan. For 82 upper-tier establishments the German authorities decided that an external emergency plan was not needed based on strict criteria including quantities, 704 properties and state of the hazardous substances and location of the establishment. For an 705 706 additional 83 upper-tier establishments external emergency plans had not been produced at 707 the end of the reporting period. The main reasons for plans not being produced include cases where establishments recently changed or were recently classified as upper-tier and where 708 709 the draw up of the plans or the safety report required recently are still in progress. Furthermore, Germany added that it is possible to partially impose upper-tier requirements 710 on establishments which would, according to the Directive, only have to be classified as 711 lower-tier. Such establishments have been listed as upper tier but would not be required to 712 713 meet all the requirements of an upper-tier establishment. For example, it may not be required 714 to produce an external emergency plan. At the end of the reporting period, 16% of upper tier establishments' external emergency plans had not been tested. Germany explained that for 715 most of these establishments the 3-year deadline had not expired yet, because the 716 717 establishments became newly classified as upper-tier during the reporting period. For others, the testing was being delayed due to changes to the establishments. As such this does not 718 appear to constitute a lack of compliance with the requirements of the EU Seveso II Directive. 719 Inspections are planned based on a systematic appraisal of major-accident hazards; as such 720 there is no obligation to inspect upper-tier establishments annually. Inspections were carried 721

out at least once during the reporting period for 86% of upper-tier sites and 68% of lowertier sites. Annual inspections were held in 422 establishments, representing 37% of total upper tier establishments. While not a compliance issue, the fact that 14% of upper tier establishments were not inspected over the reporting period is highlighted as an aspect of the implementation of the Directive that may warrant further investigations and the German competent authorities confirmed that this point would be investigated further".

728

729 Italy

"The Italian response indicates that most of the provisions of the Seveso II Directive are
implemented. However, there were issues identified with some of the key provisions of the
Directive, related in particular to the large number of upper-tier establishments that were not
inspected annually and the number of external emergency plans not adopted or tested.

In Italy, there were a total of 1,112 establishments subject to the provisions of the Seveso II 734 Directive in 2014, of which 567 (50% of the total) were upper-tier establishments. Italy 735 reported that all upper-tier establishments apart from 4 were required to have external 736 emergency plans. Italy provided additional information to explain that these external 737 emergency plans were not drafted because the competent authorities assessed that major 738 739 accidents could not be reasonably foreseen (in accordance with Article 11.6 of the Directive). For 66 establishments, the external emergency plans, while required, were not drafted which 740 does not comply with the requirements of Article 11.1. At the end of the reporting period, 302 741 upper tier establishments' external emergency plans had not been tested. This represents 742 more than half of the total number of upper-tier establishments in Italy (53%). It is unclear 743 why this requirement of the EU Seveso II Directive has not been implemented. 744

745 Inspections were carried out at least once during the reporting period for 20% of upper-tier
746 sites and 49% of lower-tier sites. Annual inspections were held in none of the upper-tier

restablishments. The data reported on inspections are particularly low, especially considering that Italy is the Member State with the third highest number of Seveso establishments in Europa. It reflects difficulties encountered in applying the requirements of the Directive at national level and it may be necessary to investigate the need for additional support to Italy with these aspects. These difficulties were confirmed by the Italian Member State competent authorities that indicated that steps were taken to address them".

753

754 Spain

"In Spain, there were in 2014 a total of 832 establishments of which 377 (45% of the total)
were upper-tier establishments. Spain reported that all upper-tier establishments apart from 4
were required to have an external emergency plan. Plans had not been drafted for 32
establishments. There was no information provided to understand why this is the case.

At the end of the reporting period, 210 upper tier establishments' external emergency plans 759 had not been tested. This does not appear to comply with the requirements of the EU Seveso II 760 Directive. It is unclear whether inspections are planned based on a systematic appraisal of 761 major-accident hazards or not. Authorities carried out, on average, inspections at least once 762 during the reporting period in 78% of upper-tier sites and in 56% of lower-tier sites during 763 764 the reporting period. Annual inspections were held in 192 upper tier establishments, 765 representing 51% of total upper tier establishments. This relatively low number of upper-tier establishments inspected annually may not be an issue (depending on how inspections are 766 767 planned); however, it might be useful to verify this is the case. However, the fact that 22% of upper tier establishments were not inspected at all during the reporting period might indicate 768 difficulties encountered in applying the requirements of the Directive at national or regional 769 level". 770

771

In summary, France, Germany and Italy provided a complete answer, while Spain answered the majority of the questions, but did not give an answer to the question concerning the inspection program based upon a systematic appraisal. The French response indicates that the provisions of the Seveso II Directive are almost fully implemented. The main problems identified show that external emergency plans for 45 upper threshold establishments were not tested during the reporting period and that for 75 establishments, no plan had been established by the end of the reporting period.

779 The German response indicates that the provisions of the Seveso II Directive are almost fully implemented with only minor aspects outstanding. The main issues identified point out that 780 781 no compliance issue has been identified, rather it was unclear why a share of upper tier establishments (14%) were not inspected during the reporting period. Note that Germany uses 782 a systematic appraisal of major accident hazards to plan inspections, as such annual 783 784 inspections are not required so this does not constitute a compliance issue but rather a potential issue that might need further checks. In the same way an additional 83 upper-tier 785 786 establishments external emergency plans had not been produced at the end of the reporting period. 787

Even though Italy's response indicates that most of the provisions of Seveso II Directive have 788 been implemented and that the overall Italian framework was consistent with the Directive, 789 790 some critical issues regarding the possibility of systematic evaluation by the Authorities of all 791 the management and technical aspects in the safety reports before formal authorization (connected to the institution of sworn safety report by a technical expert) were raised by EC 792 that referred Italy by the Court of Justice. Additionally, some key aspects of the Directive 793 implementations were verified, such as low levels of testing of external emergency plans and 794 795 inspections, with only 20% of higher-tier establishments being inspected throughout the period and none being inspected once a year. On the other side, while Seveso II does not 796

concern "the transport of dangerous substances and directly related intermediate temporary
storage by road, rail, internal waterways, sea or air, outside the establishments covered by
this Directive, including loading and unloading and transport to and from another means of
transport at docks, wharves, or marshalling yards", the Italian transposition by D.M.
293/2001 was more conservative, as it explicitly foresaw a safety report known as RISP (Port
Safety Integrated Report) also for industrial harbour areas.

Spain response indicates that the majority of the provisions of the Seveso II Directive are implemented. Nevertheless, the level of external emergency plans testing is low, with more than half of the plans have not been tested during the reporting period and a large number of upper-tier establishments were not inspected annually or during the reporting period.

In this latest evaluation of the implementation of EU Seveso II Directive, the EU Council classified the overall status of implementation on three levels: fully implemented, almost full implementation and implementation gaps (Calero, 2017). France, Germany and Spain are in the almost full implementation category. It is important to highlight that this middle category is a range with minor implementation issues identified (e.g. only a few external emergencies plans not tested) and some with potentially more serious issues. In the quoted study, only Italy is considered to have more substantial implementation gaps.

Despite this overall acceptable implementation, the real impact of the correct application of 814 the EU Seveso Directives remains problematic, mainly due to the limitations of the current 815 monitoring system. Aware of this observation, the European Council has tried to develop 816 indicators and metrics to try to improve the evaluation of the EU Seveso III Directive 817 818 (Cherrier, 2019). The need was to identify the limitations of the actual used monitoring system on the risk levels. The final objective was to propose a new reporting template for the 819 Member States including safety indicators. A review of the detailed metrics was reported. The 820 simplest example of the implementation questionnaire is the examination of the evolution of 821

the total number of Seveso establishments. Table 5 summarises four proposed indicators,three of which are normalised for the four Member States concerned (Calero, 2017).

#### 824 *Table 5 – Some potential values of the total number of Seveso establishments (year 2004).*

825 A high value in the number of Seveso establishments, as in Germany for example, might reflect growth in terms of increased industrial activities or an expanding economy. But it can 826 also be due to better compliance of the Directive among establishments or even related to 827 828 changes in classification system for Seveso establishments (i.e. through the link to the Global Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of chemical substances). The normalised 829 metrics, such as the total number of Seveso establishments per million inhabitants or 1,000 830 km2 or unit GDP, can be useful in drawing comparison between the countries, but care must 831 be taken while interpreting the results. For example, the total number of Seveso 832 833 establishments per million inhabitants indicate globally where people are most exposed to risk, but this indicator does not distinguish areas at risk to the population. In the same way, a 834 835 Member State with a low GDP, as for example Spain, can be ranked higher in terms of 836 establishments per GDP when compared to a country with a higher GDP as France, even if the latter country has significantly higher numbers of establishments compared to the former. 837 Finally, it would appear that there is a consensus to retain the indicator of the total number of 838 839 Seveso establishments per million inhabitants.

840

841 5.3 - National implementation of the EU Seveso III directive

For the EU Directive Seveso III, the first reporting period should cover the period between 1 June 2015, date at which the Directive becomes fully applicable in the Member States, and 31 December 2018, to allow Member States the time necessary to assess the information collected and submit it to the Commission by 30 September 2019. The subsequent four-yearly reporting periods will cover the periods between 1 January of the first year of the reporting period and 31 December of the fourth year of the reporting period. As a result, it is too early
at the moment to have comparative data for the implementation of the all the articles present
in the EU Seveso III Directive.

It is worth highlighting that in Italy Seveso III Directive 2012/18/EU was fully implemented 850 by the Legislative Decree 105/2015, specifying the template for a list of safety deliverables 851 and representing a well thought out and documented framework. In fact, the Decree is 852 completely structured along with all technical requirements, guidelines and rules for the 853 854 actual implementations of the Directive provisions, as specified into 17 annexes (labelled 1 to 6 foreseen by the Directive and A to M specifically envisaged by the Italian implementation). 855 These last ones allow obtaining a consolidated single text, without the need of waiting 856 subsequent enforcement and implementing Decrees, such as those foreseen in D. Legs. n. 857 334/1999 that in several cases were not drawn up. Notably, the enforcement of the new 858 859 Directive amended from the field of application the previously mentioned Port Safety Integrated Report, a simplified port safety analysis only envisaged by the Italian legislation. 860

861

862 5.4 – Examples of some variations in implementation

The previous sections showed that the practice of implementing the Seveso Directives was most often the result of a dichotomous assessment between compliant and non-compliant, as Bondarouk and Mastenbroek (2018) pointed out. This is why this section describes some selected examples showing the significant variability in the application of the implementation of the obligations of the Directives in the respective areas of LUP approaches and criteria, LUP case studies and domino effects.

869 5.4.1 – LUP approaches and criteria

Articles 12 and 13 of the EU Seveso II and III Directives respectively define the obligations of the Member States concerning Land Use Planning requirements. The management of the distances or zones of effect in the LUPs between a Seveso industrial establishment and territorial establishments, such as individual houses, collective buildings, public buildings (hospital schools), offices block... presents an important societal and environmental requirement.

Feedback from the analysis of the scientific literature shows the diversity of approaches,
procedures and criteria applied in the European Union, despite the publication of official
guides and tools to assist in the effective implementation of the LUP (Basta et al., 2008 Christou and Porter, 1999 – Christou et al., 2006 – UNECE, 2017 – Rasmussen et al., 1999).

In fact, the current European situations regarding LUP is quite jeopardized as shown in Fig. 1 where methodologies are divided into the following categories: deterministic approaches with implicit judgment of risk; consequence-based approaches; risk-based or "probabilistic" approaches; semi-quantitative approaches.

884 *Fig. 1 - Overview of different approaches to LUP in the different European Countries.* 

885

Salvi and Gaston (2002), Cahen (2006), Merad et al. (2008), Merad and Dechy (2010), 886 Taveau (2010) and Nicolas (2019) reported on the synthesis of the LUP approach applied in 887 France. Walker (1991), Walker (1995) and Hauptmanns (2005) discussed Land Use Planning 888 889 for process plants, while KAS 18 (2010), the short English version KAS 18F (2010) and KAS 32 (2015) detail the recommendations for the separation distances of various scenarios for 890 LUP implementation in Germany. Carpignano et al (2001), Cozzani et al (2006), Manca and 891 Caragliano (2007), Demichela et al (2014) and Pilone et al (2018) described, among other 892 things, the mandatory use of the technical document "Rischio di Incidente Relevante" (RIR) 893 for the Italian LUP procedures. Riera et al (1991), Casal and Vilchez (2010), Ponce (2013) 894

and Suffo et al (2015) published contributions concerning the LUP application in Spain. More
general papers for local planning regulations contain also a review of the LUP criteria
(Christou et al. 1999, Christou and Porter, 1999, Christou and Matarelli, 2000, Christou et al,
2011, Gyenes et al. 2017).

Table 6, modified from the general table published by Christou et al (1999), presents the LUP practices for the four Member States concerned. It is possible distinguishing four methodological approaches:

- 902 establishing generic distances, mainly based on experience and the environmental
  903 impact of industrial activities,
- 904 the based consequence approach,
- 905 the based risk approach,
- 906 arrangements still in the development phase.

907 Table 6 – Brief overview of the LUP practices in 1999 (adapted from Christou et al., 1999).

Germany used mainly the approach of generic separation derived from expert judgements.
The consequence-based approach focuses on the assessment of the consequences of a number
of reference scenarios. This method has generally been used in France, Germany and Spain.
In the year 1999 Italy and Spain were still in progress to prepare arrangements.
However, the evolution of the implementation of approaches over time must be highlighted.

- Table 7 updates the situation for the year 2004 (Basta and Struckl, 2004)
- 914

915 Table 7 – Hazard/risk assessment methods used in LUP (reference year 2004) (adapted from
916 Basta and Struckl, 2004).

917 The risk-based approach (or probabilistic approach) is based on the assessment of both the918 consequences and probabilities of all scenarios (full) or pre-selected scenarios, as is the case

919 for Galicia (full) and Catalonia (probabilistic plus a safety strip defined by preselected
920 scenarios) and Germany (preselected) respectively. France has further evolved with the new
921 LUP law (2003) following the Toulouse major accident by introducing sequential classes of
922 probabilistic assessment.

Wirchsteiger (1999) has discussed the respective strengths and weaknesses of the two main deterministic and probabilistic approaches of risk analysis in the chemical process industries. At this stage, considering the two approaches applied by the four Member States concerned, it is possible to conclude that, for a given establishment or installation, the based consequence approach evaluates the distances or consequence areas of lethal effects and severe injuries for the scenarios considered. On the other hand, the risk-based approach defines areas identified by probabilities of different severity levels for the scenarios selected.

As already remarked, the transposition of Seveso II European Directive into the Italian legislation was attained by means of the 334/1999 Legislative Decree set into force on October 1999, where the 14<sup>th</sup> article foresaw the adoption of minimum safety requirements for land use planning around major risk establishments. Quantitative LUP criteria were subsequently envisaged by the Ministerial Decree 9 May 2001. (Ministerial Decree 09/05/2001 on the minimum requirements for land- planning and urban-planning in areas in the vicinity of major risks installations), as summarized in Table 8.

937 Table 8 - Territorial categories and Italian urban planning.

938 The schematic flow sheet shown in Fig. 2 evidences the logic steps for the semi-quantitative939 criterion.

940 *Fig. 2 - Schematic flow sheet for the semi quantitative approach to land use compatibility.*941

942 In this regard, it should be noted that a number of critical issues regarding Italian LUP are943 still unresolved, e.g.:

944 - the majority of Municipalities has not yet adapted urban planning tools in terms of
945 RIR (major accident risk);

the actual definitions of "Existing building index" (ex-Environment Ministry Decrees
DMA 15/5/1996 and 20/10/1998) and "Building land index" (ex D.M. LL.PP.
09/05/2001);

harmonization of the methodologies for the evaluation of land use compatibility DMA
15/5/1996 and 20/10/1998 (storage class vs. effect categories) and D.M. LL.PP.
09/05/2001 (frequency vs. effect categories);

952 - the need of coordination with the Environment Reference Text EIA/SEA (Directive
953 18/2012 art. 13, c. 4).

An important additional difference contributes to the variation in the implementation of the LUP between Member States according to the levels qualifying the human health damage generated by the danger phenomena encountered. Table 9 compares the levels of human health damage in the four Member States. The first line of the table defined a 6-level generic ranking associated with the effects on human targets. Despite the uncertainties, the rest of the table shows the indicative danger zones adopted by each country.

960 Table 9 – Correspondence between generic level of human health damage and level of harm
961 selected by the four Member States (adapted from Cherrier, 2014).

In practice, the distances delimiting hazard zones are based on threshold values (or endpoints) depending on the intensity of the hazardous phenomena. Tables 10 and 11 present the numerical limit values characterizing the effects of pressure wave overpressure and thermal radiation. The values adopted by France and Italy for overpressure appear to be the most restrictive of those reported in the table 10 for levels 3 and 4. On the other hand, for thermal radiation, the threshold values are quite similar in the table 11

- 968 Table 10 Overview of thresholds for overpressure (mbar) (adapted from Cherrier, 2014 and
  969 KAS 18, 2010).
- 970 Table 11 Overview of thresholds for thermal radiation  $(Kw/m^2)$  (adapted from Cherrier,

971 *2014 and KAS 18, 2010*).

The situation is even more complex when trying to select toxicity thresholds for assessing the consequences of the dispersion of a toxic cloud. For example, Cherrier (2014) compiled the different toxicological criteria used during an accidental event. Table 12 lists these values for the four countries concerned.

976 *Table 12 – Overview of toxic criteria (adapted from Cherrier, 2014).* 

<sup>1</sup>In Spain, even if the references names have been always kept in the same way, the criteria behind changed between the first
(1991) and the second (2003) Basic Directives. For instance, in terms of assessment of toxic effects, the first Basic Directive
considered the IDLH as reference to define the Intervention Zone and there was no specific criteria defined for the alert zone,
even if considered. Whereas in the second Basic Directive, the Alert Zone was defined, in order of priority, as the AEGL-1,
ERPG-1 and/or TEEL-1 and the Intervention Zone as the AEGL-2, ERPG-2 and/or TEEL-2, as well in this order of priority.

- 982 5.4.2 Examples of LUP case studies
- As examples, the potential impact of the diversity of these risk assessment approaches andselected threshold values can be illustrated by three LUP case-studies.
- 985 Example 1 The LPG depot case study

The first one refers to loading and unloading from an LPG depot. The bench marking exercise was implemented by 8 participants from 8 different EU member states, including France, Italy and Spain. Details of the conditions examined are given in the reference (Gyenes et al, 2017). The objective was to illustrate the nature of the results obtained, on the basis of identical preselected scenarios, according to the procedures for assessing potential damage and the subsequent decisions authorizing or not urban development around LPG's industrial site. Fig. 3 shows a simplified view of the position of the hazard source and potential targets for urbanlocation.

994 *Fig. 3 – Schematic map of LUP development around the LPG establishment.* 

995

996 Table 13 summarizes the decisions of participants P1 to P8 resulting from the damage 997 assessment on targets in future development projects. Obtained results varied only slight in 998 regard to LPG facility. All but 2 countries prohibited development within 200 m of the plant. 999 Conversely 7 out the 8 partners permitted development at 300 m and beyond. At 600 m every 1000 country allowed development.

1001 Table 13 – LUP decisions based on the LPG facility analyses (adapted from Gyenes et al.
1002 2017).

1003 This simple example should not obscure the fact that there may still be, even in the case of an 1004 identical scenario, conditions of variability that may lead to different consequences depending 1005 on the distances to the source of danger.

1006 Example 2 – Chlorine and anhydrous ammonia leaks on an storage tank

This example provides the consequences of different LOC (Loss of Containment) accident 1007 scenarios with two reference selected substances, chlorine and ammonia, commonly used in 1008 industrial processes. The representative numerical threshold values for toxicity criteria 1009 1010 adopted by each country for ammonia and chlorine are extracted from the toxicological data tables (Withers and Less, 1985-Protectione Civile, 1994-DGPC, 2003-Tissot et al., 2003-VDI, 1011 2006-NIOSH, 2007-EPA, 2019 and INERIS, 2019). They differ significantly and are often 1012 1013 difficult to compare. As the probabilistic quantitative approach is more and more favoured, it 1014 is recommended to use threshold values associated with their corresponding functions of Probit (RIVM, 2017 and RIVM, 2018). 1015

Fig. 4 therefore illustrates, in the case of a guillotine breakage of a valve located at the bottom
of a spherical liquid chlorine storage tank, the influence of the choice of thresholds on the
plume effect distances.

1019 Fig. 4 - Concentration of chlorine versus distance from a scenario considering the guillotine
1020 breakage of a valve at the bottom of a spherical liquified chlorine storage tank.

1021 Pey et al. (2009) reported similar results in the case of an ammonia leak.

Fig. 5 shows the consequences in terms of distance planning the results that would be obtained in the scenario of leakage in 1 minute of the whole inventory of a tank containing circa  $3 \text{ m}^3$  of liquefied ammonia.

Fig. 5 - Distances of concern for ammonia in case of a scenario defined in a vessel of 3 m<sup>3</sup>
releasing its inventory in 1 minute (Pey et al., 2009).

Distances, together in case of both chlorine and ammonia, show how it is possible that
planning distances for external emergency response lead to a situation where, for the same
scenario, the longest distances in some countries are shorter than the shortest distances in
another country.

1031 Amendola et al. (1992), Christou et al. (1999) and Gyenes et al. (2017) showed in benchmarking exercises the uncertainties generated by the choice of threshold values during 1032 1033 the same scenario studied simultaneously by several teams of stakeholders. Well aware of 1034 these difficulties, the European Council initiated and supported the Acutex project within the framework of the EU Seveso II Directive. The project aims at the development of a European 1035 1036 methodology for producing Acute Exposure Threshold levels (AETLs) for the toxic 1037 substances to be applied in major hazard control and in particular emergency response and Land Use Planning. The report was published in 2006 in the form of a Technical Guidance 1038 Technique accompanied by software, application and validation exercises (Acutex, 2006). 1039

However, these results were not followed up because no regulatory values were proposed atthe European level.

1042 Example 3 - Gas treatment and compression systems for naturel gas

1043 At last, in the following we provide an original worked example concerning a natural gas compression plant consisting of four lines with centrifugal compressors and gas turbine, 1044 provided with basic control system and with Emergency Shutdown System (ESD) safety 1045 1046 system. Auxiliary sections include H<sub>2</sub>S treatment plant, fuel gas skid, nitrogen generation 1047 package, diesel storage tank and emergency diesel generator package (Contini, 2010). A number of vulnerable targets were identified in the surroundings of the establishment while 1048 1049 the railway runs along the direction NNW at a minimum distance of 780 m. In a south-southwesterly direction the area is totally rural, while the closer residential areas are nearly 300 m 1050 1051 from the plant fence line.

1052 The worst scenarios considered separately for the different plant sections can be summarized 1053 as follows: horizontal and vertical jet fires; vapour cloud explosion; H<sub>2</sub>S dispersion due to 50 1054 mm, 100 mm and full rupture of the pipework. Following weather conditions were considered 1055 with reference to Pasquill stability class: F, wind speed 1.5 m/s; D, wind speed 1.5 m/s; D, 1056 wind speed 5 m/s. Fig. 6 provides the results of the individual risk calculated in the given 1057 area for the accident scenarios identified above.

Fig. 6 - Individual risk map (1/year) considering all accident scenarios in the given area with
vulnerable targets (Contini, 2010).

1060

1061 It stands to reason that accident scenarios not extending beyond the plant limits can be 1062 neglected for LUP purposes (e.g. diesel storage tank and emergency group pipework). 1063 Threshold values were chosen according to the Italian approach as follows: overpressure 140 1064 mbar, stationary heat radiation 7 kW/m<sup>2</sup>, flash-fire envelope concentration LFL/2. Severity ranking for the French LUP approach was evaluated utilizing threshold criteria and number of people potentially exposed, according to the criteria summarized in Tables 10 - 11 - 12 and 14respectively.

1068 Table 14 - Range of number of people exposed to hazard for severity assessment in France.
1069

The damage categories for physical effects –Elevated Lethality, Start of Lethality, Irreversible 1070 Damage and Reversible Damage and occurrence probability levels of probability are 1071 evaluated according to the Italian criteria by the matrix shown in Table 15 and evidencing the 1072 compatibility with the specific territorial categories summarized in the previously mentioned 1073 1074 Table 8. Analogously, the compatibility MMR matrix (Mesures de Maîtrise des Risques, i.e.: "measures of risk control") summarized in Table 16 was utilized for ranking the scenarios that 1075 are subjected to the PPRT (Plans de Prévention des Risques Technologiques), i.e. 1076 1077 Technological Risks Prevention Plans.

1078 Table 15 - Land use compatibility matrix: physical effects vs. probability class for Seveso
1079 establishments in Italy.

1080 Table 16 - Evaluation matrix for Land Use Planning in France.

1081

To the purpose of this paper, results of the worked example are presented in visual form of
immediate readability in Figs. 7 and 8 respectively resulting from the application of the Italian
and French criterion.

1085 *Fig.* 7 – *Land Use Planning in the given area according to the Italian criterion (Contini,*1086 2010).

Fig. 8 - Land Use Planning in the given area according to the French criterion (Contini,
2010).

1089

1090 The LUP measures needed for the areas beyond the plant boundaries and respect zone 1091 depends upon local LUP legislation. As summarized in Table 17, it is noteworthy noting that 1092 the two national LUP criteria allow attaining controversial decisions regarding the territorial 1093 compatibility of existing vulnerable targets.

1094 Table 17 - LUP compatibility of existing, or planned vulnerable targets in the given industrial
1095 area, according to Italian and French criteria (Contini, 2010).

1096

Additionally, French legislation strictly excludes the possibility of new residential buildings at distances lower than 370 m from the establishment fence line while existing buildings at a distance lower than 300 m must be expropriated or ceased. The outcomes of this case study evidences as well some challenges, for example the need of ensuring for LUP purpose also a proper evaluation of environmental effects and consequences of a possible process accidents, currently not explicitly considered in the legislative frameworks.

1103

1104 5.4.3 – Domino effects

Since the EU Seveso I Directive was published in 1982, the European Commission has implicitly recognized the notion of a domino effect. Indeed, the recommendations of Articles 5 and 7 and the Annexes are indicated in order to avoid the risks of aggravation of major accidents in inside and outside installations less than 500 meter apart for certain substances or groups of substances in establishments or groups of establishments.

1110 Since then articles 8 of the EU Seveso II Directive and 9 of the EU Seveso III Directive 1111 explicitly mention the need to take the domino effect into account in the assessment of major 1112 accident risks.

1113 Therefore, the European Commission asks Member States to report on the implementation of1114 the EU Seveso Directives. This report must be drawn up on the basis of a predefined

1115 questionnaire. The questions concerning domino effects are reported in the corresponding 1116 appendices of the Directives. For example, for the part of the report concerning the domino 1117 effect and covering the period of the last three years, the answers to the mandatory and 1118 optional items should be collected in a predefined template (Reniers and Cozzani, 2013).

For the four States examined in this article, here is an extract from the results of the EU
17082/i2 report of 12 May 2017 on the implementation of the domino effect in the Seveso II
Directive (Calero, 2017).

1122 France

The identification of domino effect risks is achieved mainly through inspections, based on the 1123 inspectors' knowledge of the establishments and their environment. Communication between 1124 neighbouring establishments is required by a ministerial decree from 2000, which specifies 1125 1126 that any relevant information on the risks and hazards of major accidents has to be submitted by the operators to the neighbouring establishments and the authorities. This information is 1127 1128 also included in the permits issued by the regional prefectures and in internal emergency 1129 plans. In addition, operators communicate through meetings and correspondence and in the framework of site monitoring committees and permanent secretariats for the prevention of 1130 industrial pollution. Operators can cooperate on alert systems, intervention measures, 1131 1132 informing the public and testing of external and internal emergency plans.

1133

1134 Germany

Groups of establishments posing a risk of domino effects are identified by the relevantauthorities in two steps in Germany:

a) - All upper-tier establishments not further than 500 m away or lower-tier establishments200m away from any installations or activities of another establishment, as well as

establishments where there are any specific indications of a risk of domino effects are takenforward for step b.

b) - On a case-by-case basis, additional information is analyzed such as location and
environment of the establishment, specific risks from activities and installations of the
establishment and the hazardous substances present.

When a risk of domino effects is identified, safety concepts, safety management systems, 1144 safety reports and internal emergency plans are exchanged between the affected 1145 1146 establishments to establish a common risk management approach. Regular safety meetings and joint exercises are held. The exchange of information is coordinated by the major 1147 1148 accidents officers of the establishments, or a common officer is established. Some establishments prepare a common emergency plan or coordinate their plans. Some plans also 1149 include a common alarm center, or in the case of industrial areas with a high density of 1150 establishments working groups on factory manager level. Compliance is checked and 1151 supported by the relevant authorities and reviewed in inspections. 1152

1153

1154 Italy

The Ministry of Environment identifies groups of establishments which are potentially subject 1155 1156 to "domino effects" using the information provided by the Competent Authorities in each region. These Regional Authorities have the opportunity of assessing this in two instances: 1157 evaluation of safety reports (every 5 years), or for assessments related to changes at 1158 1159 establishments that are deemed to increase the level of risk. The Ministry ensures that Regional Competent Authorities have all the necessary information to enforce measures to 1160 1161 prevent domino effects in these establishments, such as facilitating information exchange, drafting contingency plans or conducting integrated safety studies. 1162

1163

1164 Spain

Establishments relevant for consideration of domino effects are identified by the competent authority in each Regional Government, based on information from the establishments' safety reports and on criteria established in the Spanish legislation. They communicate this to the Central Government and establishments in question.

These establishments are required to exchange information on the effects of accidents and information on emergency plans. Also, the Regional Governments have promoted the creation of committees among operators involved in domino effects, in order to encourage information exchange and participation in joint exercises.

1173

It should be noted that the comparison of the implementation of the domino effect in the four 1174 Member States is not easy, as the content of the replies is not very exhaustive. Indeed, the 1175 1176 wording of the items in the question concerning the article on the domino effect of the questionnaire sent to Member States has evolved over time and is too simple or even 1177 1178 simplistic. For example, it is not possible in the analysis of the responses to the Member 1179 States reports to determine the methodology used to identify the targeted establishments or groups of establishments. Similarly, the possibility, or probability or consequences of a major 1180 accident caused by a domino effect are not specified. However, recent significant advances in 1181 scientific and technical knowledges of the domino effect (Reniers and Cozzani, 2013; 1182 1183 Sandoval et al., 2019) could now have improved the content of the questionnaire. The presence of an impact map visualizing domino effects, for example, would be interesting. 1184 1185 Unfortunately, the questionnaire has not been updated on this point for the next evaluation report on the implementation of the EU Seveso III Directive 1186

1187

## 1188 **6 – Control and inspection practices in the States**

The Commission has two tasks concerning the control of implementation of EU Community Law in the Member States. On the one hand, it must verify that EU Community Directives are correctly and integrally implemented in national laws, regulations and administrative provisions. On the other hand, it must control that the appointed provisions are concretely implemented by practice.

1194 Article 18 of the EU Seveso II Directive requires Member States to ensure that their competent authorities organize an inspection system or other control measures appropriate to 1195 the type of establishment concerned, such as upper tier Seveso establishments, for example. 1196 This inspection requirement is confirmed and reinforced in Article 20 of the EU Seveso III 1197 Directive. The potential for practical application of the implementation of the inspection 1198 content of these two directives is the best tool for the EU Council to ensure their effective 1199 overall enforcement. In the absence of a team of European inspectors, each Member State is 1200 1201 itself responsible for organizing good enforcement practices. However, each inspection plan 1202 shall include at least the following elements: a general assessment of the relevant safety 1203 issues, the geographical area covered by the inspection plan, a list of establishments covered by the plan, a list of groups of establishments likely to have domino effects, a list of 1204 establishments where particular external risks or sources of danger could increase the risk or 1205 consequences of a major accident, procedures for regular inspections, including programmes 1206 1207 for such inspections, procedures for non-regular inspections and if applicable the provisions on cooperation between different control authorities. Some different guides are also 1208 specifically proposed to provide the minimum criteria for the inspection required by article 18 1209 1210 (Papadakis and Porter, 1999 - OJEC, 2001). Let us now look at the different ways used by the four Member States concerned. 1211

1212 6.1 - Seveso inspections in France

1213 In France, historically, the services of inspection of classified installations (ICPE), defined by 1214 the imperial decree of 15 October 1870, were governed by the labour inspectorate. In the late 1215 1960s, the inspection of classified installations was entrusted to the mining services, then 1216 transferred in 1971 to the Ministry of the Environment when it was created.

Today within the Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (2019), the General 1217 Directorate for Risk Prevention (DGPR) establishes the regulations, checks their application 1218 and coordinates the local inspection services. Under the authority of the "département" 1219 prefect, the inspectorate's tasks are performed by the DREAL (Regional Directorate for the 1220 Environment, Development and Housing). The inspectors of the DREAL are state certified 1221 1222 agents. Inspectors from DREAL classified installations are mainly recruited through a national competition based on qualifications upon graduation from mining engineering 1223 schools (master level of environment or process safety). Inspectors comply with the 1224 1225 inspection charter for classified facilities by sharing the unifying values of competence, impartiality, fairness and transparency. 1226

It is difficult to estimate the order of magnitude of the ratio "one inspector DREAL / n Seveso establishments". In 2018, the inspection of classified installations had around 1,300 DREAL inspectors to control 25,000 establishments subject to authorization, including 1,312 Seveso establishments (upper and lower tier). According to Marcellis-Warin et al., 2003, about 10-15 % of DREAL inspectors would only deal with Seveso establishments, i.e. about 150 inspectors for 1,312 sites. The order of magnitude of the ratio would therefore be "one inspector for 9 Seveso sites.

1234 The French inspectorate's action is organised around three areas and includes the principle of1235 proportionality to the issues:

Regulation: processing activity authorisation, registration, modification and cessation
 request files, proposing to the prefects the operating requirements for the site and

updating these requirements in accordance with technical developments and 1238 1239 environmental protection requirements;

Inspection of classified facilities: carrying out scheduled and unannounced 1240 1241 inspections, examining studies and assessments, and proposing administrative sanctions to the prefect and criminal prosecutions to the public prosecutor in the event 1242 of violation: 1243

1244 Provision of information to the public and operators.

In all cases, an inspection visit is a visit by two at minimum or more inspectors to the 1245 establishment site to verify compliance with the laws and regulations relating to classified 1246 facilities. The controls can be: 1247

- Announced they are the subject of a prior information letter to the operator at least 1248 1249 48 hours in advance:
- 1250 \_ Unannounced - the inspector arrives at the entrance of the company, without prior notification to the operator. 1251

1252 In order to adapt the inspection to the challenges of the site, the inspection can be classified 1253 according to the purpose of the visit:

- Targeted the purpose of the inspection is to analyse one or more parameters or 1254 \_ workshops of the classified installation; 1255
- 1256 General - the inspection will cover all operating conditions and compliance with \_ 1257 requirements of the prefect.
- In the same way, depending on the level of detail of the control, the inspection may be: 1258
- 1259 in-depth: this is a site control requiring detailed preparation; \_

current - this type of site control does not require heavy preparation but only normal 1260 \_ knowledge of the site by the inspector (installations, administrative context, findings 1261 of previous inspections...);

1262

punctual (also called rapid) - this is a site control that is neither a routine inspection
visit nor an in-depth inspection visit. A spot inspection visit covers only a limited and
targeted number of checks.

1266 Lastly with a classification according to the control nature, the control can be:

planned - they are programmed as part of an annual or multi-year planning process,
based on national priorities and regional issues;

- circumstantial - they were not subject to prior planning as part of the inspection
programme and were initiated by an event that was difficult to predict (complaint,
request of third parties, followed by a formal notice, accident, cessation of activity,
etc.).

1273 Generally, an inspection visit is divided into:

an opening meeting, which allows the inspector to identify the interlocutors present, to
announce or recall the topics planned for the inspection, or even to identify the
documents to be sought during the visit;

on-site, indoor and facility monitoring of operating conditions and regulatory
 compliance, with support from a representative of the operator;

a closing meeting at which the operator may provide additional information and the
inspector shall explain the non-conformities identified and the action he intends to
take.

The length of these different phases is adapted to the size of the company and the challenges. The visit is the subject of a follow-up letter summarizing the inspector's main conclusions. This letter is sent either by the prefecture or by the service responsible for inspection. The visit is also the subject of an inspector's report. This report allows the inspection to keep a record of the operation of the installation; it also allows the inspector to discuss with his superiors and the prefecture any follow-up to be given to the visit. An inspection lasts on average 4 days including preparation, site visit and reporting ( Marcellis-Warin et al., 2003). Establishments do not pay for inspections carried out by DREAL. For inspections of Seveso upper tier establishments, DREAL almost systematically calls on a third part expert, the cost of which is at the operator's expense.

Each year the inspection of classified installations defines a national strategic control programme by themes. The inspection programme provides for minimum inspection frequencies of at least once a year for upper tier establishments and at least once every three years for lower tier establishments.

For example, in 2013, for the Alsace region, with 29 upper tier establishments respectively, 1296 1297 92 inspection visits were carried out and with 16 lower tier establishments 25 inspections were carried out (DREAL, 2013). At the national level, the part inspection of the final report 1298 submitted by France to the EU Council for the 2012-2014 period states that inspections were 1299 1300 carried out at least once for 100% of upper-tier sites and 98% of lower-tier sites. Annual inspections were held in 611 establishments representing 96% of total upper tier 1301 1302 establishments. The fact that 4% of upper tier establishments were not inspected annually is 1303 highlighted as an aspect of the implementation of the Directive that may warrant further investigations (Calero, 2017). 1304

It should be mentioned that an instruction, from the Directorate of Labour Relations (DRT) of the Ministry of Employment and Solidarity of 14 April 2006 on enhanced collaboration between the inspections in charge of the control of establishments classified as "upper tier Seveso", strongly encourages the purpose and modalities of collaboration between labour inspection and inspection of classified installations through reciprocal joint training, incident and accident management, joint site visits and periodic meetings (BO, 2006).

1311

In France, on September 26, 2019, at Lubrizol's ICPE Seveso upper tier facility in Rouen, the 1312 1313 major fire in a flammable product storage facility has rekindled the societal concern of people living near dangerous industrial sites and raised questions about the effectiveness and 1314 1315 transparency of the inspection of Seveso sites. Although France also generally meets the periodicity of inspections (one on-site inspection per year for upper tier and one on-site every 1316 1317 three years for lower tier) required by the EU Seveso Directives, there has nevertheless been a significant decline in the protection of the environment and populations. For example, in 1318 2009, French legislation created the registration regime located between authorisation (Seveso 1319 sites) and declaration (less dangerous sites). An establishment under the registration regime is 1320 1321 no longer systematically subject to an environmental impact assessment. Since Order 2017-80 of 26 January 2017, then Decree 2018- 435 of 04 June 2018, Seveso establishments subject to 1322 authorisation are no longer required to carry out an impact study either, except on a case-by-1323 1324 case basis. These examples of simplification are intended, according to the supervisory authority, to reduce certain procedural measures, which mobilized the inspection of ICPE at 1325 1326 the expense of inspection controls. However, between 2016 and 2018 the number of DREAL 1327 inspectors decreased slightly from 1627 to 1607. However, it is difficult to assess the impact of this decrease on the Seveso sites concerned, as the overall number of inspections has also 1328 1329 decreased.

1330 6.2 - Seveso inspections in Germany

The Federal Republic of Germany is based on the federative principle and so the competences and responsibilities for legislation as well as the administrative and control activities are divided between the federal state and the countries (16 countries as members of the federation). The competences and responsibilities are well defined. Federation and Countries work together. All countries are independent (independent from the other countries and independent from the federal state) in realizing their allocated responsibilities. However, to ensure reconciled and concerted administration activities over the countries (Länder) they
established federal coordination committees. For questions of immission control and process
and occupational safety these committees are:

1340 - The LAI (Länderausschuss für Immissionsschutz) – Federal Committee for Immission

1341Control) and

1342 - The LASI (Länderausschuss für Arbeitsschutz und Sicherheitstechnik) – Federal Committee
1343 for occupational and technical safety.

Regarding the implementation of the Seveso directive, the federal state is responsible for establishing respectively updating the necessary legal framework, maintaining databases for Seveso establishments and reported major accidents and giving reports to the European Commission.

The authorities for the administrative and practical execution of the statutory provisions of the directive (respectively the German Major Accident Ordinance) and the approval procedure for Installations subject to approval are established in the countries. Here usually upper and lower countries' authorities are assigned with the duties of the competent authorities compliant with the Seveso directive (respectively the Major Accident Ordinance).

Responsible and authorized for administrative measures and practically conducting the inspections of Seveso establishments are usually the trade supervisory authorities (with specific sections for occupational safety and immission control) or state departments for environment or environmental protection and occupational safety. As specialist authorities they also play an important role in the approval procedures for installations.

1358 Concerning this matter and for easing and harmonization of the administrative actions the1359 immission control and occupational safety authorities have issued a collective guide for the

supervision system according to § 16 Major Accident Ordinance (corresponding with Art. 18
Seveso directive) via their cross-border established federal coordination committees LAI
(Länderausschuss für Immissionsschutz – Federal Committee for Immission Control) and
LASI (Länderausschuss für Arbeitsschutz und Sicherheitstechnik – Federal Committee for
occupational and technical safety). This guide serves as an orientating frame for conducting
the inspections.

1366 The inspection-related activities are divided in three steps:

1367 a) Determination of the inspection intervals – setting of priorities

1368 b) Preparation and execution of the inspections

1369 c) Post-processing

In several cases the single responsible authorities have described and published their approach and applied procedures for inspections. Some responsible authorities have made their arrangements on Seveso inspections via agreements on objectives. For conducting the inspections comprehensive questionnaires (inspection handbooks) were developed and are in continual completion. Frequently for the systematic examination of the technical, organizational and management-related Systems in the companies with Seveso establishments specifically by the competent authorities developed data processing software is used.

The realization of provisions, as laid down by law, are examined during on-site inspections.
Thereby noticed deficiencies are specified in the inspection report. For the correction of
deficiencies deadlines are set and after remedy reports the follow-up checks are conducted.
For the on-site inspections the results and knowledge from previous inspections naturally are
regarded.

Seveso establishments which, according to their magnitude, can't be inspected in one inspection event, are examined successively via concerted priority inspections. So normally after several inspection events the complete Seveso establishment has been inspected.

As a rule, the responsible authorities for environmental protection and occupational safety have established a coordinated systematic assessment of major accident hazards for the establishments inside their area of responsibility. On this basis the inspection intervals and priorities are scheduled. Regarding process safety particularly the following main criteria are considered in this systematic assessment:

1390 - site resp. production plant related criteria

1391 (Inventory of hazardous substances, Seveso Classification, mode of operation, complexity

and parameters of the process, handling of dangerous substances, standard of process safety

in the establishment, means for the detection of substance releases, object security,

1394 recognitions from known disorders, accidents or major accidents)

1395 - Sensitivity of the local surrounding

1396 (distance to sensitive objects, distance to risk-entailing activities)

1397 - Operator related criteria

1398 (Quality and organization of its own supervision and monitoring system, frequency of

1399 neighboring complaints, previous compliance with permission conditions, result and

1400 valuation of previous inspections, certification per Eco-Management EMAS).

In many cases the on-site inspections occur annually. In one country the upper-tier establishments are inspected annually and lower-tier establishments are classified, using the above-mentioned criteria and inspected every 1 to 5 years. As an example, Table 18 shows the number of annually inspected upper-tier establishments in the single countries (Bundesland) in Germany during the last reported period of 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2012 until 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. 2014. 1406 *Table 18 – Number of annually inspected upper-tier Seveso establishments in Germany.* 

Source: Bericht der Bundesrepublik Deutschland gemäß Artikel 19 Absätze 1a und 4 der
Richtlinie 96/82/EG des Rates zur Beherrschung der Gefahren bei schweren Unfällen mit
gefährlichen Stoffen – Berichtszeitraum: 1.1.2012 bis 31.12.2014

In another country it was reported, that the inspection system comprises a cycle of maximum
five years, where every Seveso establishment at least once concerning all relevant inspection
issues has to be inspected. This normally comprises multiple on-site inspecting activities.

Usually, the visitation on site and the associated discussions and inquiries utilize <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> to 1 workday. The inspections are conducted subject-matter related and frequently checklists are applied. According to before defined focal points the operator of the establishment has to prepare all necessary documents at the time of inspection visits. The inspections are usually executed by not less than two inspectors. If required by the range of inspected topics additional specialists of other authorities (e. g. Fire Inspectorate, regional Water authority) are called in.

The personnel expenditure for inspections – including preparation and prearrangement work as well as post-processing activities and the related documentation and correspondence – vary heavily depending on the size and complexity of the inspected establishment. Per inspection of one single Seveso establishment from the different Authorities time investments between 1 and 12 person-workdays are reported. One country reported for the period of 2009 – 2011 a total expenditure for all Seveso inspections of 2275 person-workdays.

1426 6.3 - Seveso inspections in Italy

The basic legislative reference for Seveso Inspections is the Environment Ministry Decree
05/11/1997 and art. 25 of Legislative Decree 334/2009. Periodical inspections on the

establishments subjected to the 96/82/CE Directive are performed by an Inspection
Commission composed by three members commonly from Institute for Accident Prevention
and Safety at Work, Italian Ministry of Environment and Protection of Territory or Italian
Ministry of Interior – National Fire Brigade. The results of the first inspections performed
over the time span 1997-2000, even if not satisfying the yearly frequency for upper tier
establishments envisaged by Seveso II Directive, highlighted following challenges:

1435 - the increase sensitivity of the Seveso firms towards process safety;

1436 - the need of a standardized check-list approach in producing a more consistent
1437 evaluation by the different teams;

1438 - the need of developing simplified check-lists for standard activities.

Since the establishments can be at different levels in regard to Seveso requirements and in 1439 regard to overall safety culture development, the first guidelines on Seveso establishment 1440 1441 inspections were released by the Italian competent Authority just one year after the transposition of Seveso II European Directive. The two-step procedure is based on a 1442 1443 preliminary review pertaining firm's operating experience including near-miss and accident 1444 reporting systems and addressing the subsequent applicative phase of the check-list. The second step relies on a thoroughly developed and hierarchical framework featuring one 1445 hundred items regarding the Safety Management System and covering eight main topics, 1446 namely Policy, Organization & Personnel, Risk Assessment, Operating Control, Management 1447 1448 of Changes, Emergency Planning, Performances Monitoring & Accident analysis, Control & Revision. European Commission raised a formal remark as the check list did not include 1449 1450 technical systems assumed to be covered by the standard control programs for pressure equipment, electrical devices and firefighting systems. As a result, in 2008 a new audit 1451 1452 procedure for Seveso inspections was implemented and subsequently amended in 2009 by the guidelines provided by the Ministry of Environment and Territory and Sea Protection 1453

(MATTM), with the decree DSA-DEC-0000232 of 25/3/2009. The operator shall provide 1454 inspectors with a written document derived from the Safety report, which allows planning the 1455 objectives and focus of the inspection visit. Considering all scenarios (also very low 1456 1457 probability ones) and identified top-events, it is required to obtain an effective system overview of the organizational and technical systems for preventing accidents and for 1458 mitigating consequences, or in other words where are present barriers in cause consequence 1459 1460 chains. The preparatory document is intended to allow the inspection team designing control scheduling and relevant priorities and carrying out the review "planned and systematic", as 1461 required by the European Directive. On this basis, it is possible outlining a systematic and 1462 1463 structure inspection program per establishment, that provides an overview of all the critical items to be thoroughly controlled. The control includes effective sample testing of the 1464 "critical components" for prevention/mitigation of accidents, e.g.: 1465

- visual inspections of all mechanical components affected by the top events,

sample testing of alarm systems, when you can provoke intervention by varying
the set-point conditions,

proof of intervention on a sample of smoke or gas, simulating actual operating
conditions.

1471 Similarly, the SMS section including procedures, organization, prevention policy etc. is 1472 analysed by the application of the check list approach, posing more emphasis on all 1473 preliminary identified critical topics. It is noteworthy noting that the SMS checklist allows 1474 highlighting safety management critical factors within the context of industrial parks, e.g. 1475 common services and utilities, combined emergency planning and periodical simulations, 1476 mutual connections and common maintenance, domino effects. Different types of documents result from inspections and the potential wider applicability of
these documentations in the Italian safety domain is currently under investigation (Ansaldi et
al., 2018).

As noted in Fig. 9, the actual number of yearly inspections performed on upper tier establishments (Ricchiuti, 2014), coordinated by the MATTM, before the implementation of Seveso III Directive in Italy is quite inconstant and lower than the target envisaged by the directive, probably due to the need for more resources, knowledge and expertise at the local level.

1485 Fig. 9 - Trend of Seveso upper tier inspections in Italy before the implementation of Seveso III
1486 Directive (Ricchiuti, 2014).

Seveso III implies new stipulations regarding the inspection of Seveso establishments, which are specifically enforced in Italy by art. 27 of D. Lgs 26 June 2015, n° 105 and published on 1489 14 July 2015. The new implementations in strict adherence to the European Directive expand and supplement the inspection domain borrowing some definitions from the Directive 2010/75/CE "IED". In particular, Authorities are requested to develop in a systematic and plan-wise way:

- a national inspection plan for upper tier establishments coordinated by ISPRA and the
  Ministry of Environment and Territory and Sea Protection (MATTM);
- a regional inspection plan for lower tier establishments, properly coordinated,
- 1496 organized and planned on a yearly basis;
- 1497 procedures for routine inspections (planned) and non-routine inspections (non-
- 1498 planned, but as a result of complaints, incidents, near miss, or failure to comply with
- 1499 Decree established obligations for instance).

Furthermore, the yearly national inspection plan for Seveso establishments (routine inspections), to be developed by MATTM should take into proper consideration the following criteria:

- 1503 substance and process hazards;
- 1504 follow-up of previous inspections in the establishment;
- 1505 possibility of domino effects between different establishments;

1506 - clusters of Seveso establishments in industrial parks;

- 1507 vulnerability of the surrounding territory or presence of vulnerable targets in the area
- 1508 in relation with the hazardous material transmission mean;
- need of attaining the frequency for lower tier Seveso establishments fixed by Seveso
- 1510 III on 3 years and for upper-tier Seveso establishments the minimal inspection
- 1511 frequency already set to be yearly by Seveso II.

Inspection activity and effectiveness is strengthened by imposing to provide the operator of a follow-up with required actions within 4 months from the inspection. Additionally, in case of serious shortcomings in an establishment it is required a mandatory follow-up inspection within 6 months and it is foreseen the possibility of plant shut-down in case of serious noncompliances.

1517 6.4 - Seveso inspections in Spain

The application of the Seveso III directive leads, in principle, to the application of more strict
criteria. Inspections are addressed in Art. 21 of RD 840/2015 of September 21st as mentioned
in Table 2.

In this article the first point establishes that the competence for setting an appropriate system for inspections and control is a responsibility transferred to the relevant authorities in each autonomous community. Afterwards the general principles and targets for this system are described, which are equivalent to those described in the European Directive. The General Direction of Civil Protection issued a guidance for Seveso inspections in the frame of the RD 1254/1999 of 16 July 1999 which, as mentioned in Table 2, transposes the Seveso II Directive in Spain. This guidance has not been reviewed after the transposition of the Seveso III Directive. The aim of a stricter criteria and thoroughly inspection had a low impact in practical terms.

In Spain, inspections can only be done by companies authorised by each competent 1530 administrative body of the autonomous community. Attention points are common as they 1531 fulfil the requirements defined in the Seveso Directive, nevertheless due to the lack of clear 1532 inspection checklist and considering the rather broad field defined by major accidents, 1533 administrations define key points based on their risk perception, past accidents in the 1534 industries they manage and risk acceptance and LUP criteria they define. Generally, 1535 inspections are characterised by being done by a single inspector and lasting between 1 and 3 1536 1537 days.

As in France in the case of the accident that took place in Rouen on 2019, September 26<sup>th</sup>, the accident of a Seveso company in Tarragona on 2020, January 14<sup>th</sup>, where a reactor containing around 4tn of Ethylene Oxide caused commotion among the community, authorities and industry. This accident is casting a shadow on the effective identification and control of major accident hazards.

1543 This detailed review of inspection practices in the four countries concerned shows the wide 1544 variety of procedures used. This observation will help to explain later the situation of the 1545 assessment of inspections by the EU Council.

1546

1547 6.5 – Assessment of inspections by the EU Council

1548 The overall importance of the implementation of Article 18 is first highlighted in the Calero

1549 evaluation report (2017). Indeed, inspection is a key aspect of the implementation of the EU

Seveso II Directive as it is the opportunity for the competent authority to verify on site that 1550 1551 the provisions of the Directive are in practice being applied. The Directive requires that upper tier establishments are inspected at least once per year. However, there is a flexibility 1552 1553 included in the Directive which is that annual inspections are not required where the programme of inspections is based on a systematic assessment of major-accident hazards. 1554 Member States were requested to provide information on how many of their upper tier 1555 establishments were inspected annually, and of those that were not, how many had been 1556 1557 inspected in the last three years. Similarly, while the Seveso Directive does not require a minimum frequency of inspections for lower tier establishments, Member States were asked 1558 1559 to indicate how many of these establishments were subject to on-site inspections in the last three years. Finally, the questionnaire requested that those Member States where the 1560 programme of inspections is based upon a systematic appraisal of major-accident hazards 1561 1562 report the criteria on which the systematic appraisal is based.

1563

1564 Based on the feedback from reports C 2010, COM 2017 and Calero 2017, it is possible to 1565 examine in a comprehensive way the implementation of inspections of Seveso establishments in the four countries concerned. According to the information provided, it appears that 1566 Germany and Italy have adopted a systematic appraisal. In Germany monitoring programmes 1567 are developed, defining the intervals and the extent to which inspections will be undertaken at 1568 1569 individual sites. In Italy, an inspection system based on systematic appraisal of major-accident hazards has been introduced with the revision of the regulatory framework conducted in 2015. 1570 1571 However, this does not concern the reporting periods considered in these reports. France indicated that such appraisal is not considered and inspections are based on regular deadlines. 1572 With some uncertainty, Spain indicated that due to the competence of it autonomous regions 1573

in inspection matters, it is unknown whether inspections are based on systematic appraisal ornot.

1576

1577 The detailed compliance of four Member States with the inspection of establishments is now1578 presented by way of the verbatim of a part of the Calero (2017) report:

1579

1580 France

"France is close to meeting the requirement of the article 18 of the EU Seveso II Directive. In 1581 France, there were a total of 1,178 establishments subject to the provisions of the Seveso II 1582 Directive in 2014, of which 639 (54% of the total) were upper-tier establishments. Inspections 1583 were carried out at least once during the reporting period for 100% of upper-tier sites and 1584 98% of lower-tier sites. Annual inspections were held in 611 establishments, representing 1585 1586 96% of total upper tier establishments. The fact that 4% of upper tier establishments were not inspected annually is highlighted as an aspect of the implementation of the Directive that may 1587 warrant further investigations". 1588

1589

1590 Germany

1591 "The German response indicates that the provisions of the Seveso II Directive are almost fully implemented. The main gap observed relates to the large number of upper-tier 1592 establishments that were not inspected annually, with some not inspected at all during the 1593 reporting period. Note that Germany uses a systematic appraisal of major accident hazards to 1594 plan inspections. As such annual inspections are not required so this does not constitute a 1595 compliance issue but rather a potential issue that might need further checks. In Germany, 1596 there were a total of 3,264 establishments subject to the provisions of the Seveso II Directive 1597 in 2014, of which 1 141 (34% of the total) were upper-tier establishments. Inspections are 1598

planned based on a systematic appraisal of major-accident hazards; as such there is no 1599 1600 obligation to inspect upper-tier establishments annually. Inspections were carried out at least once during the reporting period for 86% of upper-tier sites and 68% of lower-tier sites. 1601 Annual inspections were held in 422 establishments, representing 37% of total upper tier 1602 establishments. While not a compliance issue, the fact that 14% of upper tier establishments 1603 were not inspected over the reporting period is highlighted as an aspect of the implementation 1604 1605 of the Directive that may warrant further investigations and the German competent authorities confirmed that this point would be investigated further". 1606

1607

1608 Italy

1609 "The Italian response indicates that most of the provisions of the Seveso II Directive are 1610 implemented. However, there were issues identified with some of the key provisions of the 1611 Directive, related in particular to the large number of upper-tier establishments that were not 1612 inspected annually.

In Italy, there were a total of 1,112 establishments subject to the provisions of the Seveso II 1613 Directive in 2014, of which 567 (50% of the total) were upper-tier establishments. It is 1614 1615 unclear why this requirement of the EU Seveso II Directive has not been implemented. Italy 1616 indicated that the low number of inspections was caused by organisational and financial constraints. Italy argued that its national legislation was amended in order to address this 1617 issue in the future reporting period (i.e. under Seveso III) by redrafting the competence for 1618 inspection and by providing financing for the inspections through tariffs paid by the 1619 operators". 1620

1621

1622 Spain

"For Spain, the provisions of the Seveso II Directive are mostly implemented but gaps were 1623 1624 observed in relation to key provisions of the Directive. It is unclear whether inspections are planned based on a systematic appraisal of major-accident hazards or not. Authorities 1625 carried out, on average, inspections at least once during the reporting period in 78% of 1626 upper-tier sites and in 56% of lower-tier sites during the reporting period. Annual inspections 1627 were held in 192 upper tier establishments, representing 51% of total upper tier 1628 establishments. This relatively low number of upper-tier establishments inspected annually 1629 may not be an issue (depending on how inspections are planned); however, it might be useful 1630 to verify this is the case. However, the fact that 22% of upper tier establishments were not 1631 1632 inspected at all during the reporting period might indicate difficulties encountered in applying the requirements of the Directive at national or regional level. For Spain, this might 1633 be explained by the fact that some autonomous regions might base the programme of 1634 1635 inspections on systematic appraisal of major accidents hazards. While requested, this information had not been provided by several regional authorities". 1636

For the concerned Members, Table 19 presents the number of inspections and the share of
upper and lower tier establishments inspected at least once during the reporting period 2012 2014

1640

1641 Table 19 – Number and percentage of upper and lower tier establishments inspected at least
1642 once during period 2012 -2014 (adapted from Calero, 2017).

1643

1644 It can be observed that the share of upper tier establishments inspected at least once are lower 1645 than 100 %. This is the case for Germany, Italy and Spain. But Germany has reported 1646 information concerning the adoption of an inspection program based on systematic appraisal, 1647 which could explain a lesser frequency that annual. For Italy and Spain, it is unclear why 1648 inspections were not conducted as required.

1649 The results of the inspection of lower tier establishments show an improvement compared to 1650 those observed in the previous report.

1651

1652 The main activities that inspectors should undertake to enforce the Seveso directives are as 1653 follows:

1654 - assessments of the safety report that the companies have to compile,

- on - site inspections (at least once a year as the directives prescribe) to establish to what
extent safety on paper has been put into practice in chemical plants.

Many different types of expertise are required to carry out these two missions. Two countries (France and Germany) employ teams of inspectors who combine expertise in the fields of environmental and occupational safety, both to assess the safety report and to carry out the inspections. But Spain employs a different approach, using separate teams for assessment and inspection. For the assessment of the safety report, private consultants are used, while inspections are carried out by accredited Spanish industrial control organs.

According to the last inspection stipulations enforced in Italy, inspection teams are appointed 1663 by the Regional Direction of the National Fire Brigade (CNVVF) for upper tier 1664 establishments and consist of three technical executives/officials from Institute for Accident 1665 Prevention and Safety at Work (INAIL), Italian Ministry of Interior CNVVF and the 1666 competent Regional Environment Protection Agency (ARPA), or from the Italian Institute for 1667 Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA). For lower tier establishments, the Regional 1668 competent authority provides both inspection plan and teams appointments, mainly from the 1669 1670 same Organizations.

1671 The eight essential elements of the Safety Management System for the prevention of major 1672 accidents (SGS-PIR) under verification during inspections utilizing the new check-list 1673 approach can be listed as follows:

a) Policy document.

- b) Organization, responsibility and resources.
- 1676 c) Hazard identification.
- 1677 d) Operative monitoring and control.
- e) Management of change of technology, facility, or organization.
- 1679 f) Emergency management.
- 1680 g) Performance control.
- 1681 h) Audit, verification and corrective actions.

1682 The new inspection guidelines were fully applied in the last three years evidencing a rather 1683 increased trend in the actual number of inspections for upper tier establishments if compared 1684 to the previous mentioned inspection data shown in Fig. 9

The valuable knowledge contained into the inspection documents archive is useful for addressing the inspectors' training, upgrading the inspection activity, disseminating safety information and improve the overall safety of the chemical industry in Italy (Ansaldi et al., 2019).

The audit reports allowed identifying a number of non-compliance SMS elements characterized by an average percentage over the three-year period higher than 50%, which will likely recommend corrective actions and address better the future inspection targets. The identified critical SMS elements include: information, formation and personnel training; operative and monitoring control; emergency management and performance control (Battistella et al., 2020). Elaborating further inspection panels' findings, some specific improvement actions can be recommended, e.g.:

1696 -	training and	competence in	process safety	y with pro	per indicators;

1697 - mechanical integrity (MI) indicators (inspections, controls and test schedules of
1698 - system components;

emergency periodical simulations not fully complying with emergency procedure
 envisaged in the SMS;

- development of performance level indicators to measure SMS effectiveness;

1702 - maintenance and asset;

1703 - risk based inspection and maintenance especially in aging systems.

In particular, ageing of plants and equipment, due to corrosion and other phenomena, is currently a problem recognised by the Seveso Competent Authorities producing also longterm environmental effects, which should concern also IPPC regulations (Bragatto et al., 2019). Starting from the critical results of actual findings on SMS during recent inspections of upper tier plants a methodology was built to stimulate the introduction of effective ageing management changes and related monitoring plan, into the safety management of companies (Vairo et al., 2018).

Table 20 illustrates the different types of assessment and inspection activities in the four countries concerned. This table shows that the order of magnitude of the size of the inspection teams is approximately the same. Germany and Spain devote more time than France to the assessment and evaluation of safety reports, but for the latter the time spent by external expertise cannot be quantified. Finally, the duration of the annual inspection is identical in the four countries.

1717

1718 *Table 20 – Many different types of assessments and inspections activities.* 

1719 In terms of implementation and standardisation of practices it is worth mentioning the Mutual1720 Joint Visit Programme. which was launched in 1999 by the European Commission. This

programme is intended to serve as a vehicle for promoting technical exchange among EU 1721 1722 Member State, Candidate and EEA1 Seveso inspectors. The aim of the programme is to encourage the sharing and adoption of best practices for inspections through a system of 1723 1724 regular information exchange. The visits are hosted by different Seveso implementing countries (hence visits would be "mutual") and targeted for working inspectors of other 1725 Seveso countries (and thereby "joint" visits) charged with assessing compliance with the 1726 1727 Seveso Directive in industrial installations. The MJV Programme is managed by the JRC's Major Accident Hazards Bureau in consultation with the TWG on Seveso Inspections. (MJVs, 1728 2005). The detailed assessment of this programme was drawn up by Wood (2004) to show the 1729 1730 interest in jointly developing a better understanding of what constitutes compliance and the notion of acceptable safety risk in the context of the inspection of Seveso establishments. In 1731 1732 the same way, Kotisalo (2016) has developed a scoring system for evaluation criteria capable 1733 of better supporting inspectors. The thesis reports the detailed protocol tested by different teams of inspectors during inspection visits to nine Seveso establishments in seven different 1734 1735 European countries. Analysing the practical implementation of the Seveso Directives during 1736 inspections in the Netherlands, Versluis et al (2010) suggest that the uncertainty in the assessment of certain risks, which are themselves considered blindly, should be examined 1737 1738 with a tolerance uncertainty, but accepting a necessary societal cultural change.

## 1739 **7 – Conclusions**

The present paper is an assessment of the implementation and completeness of the EU Seveso Directives in the four Member States France, Germany, Italy and Spain. Its preparation showed the difficulties in identifying the similarities and differences as well as the strengths and weaknesses of the procedure in each country. Feedback from the various reports submitted by the Member States and examined by the European Council shows that implementation has been satisfactory overall, but that progress is still necessary.

Among the various items examined, the difficult subject of inspections remains very much in 1746 1747 evidence. First of all, suggestions to improve the follow-up of inspections are listed, such as questions on the training of inspectors at the national level, on the deficiencies identified 1748 1749 during inspections for the reference period and the measures taken to remedy them, on the deficiencies identified during the testing of contingency plans during the reference period and 1750 the measures taken to remedy them. However, for the time being, the implementation of these 1751 suggestions is postponed to the period 2019-2023 due to the fact that the deadline for 1752 updating the questionnaire is too close. This is well confirmed by the lack of available 1753 minutes of the Seveso expert group in 2019. 1754

Next concerning the role of inspection, section "5 - Control and inspection practices in the states" of this article highlighted the diversity of approaches and practices used in France, Germany, Italy and Spain. Despite the important purpose of implementing inspections, this unsatisfactory situation is comparable in the various Member States of Europe. It is therefore interesting to take up and share the turning point text underlined by Lindhout, the first author, retired as an inspector (Lindhout and Reniers, 2017):

"While drilling down further into the details of a risk assessment, a point is reached at which 1761 the inspector is no longer able to assess whether the study is robust and complete. The 1762 1763 inspector is e.g. faced with highly specialized chemical knowledge, a mix of old and new technology, a wide variety of degradation mechanisms, an installation design made by third 1764 parties and with 'open' web-integrated ICT based control systems. He is confronted with 1765 some-times colossal, yet incomplete, quantities of information and is notable to follow in all 1766 the footsteps of the many people that prepared this information, and verify, let alone grasp 1767 1768 whether it is sound, consistent and complete as a risk assessment. He can only say frustrating as it is - he cannot see any shortcomings". 1769

1770 Finally, it also appears that the importance of the evaluation of inspections of Seveso

establishments cannot be reduced to simple numerical indicators. It is recommended that 1771 1772 more unified, shared and accepted approaches to risk assessment should be promoted at the European level. The template questionnaire submitted to the Member States should be more 1773 1774 exhaustive, so that the quality of the implementation can be monitored and verified through a thorough inspection. For example, the integration of information related to the Safety 1775 Management System should be mandatory, due to its almost paradigmatic importance, despite 1776 1777 possible difficulties in its implementation. Nevertheless, the application of such decision is a political responsibility related to society's choices and not only to technical or scientific 1778 limitations. The simultaneous presence of an active process safety culture among all 1779 1780 stakeholders involved in the implementation process is essential to enable it to be validated internally within the establishments and externally by the supervisory authorities. 1781

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## 1783 Declaration of interests

1784 Image: The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal
1785 relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

1786

## 1787 Disclaimer

1788 The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the authors and do not 1789 necessarily represent those of others.

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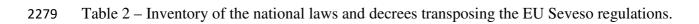
Table 1 – Overview of some industrial accidents for the period 1970 – 2018 (Extract from the
databases Aria - eMars and Zema).

Country	Location	Year	Episode	Fatalities	Injured
1970 - 1982	before EU Seveso	I directi	ve		
France	Perpignan	1970	BLEVE of a LPG tank wagon	2	49
Spain	Alcanar camping Los Alfaques	1976	BLEVE of a liquefied propylene tank truck	215	>200
France	Saint Amand les Eaux	1973	Propane VCE in a road tank car	9	37
Italy	Seveso	1976	2,3,7,8, TCDD (Dioxine) release following runaway and rupture disc activation of a batch reactor	-	220,000 people exposed
Spain	Oviedo province	1978	Rail tank car gasoline fire and explosion	7	
1982 - 1996	before EU Seveso	II direct	ive		
Italy	Priolo	1985	Explosion of propylene in an ethylene plant	0	4
France	Villers Saint Paul	1989	Explosion of a 1000 m <sup>3</sup> benzene tank	1	2
France	Noyelles -	1993	Explosion of a zinc refining	10	1
	Godault	1994	column	1	7
Italy	Palermo	1996	Collision in a highway tunnel and propane BLEVE	5	34

Germany	Bergkamen	1998	Explosion of transport containers	1	
France	Toulouse	2001	for organo-metallic compounds	29	>2,000
		2001	Ammonia nitrate explosion	4	>2,000
Italy	Napoli	2005	Explosion of a nitrogen tank in a varnish company	4	
France	Harnes	2003	air cooling towers petrochemical	18	83
			site (legionellosis)		
France	Billy-Berclau	2003	Manufacture of explosive	4	9
			products		
Spain	Puertollano	2003	Explosion and domino effect in a	9	10
			FCC unit at refinery		
Italy	Ancona	2004	Explosion and fire during reaction	1	3
			facility		
Italy	Priolo	2006	Pool fire in a crude oil pipeline	0	2
France	Gonfreville	2009	Explosion of a sulfuric tank	0	5
France	Saint Avold	2009	Explosion of a super-heater	2	4
			within a steam cracking unit		
Italy	Viareggo	2009	Derailment of LPG tank wagons	32	1,000
			followed by UVCE explosion and		evacuated
С	The sector of the sector	2000	intense fire		
Germany	Ibbenbüren	2009	Explosion in chlor-alcali plant	0	2
			due to a lightning stroke into the		
France	Managua	2010	power supply	0	3
<b>F</b> rance	Manosque	2010	Rupture of a pipeline within an underground hydrocarbon storage	0	3
			facility in saline cavities		
2012 2019		U D:	facility in saline cavities		
	after EU Seveso II		facility in saline cavities		26
	after EU Seveso II Brühl	<b>II Directi</b> 2012	facility in saline cavities we Release of chlorine in an	4	36
			facility in saline cavities ive Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of	4	36
			facility in saline cavities ive Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium	4	36
			facility in saline cavities ive Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric	4	36
Germany	Brühl	2012	facility in saline cavities ive Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container		
Germany			facility in saline cavities <b>ive</b> Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for	4	36
Germany	Brühl	2012	facility in saline cavities facility in saline cavities Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for the production of		
Germany	Brühl	2012	facility in saline cavities Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for the production of Cyclododecatriene during plant		
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Germany Germany Italy France	Brühl Marl Citta Sant'Angelo	2012 2012 2012 2013	facility in saline cavities Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for the production of Cyclododecatriene during plant start-up Serie of mass explosions in a fireworks factory Leak and explosion of natural gas during welding on an underground pipeline	2	1 
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Germany Germany Italy France	Brühl Marl Citta Sant'Angelo Marseille	2012 2012 2013 2014 2014	facility in saline cavities Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for the production of Cyclododecatriene during plant start-up Serie of mass explosions in a fireworks factory Leak and explosion of natural gas during welding on an underground pipeline Thermal explosion of reactor and release of trimethyl phosphite in a chemical plant	2	1 8 6 4
Germany Germany Italy France Germany	Brühl Marl Citta Sant'Angelo Marseille	2012 2012 2013 2014	facility in saline cavities Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for the production of Cyclododecatriene during plant start-up Serie of mass explosions in a fireworks factory Leak and explosion of natural gas during welding on an underground pipeline Thermal explosion of reactor and release of trimethyl phosphite in a chemical plant	2	1 8 6
Germany Germany Italy France Germany	Brühl Marl Citta Sant'Angelo Marseille Pirna Jouy	2012 2012 2013 2014 2014 2014	facility in saline cavities Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for the production of Cyclododecatriene during plant start-up Serie of mass explosions in a fireworks factory Leak and explosion of natural gas during welding on an underground pipeline Thermal explosion of reactor and release of trimethyl phosphite in a chemical plant Overpressure and explosion in an hydrogen peroxide tank	2 5 1 1	1 8 6 4 3
Germany Germany Italy France Germany France	Brühl Marl Citta Sant'Angelo Marseille Pirna	2012 2012 2013 2014 2014	facility in saline cavities Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for the production of Cyclododecatriene during plant start-up Serie of mass explosions in a fireworks factory Leak and explosion of natural gas during welding on an underground pipeline Thermal explosion of reactor and release of trimethyl phosphite in a chemical plant Overpressure and explosion in an hydrogen peroxide tank Series of deadly explosions in a	2	1 8 6 4
Germany Germany Italy France Germany France Spain	Brühl Marl Citta Sant'Angelo Marseille Pirna Jouy Saragosse	2012 2012 2013 2014 2014 2014 2015 2015	facility in saline cavities Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for the production of Cyclododecatriene during plant start-up Serie of mass explosions in a fireworks factory Leak and explosion of natural gas during welding on an underground pipeline Thermal explosion of reactor and release of trimethyl phosphite in a chemical plant Overpressure and explosion in an hydrogen peroxide tank Series of deadly explosions in a fireworks factory	2 5 1 1 1 6	1 8 6 4 3
Germany Germany Italy France Germany France Spain	Brühl Marl Citta Sant'Angelo Marseille Pirna Jouy	2012 2012 2013 2014 2014 2014	facility in saline cavities Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for the production of Cyclododecatriene during plant start-up Serie of mass explosions in a fireworks factory Leak and explosion of natural gas during welding on an underground pipeline Thermal explosion of reactor and release of trimethyl phosphite in a chemical plant Overpressure and explosions in a fireworks factory Fire and explosion during	2 5 1 1	1 8 6 4 3
Germany Germany Italy France Germany France Spain	Brühl Marl Citta Sant'Angelo Marseille Pirna Jouy Saragosse	2012 2012 2013 2014 2014 2014 2015 2015	facility in saline cavities Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for the production of Cyclododecatriene during plant start-up Serie of mass explosions in a fireworks factory Leak and explosion of natural gas during welding on an underground pipeline Thermal explosion of reactor and release of trimethyl phosphite in a chemical plant Overpressure and explosions in an hydrogen peroxide tank Series of deadly explosions in a fireworks factory Fire and explosion during maintenance work on ethylene	2 5 1 1 1 6	1     8     6     4     3     5     5
Germany Germany Italy France Germany France Spain Germany	Brühl Marl Citta Sant'Angelo Marseille Pirna Jouy Saragosse Ludwigshafen	2012 2012 2013 2014 2014 2014 2015 2015 2015 2016	facility in saline cavities Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for the production of Cyclododecatriene during plant start-up Serie of mass explosions in a fireworks factory Leak and explosion of natural gas during welding on an underground pipeline Thermal explosion of reactor and release of trimethyl phosphite in a chemical plant Overpressure and explosion in an hydrogen peroxide tank Series of deadly explosions in a fireworks factory Fire and explosion during maintenance work on ethylene and propylene pipelines	2 5 1 1 1 6	1     8     6     4     3     5     30 $     30     $
Germany Germany Italy France Germany France Spain Germany	Brühl Marl Citta Sant'Angelo Marseille Pirna Jouy Saragosse	2012 2012 2013 2014 2014 2014 2015 2015	facility in saline cavities Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for the production of Cyclododecatriene during plant start-up Serie of mass explosions in a fireworks factory Leak and explosion of natural gas during welding on an underground pipeline Thermal explosion of reactor and release of trimethyl phosphite in a chemical plant Overpressure and explosions in an hydrogen peroxide tank Series of deadly explosions in a fireworks factory Fire and explosion during maintenance work on ethylene and propylene pipelines LPG BLEVE of a tank truck hit	2 5 1 1 1 6	1     8     6     4     3     5     5
2012 – 2018 Germany Germany Italy France Germany France Spain Germany Italy	Brühl Marl Citta Sant'Angelo Marseille Pirna Jouy Saragosse Ludwigshafen	2012 2012 2013 2014 2014 2014 2015 2015 2015 2016	facility in saline cavities Release of chlorine in an electroplating plant as result of mistakenly filling sodium hypochlorite to a hydrochloric acid container Explosion and fire in a plant for the production of Cyclododecatriene during plant start-up Serie of mass explosions in a fireworks factory Leak and explosion of natural gas during welding on an underground pipeline Thermal explosion of reactor and release of trimethyl phosphite in a chemical plant Overpressure and explosion in an hydrogen peroxide tank Series of deadly explosions in a fireworks factory Fire and explosion during maintenance work on ethylene and propylene pipelines	2 5 1 1 6 3	1     8     6     4     3     5     30 $     30     $

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France Germany Italy Spain
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	Seve	eso I	1
-Law of 19 July 1976 on installations classified for the purposes of environmental protection. Decrees of 21 September 1977 and 19 December 1986. -Circular of 2 August 1985, as amended on 8 July 1986. - Inter-ministerial Circular and Instruction of 12 July 1985, "ORSEC technological hazards".	-Federal Immission Control Act. -Twelfth Ordinance on implementing the Federal Immission Control Act (Major Accident Ordinance). -1st, 2nd and 3rd Administrative regulation for the Major Accident Ordinance.	Decrees:16 November 1983,2 August 1984,11 June 1986 <i>Circulars</i> :1 December 1982,11 January 1986,20 June 1986,19 December 1986Decree:23 December 1985Regulation:22 February 1985Circular:(Public Health):1 April 1985-Prime MinisterialImplementing Order: 18December 1985-Presidential DecreeMinistry of Labour: 29July 1982.DPR - Decree n° 175 of07 May 1988 of thePresident of the Republicimplementation of EECdirective 82/501 of 24June 1982 on the major-accident hazards ofcertain industrialactivitiesGU n°127, June 10, 1988.	Spain became member State of the EU on January 1 <sup>st</sup> , 1986. The Directive Seveso I entered into force only on 1 January 1986 in Spain. Royal Decree 886/1988, of 15 July, on the prevention of major accidents in certain industrial activities. BOE, 5 <sup>th</sup> August. 1988. Royal Decree 952/1990 of 29 June 1990 amending the Annexes and supplementing them supplement the provisions of Royal Decree 886/1988 of 15 July 1988 on the following matters prevention of major accidents in certain industrial activities. BOE, 21 <sup>st</sup> July 1990. Resolution of 30 January 1991 of the Under- secretariat publishing the Agreement on the International Council of Ministers approving the Basic Directive for the elaboration and implementation of the homologation of Special Plans for the Chemical Sector BOE, 6 <sup>th</sup> June 1991.
	Seve	eso II	
-Decree of 20 March 2000 amending the decree of 21 September 1977 adopted for the application of the law of 19 July 1976 on classified installations, -Decree of 28 December 1999 amending the decree of 20 May 1953 on the nomenclature of classified installations, -Ministerial order of 10 May 2000 specifying in particular the provisions	-Fifth Amendment to the Federal Immission Control Act (BlmSchG) in the applicable Version of 19 October 1998 -Major Accident Ordinance from 26th April 2000, (Federal Law Gazette I p. 603) becoming effective on 03rd May 2000.	Law n° 137 of 19 May 1997 Sanatorium of decrees law amending the Decree of the President of the Republic 17 May 1988, n° 175, on the risks of major accidents related to certain industrial activities. GU n°120 June 26, 1997. Legislative Decree n°334,	Royal Decree 1254/1999 of 16 July 1999 approving measures to control the risks inherent in serious accidents involving dangerous substances. BOE, 20 <sup>th</sup> July 1999. Royal Decree 1196/2003 of 19 September 2003 by which the Basic Directive of Civil Protection for the control and planning in front of major accidents

	Legislative Decree n°238 21 September, 2005 GU n°271, September 21, 2005.	involved is approved. BOE, 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2003.
Sava	so III	L
-Federal Immission Control Act (BImSchG) in the applicable Version of the bulletin from 17th May 2013 latest amended by article 1 of the law from 8th April 2019 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 432). -Major Accident Ordinance in the version of the announcement of 15th March 2017, latest amended by article 1a of the ordinance from 8th December 2017 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 3882). - <i>Länder</i> administrative regulations and decrees on the implementation of the major accident ordinance.	Legislative decree n° 105 of 26 June 2015 implementation of directive 2012/18/EU on the control of major- accident hazards involving dangerous substances. GU n°161, July 14, 2015.	Royal Decree 840/2015, of September 21, approving measures to control the risks inherent to serious accidents involving dangerous substances. BOE, 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2015.
	-Federal Immission Control Act (BImSchG) in the applicable Version of the bulletin from 17th May 2013 latest amended by article 1 of the law from 8th April 2019 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 432). -Major Accident Ordinance in the version of the announcement of 15th March 2017, latest amended by article 1a of the ordinance from 8th December 2017 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 3882). -Länder administrative regulations and decrees on the implementation of the major accident	21 September, 2005 GU n°271, September 21, 2005Federal Immission Control Act (BlmSchG) in the applicable Version of the bulletin from 17th May 2013 latest amended by article 1 of the law from 8th April 2019 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 432).Legislative decree n° 105 of 26 June 2015 implementation of directive 2012/18/EU on the control of major- accident hazards involving dangerous substances. GU n°161, July 14, 2015Major Accident Ordinance in the version of the announcement of 15th March 2017, latest amended by article 1a of the ordinance from 8th December 2017 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 3882).GU n°161, July 14, 2015Länder administrative regulations and decrees on the implementation of the major accidentHe ordinance for the major accident

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Table 3 – Main competent and implementing authorities responsible for the application of the
 EU Seveso I – II and III directives.

France	Germany	Italy	Spain
National authorities	Federal authorities	National authorities	National authorities
-Ministry for the	-Ministry for the	-Ministry of	-Directorate-General of
Environment	Environment, Nature	Environment,	Civil Protection-Ministry
(Department for	Conservation and	Atmospheric, Acoustic	of the Interior in
Classified Installations)	Nuclear Safety	and Industrial Pollution	coordination with the
- Ministry of the Interior	-Ministry of Labour and	-Ministry of Industry,	National Department of
(Disaster relief services)	Social Affairs	Directorate-General for	Industry, Environment
	-Ministry for Building,	Energy Sources,	and Labour, and with the
Local authorities	Regional Planning and	-Ministry of the Interior-	national civil protection
-Prefects-Chief	Urban Development	Directorate General of	services of each province
Commissioners	-Ministry of the Interior	Civil Protection and Fire	
of the Republic (at		Services.	Autonomous
Department level)	Länder authorities	-Ministry of Health	communities
- the Mayors	-Landesministerien für		In general it is the
	Umwelt, Naturschutz,	Regional and Province	department in charge of
	Landschaftspflege etc.	authorities	the tasks of civil
	(State Ministries for	-Regional and Provinces	protection in each
	Environment, Nature	Governments	Community which
	Protection, Landscape	-Prefectures	coordinates the
	conservation etc.)	Municipalities	implementation of the
	-Regierungspräsidien	-Regional technical	Directive in its area, with
	(Governmental Presidia)	Committee for the	other regional
	-Bezirkregierung	Coordination of Safety	departments such as
	(District Governments)	Procedures	industry, environment,
		-Inter-ministerial	labour, etc.
	-Gewerbeaufsichtämter	Coordinating Committee	
	(Trade Supervisory	-National body fire	т I /I ·/·
	Authorities)	brigades.	<i>Local authorities</i> The different
		-The Fire Department's	
		inspectorate	municipalities concerned
			have to develop their
			external emergency plans following
			the guidelines given by
			their autonomous
			community.
			community.
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Year	France	Germany	Italy	Spain	Total
2005 upper	593	976	462	245	2,276
2008 upper	553	1,077	518	295	2,243
2011 upper	622	1,104	533	332	2,591
2014 upper	639	1,141	567	377	2,724
2014 lower	539	2,123	545	455	3,662

Table 4 – Evolution of the number of upper-tier Seveso establishments (2005 - 2014).

Table 5 – Some potential	values of the total number	r of Seveso establishments (year 2004).	

Member State	France	Germany	Italy	Spain
Total number of Seveso establishments				
per Member State	1,178	3,264	1,112	832
per million inhabitants	16.7	29.5	18.7	13.5
per regional area in 1,000 km <sup>2</sup>	1.75	6.71	3.76	1.60
per unit GDP in billions €	0.52	0.82	0.71	0.61

Member State	Generic safety distances	Consequence based approach	Risk based approach	LUP criteria	Arrangements still being developed
France		Х		Х	
Germany	Х	Х		Х	
Italy					Х
Spain		Х			Х

Table 6 – Brief overview of the LUP practices in 1999 (adapted from Christou et al., 1999).

Member State	Full probabilistic	Probabilistic with preselected scenarios	Consequence based approach (worst case scenario)	Consequence based approach (preselected scenarios)	Semi quantitative method
France			Х		
Germany		Х		Х	
Italy					Х
SP Galicia	Х				
SP Bask countries			Х		
SP Catalonia	Х				

Table 7 – Hazard/risk assessment methods used in LUP (reference year 2004) (adapted from Basta and Struckl, 2004).

Territorial Urban planning category Residential areas with building land index >  $4,5 \text{ m}^3/\text{m}^2$ ; hospital > 25patients; А nursing / primary schools > 100 pupils; commercial centre/ daily markets > 500 people. Residential areas with building land index in the range  $1,5-4,5 \text{ m}^3/\text{m}^2$ ; hospital < 25 patients, primary and secondary schools < 100 people; university, commercial centre/ markets > 500 people; church, sports В ground > 100 people (open) 1000 people (closed); railway station, port > 1000 passenger/day. Residential areas with building land index in the range  $1-1.5 \text{ m}^3/\text{m}^2$ ; secondary school, university; commercial centre/ markets < 500 people; С church, sports ground < 100 people (open) 1000 people (closed); railway station, port <1000 passenger per day. D Residential areas with building land index in the range  $0,5-1 \text{ m}^3/\text{m}^2$ ; monthly gathering place (exposition markets, graveyard). E Residential areas with building land index  $< 0.5 \text{ m}^3/\text{m}^2$ ; industrial establishments. F Industrial establishments and non-built respect area.

Table 8 – Territorial categories and Italian urban planning.

Member	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
State	No effect	Small	Reversible	Irreversible	Start of	High
		effect	injury	injury	lethality	lethality
France			Reversible effects SER	Irreversible effects SEI	Lethal effects SEL Heavy hazard 1%	Lethal effects SELS Very heavy hazard 5%
Germany			Reversible effects	Irreversible effects		
Italy			Reversible effects	Irreversible effects	Start of lethality	High lethality
Spain			Alert zone ZA	Intervention zone ZD		

Table 9 – Correspondence between generic level of human health damage and level of harm selected by the four Member States (adapted from Cherrier, 2014).

Member	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Domino			
State										
France			20	50	140	200	200-300			
Germany		Endpoint practice value 100								
Italy			30	70	140	200	300			
Spain			50	125			160-350			

Table 10 – Overview of thresholds for overpressure (mbar) (adapted from Cherrier, 2014 and KAS 18, 2010).

Member	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Domino
State							
France	Stationary heat rate	3	5	8	20-200		
France	Nonstationary thermal	Nonstationary thermal dose (kW/m <sup>2</sup> ) <sup>4/3</sup> s			1,000	1,800	
Germany	Endpoint practice value	e 1.6 kW/	m <sup>2</sup>				
Italy			3	5	7	12.5	12.5
Spain	Spain Nonstationary thermal dose 115 (kW/m <sup>2</sup> ) <sup>4/3</sup> s			250		1	2 unprotected
							37 protected

Table 11 – Overview of thresholds for thermal radiation (Kw/m<sup>2</sup>) (adapted from Cherrier, 2014 and KAS 18, 2010).

Effect	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Member	no effect	small	reversible	irreversible	lethal 1%	lethal 5%
State						
France	-	-	-	SEI	SEL 1%	SEL 5%
Germany	Endpoint	ERPG 2	ERPG 2	ERPG 3		
Italy	-	-	-	IDLH	-	LC 50
Spain	-	-	AEGL 1	AEGL 2	-	-
	-	-	ERPG 1	ERPG 2	-	-
	-	-	TEEL 1	TEEL 2	-	-

Table 12– Overview of toxic criteria (adapted from Cherrier, 2014).

Location building	Type building	Distance (m)	Development allowed
А	School	1,000	All
В	House	900	All
С	House	800	All
Κ	Office	800	All
D	House	700	All
E	House	600	All
F	House	500	P1, P2, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8
G	House	400	P1, P2, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8
Н	House	300	P1, P2, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8
Ι	House	200	P2, P5
J	Office	100	P5, P6

Table 13 – LUP decisions based on the LPG facility analyses (adapted from Gyenes et al. 2017).

Gravity	Lethality 5%	Lethality 1%	Irreversible injuries
Disastrous	> 10	> 100	> 1000
Catastrophic	1 - 10	10 - 100	100 - 1000
Major	1	1 – 10	10 - 100
Serious	0	1	1 – 10
Moderate	0	0	< 1

Table 14 - Range of number of people exposed to hazard for severity assessment in France.

	Probability class	Physical Effects						
	[y <sup>-1</sup> ]	High lethality	Starting lethality	Irreversible injuries	Reversible injuries			
-	< 10 <sup>-6</sup>	DEF	CDEF	BCDEF	ABCDEF			
	$10^{-4} - 10^{-6}$	EF	DEF	CDEF	BCDEF			
	$10^{-3} - 10^{-4}$	F	EF	DEF	CDEF			
	> 10 <sup>-3</sup>	F	F	EF	DEF			

Table 15 - Land use compatibility matrix: physical effects vs. probability class for Seveso establishments in Italy.

Table 16 – Evaluation matrix for Land Use Planning in France.

	PROBABILITY											
		Е	D	С	В	Α						
	Disastrous	NO/MMR2	NO	NO	NO	NO						
ХI	Catastrophic	MMR1	MMR2	NO	NO	NO						
GRAVITY	Major	MMR1	MMR1	MMR2	NO	NO						
	Serious			MMR1	MMR2	NO						
	Moderate					MMR1						

Table 17 - LUP compatibility of existing, or planned vulnerable targets in the given industrial area, according to Italian and French criteria (Contini, 2010).

Vulnerable target	Distance (m)	Italy LUP	France LUP	
Nursing school	370 N	In- compatible	Compatible	
Graveyard	185 NE	Compatible	Compatible/Incompatible	
Sports ground	215 SE	Compatible	Compatible	
Church	830 NNO	Compatible	Incompatible	
Commercial centre	700 NO	Compatible	Compatible	
Private hospital	750 NE	Compatible	Compatible	
New supermarket	250 N	Compatible	Incompatible	

Country (Bundesland)	Number of upper tier Seveso establishments		
	with annual on-site inspections		
Baden - Würtemberg	117		
Bayern	62		
Berlin	0		
Brandenburg	15		
Bremen	11		
Hamburg	34		
Hessen	5		
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	6		
Niedersachsen	107		
Nordrhein – Westfalen	6		

Table 18 – Number of annually inspected upper-tier Seveso establishments in Germany.

Rheinland - Pfalz	13
Saarland	11
Sachsen	17
Sachsen – Anhalt	0
Schleswig – Holstein	11
Thüringen	7
Germany	422

Member State	France	Germany	Italy	Spain
Inspected upper tier number	660	981	115	295
% inspected upper tier	100	86	20	78
Inspected lower tier number	528	1436	268	255
% inspected lower tier	96	68	49	56

Table 19 – Number and percentage of upper and lower tier establishments inspected at least once during the reporting period 2012 - 2014 (adapted from Calero, 2017)

Member State	Inspection bodies involved	Size team of inspectors	Days per assessment of a safety	Yearly inspection days per	Reference
			report	establishment	
France	DREAL,	minimum	3 - 7	1 - 4	DREAL
	DRT Labour	2			Grand Est
	Directorate				
Germany	Environmental	2 - 4	10 - 30	1 - 5	Jutta et al
	inspectorate,				(2008)
	Labour inspectorate				
Italy	Ministry of	3	n/a	n/a	Schabel &
	Environment and				Kontic
	Territory,				(2005)
	System of the				
	Protection Agencies of				
	Environment				
	(APAT/ARPA/APPA),				
	Fire Brigades,				
	Institute for Accident				
	Prevention and Safety				
	at Work				
Spain	Private consultants	1 - 2	5 - 20	1 - 5	Jutta et al
	(assessment)	—		-	(2008)
	Accredited control	1 - 2			(2000)
	organs (inspection)				

Table 20 – Many different types of assessments and inspections activities.

## FIGURES

Fig. 1 - Overview of different approaches to LUP in the different European Countries.

Fig. 2 - Schematic flow sheet for the semi quantitative approach to land use compatibility.

Fig. 3 – Schematic map of LUP development around the LPG establishment.

Fig. 4 - Concentration of chlorine versus distance from a scenario considering the guillotine breakage of a valve at the bottom of a spherical liquified chlorine storage tank.

Fig. 5 - Distances of concern for ammonia in case of a scenario defined in a vessel of  $3 \text{ m}^3$  releasing its inventory in 1 minute (Pey et al., 2009).

Fig. 6 - Individual risk map (1/year) considering all accident scenarios in the given area with vulnerable targets (Contini, 2010).

Fig. 7 – Land Use Planning in the given area according to the Italian criterion (Contini, 2010).

Fig. 8 - Land Use Planning in the given area according to the French criterion (Contini, 2010).

Fig. 9 - Trend of Seveso upper tier inspections in Italy before the implementation of Seveso III Directive (Ricchiuti, 2014).

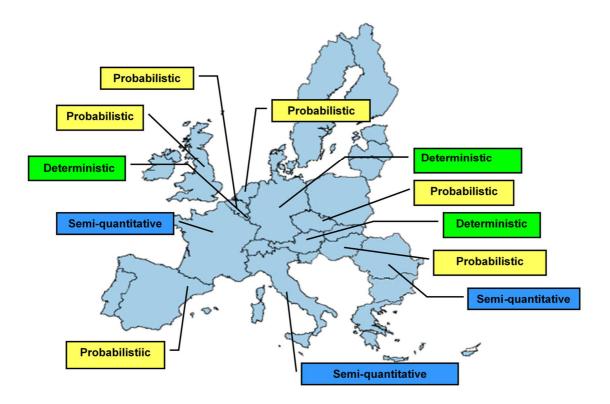


Fig. 1 - Overview of different approaches to LUP in the different European Countries.

## Semi quantitative approach

- Each target point in the given area (x,y)
- Each k-th accidental scenario

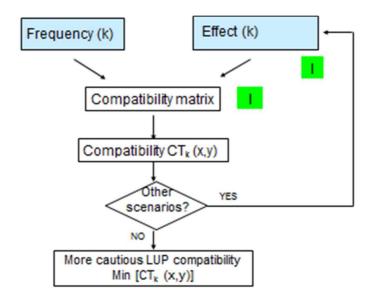


Fig. 2 - Schematic flow sheet for the semi quantitative approach to land use compatibility.

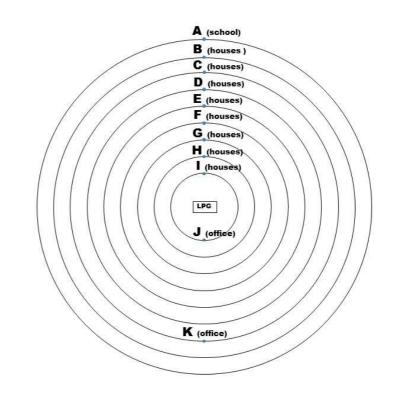
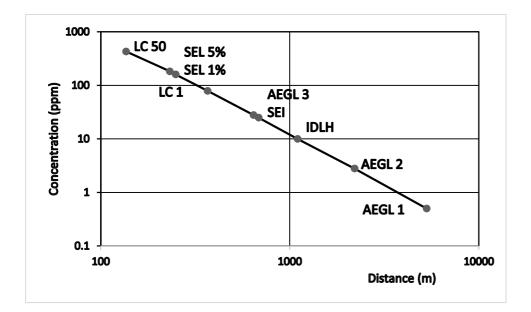
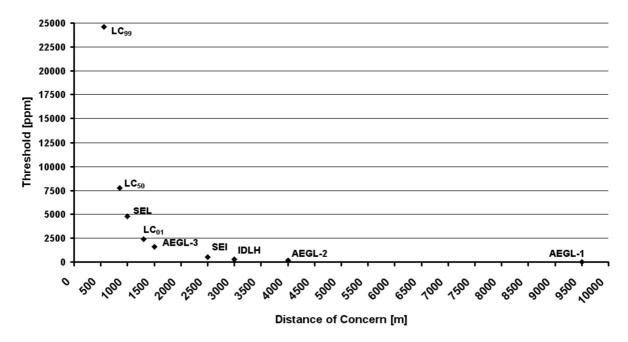


Fig. 3 - Schematic map of LUP development around the LPG establishment.



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Fig. 4 - Concentration of chlorine versus distance from a scenario considering the guillotine breakage of a valve at the bottom of a spherical liquified chlorine storage tank.



## Full Rupture of Storage Tank

Fig. 5 - Distances of concern for ammonia in case of a scenario defined in a vessel of 3  $m^3$  releasing its inventory in 1 minute (Pey et al., 2009).

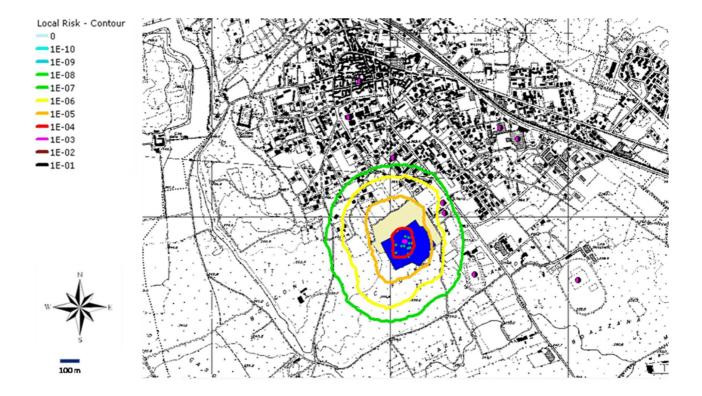


Fig. 6 - Individual risk map (1/year) considering all accident scenarios in the given area with vulnerable targets (Contini, 2010).

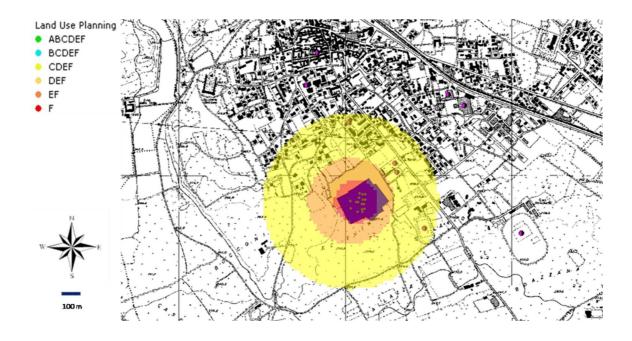


Fig. 7 – Land Use Planning in the given area according to the Italian criterion (Contini, 2010).

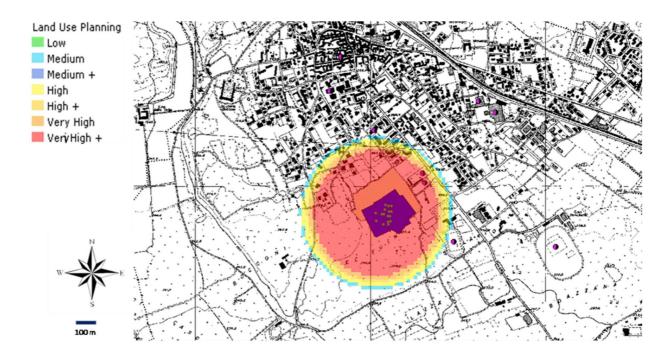


Fig. 8 - Land Use Planning in the given area according to the French criterion (Contini, 2010).

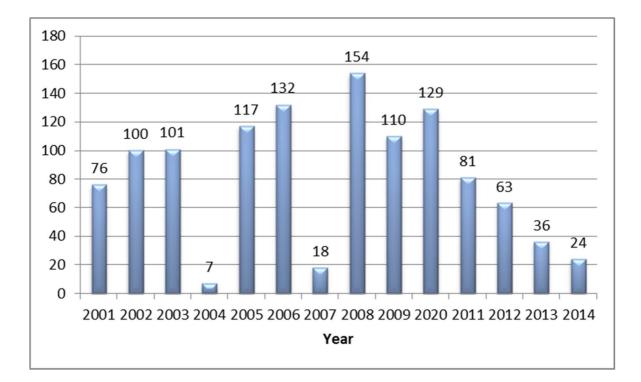


Fig. 9 - Trend of Seveso upper tier inspections in Italy before the implementation of Seveso III Directive (Ricchiuti, 2014).