



*Câmara Municipal da Covilhã*

Gabinete do Presidente

**DECLARATION**

HELIO JORGE SIMOES FAZENDEIRO, Mayor of Covilhã, under paragraph a) of No. 1 of article 35 of the legal framework for local authorities, approved by Law No. 75/2013, of September 12 (RJAL), and within the scope of the Municipality's responsibilities in the area of Development Promotion, as established in paragraph m) of No. 2 of article 23 of the RJAL, -----

**DECLARES:** -----

The Municipality of Covilhã hereby expresses its strong support for the BE-SAFE-Next project submitted to the UNITA Call for Advanced Grants on Research. -----

Cyclist safety and the promotion of active, sustainable mobility are strategic priorities for Covilha, and the proposed project, building on the UNITA Starting Grant BE-SAFE, is fully aligned with our vision for safer, smarter and more liveable urban environments. BE-SAFE-Next brings an integrated, data-driven approach that combines accident and near-miss analysis, behavioural insights, IoT and V2X technologies, and advanced simulation to support evidence-based decisions on urban cycling safety and infrastructure design. -----

We consider this initiative highly relevant for understanding local cycling risk patterns, identifying critical locations, and supporting the design and assessment of effective infrastructure and operational measures, while also exploring innovative digital solutions that can enhance our traffic management and broader mobility strategies. We strongly endorse this project and believe it will generate significant scientific and practical impact for cyclist safety and sustainable urban mobility at both national and international levels. -----

**Commitment to Collaboration** -----

The Municipality of Covilhã is willing to collaborate with the BE-SAFE-Next consortium by: -----

- Facilitating access to relevant municipal data, in accordance with applicable regulations. -----
- Supporting the identification and preparation of pilot areas within the city. -----
- Participating in technical meetings, co-creation activities and dissemination events, and contributing to the practical interpretation and potential uptake of the project's results. -----

We strongly endorse this project and believe it will generate significant scientific and practical impact for cyclist safety and sustainable mobility at both national and international levels. -----

This letter does not entail a formal financial commitment, but it reflects our genuine support for the proposal and our readiness to work constructively with the project team. -----

In light of this, I have issued this declaration, which I sign and authenticate with the embossed seal in use in this Municipality. -----

Covilhã and City Hall, March 30, 2026

**Mayor**

**Hélio Fazendeiro**