



NTUA Road Safety Update - June 2013



National Technical University of Athens Road Safety Update

June 2013

ETSC PIN Report - Back on track to reach the 2020 target - 2013



ETSC has launched the PIN Annual Report at the PIN Annual Conference, which took place in Brussels on Monday 17th of June 2013. There have been 2,661 fewer road deaths in 2012 than in 2011 in the EU as a whole. Out of the 31 countries monitored by the PIN Programme, **27 registered a drop in the number of road deaths in 2012 compared to 2011**. Frontrunners are Malta and Cyprus followed by Israel and Denmark, but road deaths increased in Switzerland, Luxembourg, Lithuania and Romania. Greece, the UK and Slovakia achieved better than EU average reductions. The 2013 PIN Award was presented to Denmark for its outstanding efforts to improve road safety. For the EU to be reaching the 2020 target through constant annual progress, another 600 deaths would have had to be saved over the 2011- 2012

period. [LINK](#)

KFV - Mobility and Road Safety in an Ageing Society, Vienna 2013



The Austrian Traffic Safety Board (KFV) organised the International Congress: Mobility and Road Safety in an Ageing Society, which took place in 19-20 June, in Vienna. The Congress focused on future aspects and solutions of **mobility and transport versus safety and quality of life** in the context of an ageing society and it brought together a wide spectrum of more than 200 safety and mobility experts to

discuss all aspects of this contemporary issue of growing importance. The Abstract book together with all the presentations are available at the Conference website. [LINK](#)

NTUA presentations concerned:

- A large driving simulator experiment on driver distraction of older drivers
- Comparative analysis of road safety of the elderly in Europe
- Supporting seniors in safe driving

Living and Walking in Cities Conference, Brescia 2013



The International Conference 'Living and Walking in Cities', organised by the Università degli Studi di Brescia and the Friendly City Study Center (CeSCAm) took place on 13-14 June in Brescia, with the participation of more than 100 experts in the fields. Twenty years after the first Road Safety Forum, held in Brescia in June 1993, the Conference came back to the issues relating to the vulnerable users' road safety.

CeSCAm Director, Professor Roberto Busi stated that there is an urgent need **to incorporate mobility and safety needs of walking and cycling in the continuous urban planning process**.

NTUA Associate Professor George Yannis presented the "State of the Art on Road Safety", highlighting basic facts on urban road safety, the needs for road safety knowledge, the key road safety research priorities and the fundamental urban road safety choices to be made by citizens and Authorities in the European cities.

Oikopolis - NTUA scientific work awarded 2013



The ceremony for the 2013 Environmental Sensitivity Awards OIKOPOLIS 2013, organised by ECOCTY took place on June 5th, 2013, in Athens. The OIKOPOLIS awards aim to promote general environmental awareness and develop social participation of enterprises, associations and institutions to undertake or support actions for the environment.

NTUA Associate Professor **George Yannis was awarded for his overall scientific work** on sustainable urban mobility, including his extensive work on road safety. He underlined that "urban mobility and safety are primary components of the urban environment and that the transportation engineers in Greece persist fighting to convincing authorities and citizens for the necessary sustainable mobility and safety solutions in the Greek cities". [LINK](#)

ETSC - Integrating Safety into the EU's Urban Transport Policy 2013



ETSC's expectations of the European Commission's upcoming urban mobility package (that will be presented in late 2013), is that it will lay out measures that will contribute to reducing road deaths by 50% by 2020 in urban areas. **Transport safety should be considered as an essential component of sustainable**

mobility and mobility planning.

In attempting to secure change in urban mobility patterns, road safety can be regarded as a critical challenge, largely because of the social and economic cost of road collisions. Real and perceived safety can have a profound effect on modal choice especially in terms of the most sustainable modes of travel - walking and cycling and ability to access public transport. ETSC strongly recommends that safety should be integrated not only into the development of Urban Mobility Plans, but also into proposed Urban Mobility Audits and Guidelines and be reflected in common targets. [LINK](#)

Investigation of the Impact of Low Cost Engineering Measures on Road Safety in Urban Areas 2013



A paper titled 'Investigation of the Impact of Low Cost Engineering Measures on Road Safety in Urban Areas' co-authored by G.Yannis, A.Kondyli and X.Georgopoulou is now published in International Journal of Injury Control and Safety Promotion. This paper investigates the impact of low cost traffic engineering measures (LCTEMs) on the improvement of road safety in urban areas. A number of such measures were

considered, such as speed humps, woonerfs, raised intersections and other traffic calming measures, which have been implemented on one-way, one-lane roads in the Municipality of Neo Psychiko in the Greater Athens Area. The application of the methodology showed that the **total number of crashes presented a statistically significant reduction**, which can be possibly attributed to the introduction of LCTEMs.

Effects of lighting on frequency and severity of road accidents 2013



A paper titled 'Effects of lighting on frequency and severity of road accidents' co-authored by G.Yannis, A.Kondyli and N.Mitzalis is now published in the Proceedings of the ICE - Transport. A total of 358.485 police-recorded accidents were analysed and the proposed models were developed with the use of log-normal regression. The application of these models allowed the investigation of the influence of road lighting and other parameters such as weather conditions, accident type and vehicle type on

the number of casualties and injuries. It appears that **road lighting contributes to the reduction of the number of accidents and their severity** and that this influence increases with the increase of the severity of the accidents. The absence of street lighting during nighttime has the highest impact on the number of fatalities and serious injuries. The results show that nighttime lighting has great potential in improving traffic safety and reducing the accident severity, especially for persons killed and seriously injured.

Correlation of traffic characteristics with road accident severity and probability 2013



A Diploma Thesis titled 'Correlation of traffic characteristics with road accident severity and probability' was presented by Apostolos Ziakopoulos in March 2013. Data concerning the road accidents occurred on Kifisias Avenue in Athens, Greece, during the period 2006 - 2010 were collected from the ELSTAT database with disaggregate data. Subsequently, traffic data (volume, speed, occupation) were obtained from the

Traffic Management Centre of Athens. For the analysis, logistic regression mathematical models were developed. The application of these models indicates that road accident severity is correlated with the logarithm of traffic density, the type of vehicle and the type of accident. When data are separated in two groups of peak and off-peak hour accidents, the parameter of traffic density is the only one appearing to be statistically significant. Furthermore, **traffic volume is the only parameter found with a statistically significant impact on accident probability**.

This Road Safety Update aims to support frequently the Greek and the International Road Safety Community with current key road safety knowledge and data, which is gathered, analysed and organised within the research activities of the Department of Transportation Planning and Engineering of the National Technical University of Athens.

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About NRSO



The mission of the NTUA Road Safety Observatory (www.nrso.ntua.gr) is to support the Greek and the International Road Safety Community with current key road safety knowledge and data, which is gathered, analysed and organised within the research activities of the Department of Transportation Planning and Engineering of the School of Civil Engineering of the National Technical University of Athens, as well as within co-operations with various national and international road safety organisations.

The NTUA Road Safety Observatory has been developed within the framework of two European Union co-funded research projects, namely SAFETYNET - Development of the European Road Safety Observatory (2004-2009) and DACOTA - Road Safety Data Collection, Transfer and Analysis (2010-2012), with Scientific Responsible for NTUA, Professor George Yannis.