



## NTUA Road Safety Update - April 2014

National Technical University of Athens  
**Road Safety Update**  
April 2014

### EU Reports second good year in a row 2013

The European Commission has published the most recent statistics on road fatalities, based on provisional data for 2013 showing that road fatalities across the EU have decreased by 8% in 2013. This reduction, following the reduction of 9% in 2012, means that Member States are **back on track towards the strategic target** to reduce the number of road deaths on Europe's roads by half in 10 years (2011-2020).

Country by country statistics show that the number of road deaths still varies greatly across the EU, from around 30 (Sweden, UK, Denmark and the Netherlands) to more than 80 (Romania, Poland, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Bulgaria and Greece) deaths per million inhabitants. [LINK](#)

In the respective accompanying European Commission Road Safety Vademecum, the basic safety trends, statistics and challenges in the EU 2010-2013 are highlighted. [LINK](#)

### Transport Research Arena, Paris 2014

The Transport Research Arena 2014 (TRA 2014) took place with great success in Paris on 14-17 April 2014. TRA 2014 is the **major conference on transport research in Europe**, organised by IFSTTAR, the French Institute of Science and Technology for Transport, Development and Networks, supported by the European Commission, the Conference of European Road Directors, and the three European Technology Platforms: the European Road Transport Research Advisory Council (ERTRAC), the European Rail Research Advisory Council (ERRAC), and the Waterborne TP. [LINK](#)

Almost 3,000 participants from 56 countries attended over 130 sessions, 650 presentations and 15 associated events. Bernard Jacob, IFSTTAR Deputy Scientific Director, stated that researchers and industrial and public policy players had **vivid discussions on our society's changing transport usage and requirements in the face of increasingly serious energy and environmental challenges**. Current and future road safety challenges were discussed in several sessions, including the Transport Safety strategic session chaired by NTUA Associate Professor George Yannis. NTUA presentations concerned:

- Transport Safety in Europe - a cross modal approach
- European perspectives for reliable crash modification factors
- Development of the European Road Safety Knowledge System
- Analysis of road safety management systems in Europe
- European Road Safety and e-Safety
- Assessment of road safety legislation, policy and institutional capacity in South-East European regions
- First exploration of the effect of road environment on distracted driving through a driving simulator study
- First findings from a simulator study on driving behaviour of drivers with cerebral diseases
- Attitudes of Greek drivers towards mobile phone use while driving
- Mobility and safety of powered two-wheelers in the OECD countries

### Dacota paper awarded best poster presentation at TRA 2014

A paper based on the results of the DaCoTA research project has been awarded the best poster of scientific paper award of the Transport Research Arena Conference. This paper was presented by NTUA Associate Professor George Yannis and concerned the **"Development of the European Road Safety Knowledge System"**, published at the Proceedings of the Transport Research Arena Conference, Paris, April 2014. The objective of this paper was the presentation of the integrated and comprehensive European Road Safety Knowledge System, which was developed within the DaCoTA research project of the 7th Framework Programme of the European Commission. [LINK](#)

### NTUA Civil Engineering School ranked 28th worldwide 2014

The Civil Engineering School of the National Technical University of Athens was ranked 28th among all Civil Engineering Schools worldwide and **7th in Europe**. This ranking is produced by the QS Organisation based on the following criteria: Research, Teaching, Employability, Facilities, Internationalization, Innovation, Engagement and Access. NTUA road safety activities have contributed to this ranking. [LINK](#)

### ROSEE - Transnational Road Safety Workshop, Budapest 2014

The Transnational Road Safety Workshop took place in Budapest, on April 9th, 2014 and was organised by the ROSEE project in the framework of the South East Europe transnational cooperation programme. Representatives from the ROSEE project countries (Italy, Romania, Hungary, Greece, Slovenia, Bulgaria) discussed on the current road safety situation in the South-East European regions, explored the potential for the improvement of the road users' and the road infrastructure safety and contributed in forming proposals and recommendations for road safety investments. All presentations are available at the ROSEE project website. [LINK](#)

The NTUA presentation concerned the Transnational Report on road safety in South-East Europe, focussing on specific road safety issues related to the policy framework, the road infrastructure and the behaviour of road users in this region. [LINK](#)

### ETSC - 12.000 car occupant fatalities in EU in 2012

In April 2014, the European transport Safety Council (ETSC) published in its redesigned website a PIN Flash concerning Car Occupant Safety. Around **240,000 car occupants were killed in road collisions in the EU in the years 2001-2012**. There were 12,345 deaths in 2012 compared with 27,700 in 2001, a cut of 55%. Deaths of car occupants were cut by more than the overall death rate (49%) and substantially more than the rate for other road users (41%). Car occupants have therefore benefitted more than other road users from road safety measures adopted over the past decade. This is not surprising, as many of those measures were targeted at car occupants including increased enforcement of the main traffic offences, improved vehicle occupant protection, and, to a lesser extent, improved infrastructure. [LINK](#)

### Relationship between motorcyclists' attitudes, behaviour and other attributes with declared accident involvement in Europe - 2014

A paper titled 'Relationship between motorcyclists' attitudes, behaviour and other attributes with declared accident involvement in Europe' co-authored by [Athanasios Theofilatos](#) and George Yannis is now published in Traffic Injury Prevention. The objective of this study is to investigate patterns of road safety attitudes and behaviors of motorcyclists in Europe on the basis of the results of the pan-European questionnaire-based survey SARTRE-4, carried out in late 2010 in 18 European countries and Israel. It was found that **motorcyclists who tend to have dangerous attitudes and behaviors as well as younger motorcyclists are more likely to have been involved in an accident**. The findings of the study provide some insight into the association between attitudes, behaviors, and declared past accident involvement. [DOI](#)

### Sixth European Road Safety Day - Athens 2014

The Sixth European Road Safety Day will take place in **Athens on May 9th, 2014** organised by the European Commission, in cooperation with the Greek EU Presidency. This one-day conference, centred around the headline theme **Safe and smart infrastructure**, will bring together road safety experts, stakeholders and decision-makers and give them the opportunity to share their knowledge and discuss ways to continue improving European road safety. [LINK](#)

The conference programme includes two round table discussions on infrastructure challenges and on technological solutions respectively. There will also be the opportunity to visit information stands where leading European road safety organisations will present their work. Registration to the conference is open to all those interested in discussing current and future road safety challenges. [LINK](#)

### ITS, eCall and Road Safety Conference 2014

A conference on Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), eCall and road safety was organised by the Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks of the Hellenic Republic in cooperation with the European Commission and ERTICO, under the auspices of the Greek Presidency of the Council of the European Union. The conference took place with great success on **25th April, in Athens**. More than 200 key stakeholders and decision makers on ITS and road safety discussed and contributed with the latest developments in the field with focus on the potential deployment of these technologies in Greece. [LINK](#)

### EFTHITA Rhodes - Workshop for 10 Years of Action 2014

EFTHITA Rhodes and the Region of South Aegean organised a workshop celebrating 10 years of actions on road safety, which took place with great success in Rhodes on 27-28 March 2014. Road safety experts and stakeholders contributed and discussed on new challenges for road accidents prevention. Special emphasis was given to **traffic education**, including an interactive theatrical performance for young children. [LINK](#)

NTUA presentations on Road Safety concerned:

- Development of the Strategic Plan for the improvement of road safety in Greece, 2011 – 2020
- Road Safety Education at the Strategic Plan for the improvement of road safety in Greece, 2011 – 2020

### FISITA World Automotive Congress in Maastricht 2014

The 35th FISITA Congress, organised by the International Federation of Automotive Engineering Societies (FISITA) and the Royal Institute of Engineers in the Netherlands (KIVI), will take place on 2-6 June in Maastricht. [LINK](#)

A special session **"Towards a Global Strategic Research Agenda for Road Safety"** is organised by the PROS European research project on the 5th of June. [LINK](#)

### FEMA - 3rd European Motorcyclists' Forum 2014

The 3rd European Motorcyclists' Forum was organised by the Federation of European Motorcyclists' Associations (FEMA) in cooperation with the Motorcycle Industry in Europe (ACEM), hosted by MEP Bernd Lange and took place with great success in the European Parliament in Brussels on 5-6 March 2014. This year's Forum focused on the question **"ITS : Can powered two wheelers benefit from new technologies deployment?"** in the context of Horizons 2020 EU research and innovation programme. [LINK](#)

The current state-of-the-art of ITS for transport has not undergone any specific impact assessment with regard to positive or negative consequences for the specific mode of transport on powered two wheels (PTWs). Powered two wheelers, as vulnerable road users, need to be carefully integrated into ITS innovation and deployment policies to guarantee that they also "benefit" from new technologies. All presentations are available at the website of the Forum. [LINK](#)

The 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](http://www.nrso.ntua.gr)) is to support the Greek and the International Road Safety Community with current key road safety knowledge and data, which are 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.