



## NTUA Road Safety Update - January 2015

National Technical University of Athens  
Road Safety Update  
January 2015

## NTUA / ERF - Road Infrastructure Safety Equipment Technical Conference - Athens 2015

A 2-day Technical Conference on 'Current Advances in Road Infrastructure Safety Equipment' organised by the European Union Road Federation (ERF), in cooperation with the Hellenic Institute of Transportation Engineers (HITE) and the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), will take place on **12-13 February 2015, in the Acropolis Museum, Athens**. registrations are now open. [LINK](#)

The first day of the Technical Conference will be dedicated to European and Greek policies and legislation with respect to road infrastructure safety, with the second focusing more on European standards and their implementation in Greece, together with good practices for road infrastructure safety equipment. Technical sessions will focus on road restraint systems, horizontal and vertical signage, work-zones, passive support and maintenance. [LINK](#)

## TRB Annual Meeting Washington 2015

The Transportation Research Board (TRB) 94th Annual Meeting was held in Washington, D.C., in 11-15 January 2015. The TRB Annual Meeting program covered all transportation modes, with more than 4,500 presentations in nearly 800 sessions and workshops addressing topics of interest to all attendees-policy makers, administrators, practitioners, researchers, and representatives of government, industry, and academic institutions. The spotlight theme for the 2015 TRB Annual Meeting was **Corridors to the Future: Transportation and Technology**. [LINK](#)

NTUA presentations concerned:

- Multilevel comparative analysis of road safety in european capital cities
- Introducing human factors in pedestrian crossing behavior models
- Driving behaviour of drivers with mild cognitive impairment and alzheimer's disease: a driving simulator study
- Do simulator measures improve identification of older drivers with MCI?
- Localization and driving behavior classification using smartphone sensors in the direct absence of GNSS
- Controlling crest vertical curvature rates based on variable grade stopping sight distance calculation
- Management of Road Infrastructure Safety

## Prof. G.Yannis Lecture at University of Maryland - 2015

NTUA Professor George Yannis has given an invited lecture at the National Transportation Center of the University of Maryland led by Prof. Lei Zhang, on **'Traffic and safety data analysis: from correlation to causation and policy support'**. The Lecture focussed on the various facets of road safety data, starting from the need for evidence based road safety policies, followed by key road safety analysis methods, the challenges of road safety measures' assessment and the role of road user behaviour and concluding with an integrated road safety approach from data monitoring and analysis to policy support. [LINK](#)

## European Commission - Safety-related aspects of tyre use 2014

The European Commission has recently released a Study on some safety-related aspects of tyre use, prepared by the TNO and TML. The overall aim of the study is to propose **policy options concerning the use of tyres for improvement of traffic safety**. Centrally to this, is the idea that end users need to make the correct assessment in relation to the tyre condition in order to achieve a level of safety as high as possible. The tyre condition is considered in relation to technical elements (tyre inflation pressure, tyre tread depth, tyre damage, tyre age, and meteorological influences) and one information element (driver awareness). The study addresses the topics of tyre usage and the impact on road safety (which are the potential safety improvements related to tyre usage from a technical perspective) and how can road users be supported to use tyres that have a better safety performance by policy options. [LINK](#)

## Swedish Motorcyclists Association - The Motorcycle Vision 2015

The second version of the Motorcycle Vision is now available by the Swedish Motorcyclists Association (SMC). The aim of the Motorcycle Vision is to introduce the motorcyclists' views on the targets in Vision Zero and how they should be achieved. Six years after the release of the first Motorcycle Vision, SMC releases the Motorcycle Vision version 2.0, **updated on the basis of statistics, research, new knowledge and experiences**. The Report focusses on the responsibility of the motorcyclists, the interaction with other users, a more motorcycle friendly transport system and the safer vehicles. [LINK](#)

## Road fatalities characteristics, Greece 1991-2012

Basic characteristics of road fatalities in Greece for the period 1991 - 2012 are summarised in a comprehensive Table (data source: ELSTAT). Since 2001, there are more than 1.100 less road fatalities per year in Greece. According to these time series data **an important decrease in road fatalities for young people** is observed during the last decade, as well as a spectacular decrease in fatalities outside urban areas and in the number of people killed in accidents with Heavy Goods Vehicles. On the contrary fatalities decrease during the last decade is limited for people killed in motorways, non resident drivers and women drivers. [LINK](#)

## Ministry of Transport - My friend the Bicycleman - 2014

A book titled 'My friend the Bicycleman' has recently been published by the Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks as a **tool to improve children's education on road safety** and prepare the future drivers. The book aims to help children understand and apply the basic rules of safe and responsible driving during riding their bike in a simple and fun way. [LINK](#)

## Greek motorways campaign for safe work zones 2014

A joint campaign is organised by the Greek Motorways 'Attiki Odos', 'Aegean Motorways', 'Gefyra', 'Egnatia Odos', 'Kentriki Odos', 'Moreas', 'Nea Odos' and 'Olympia Odos' **to raise road safety awareness at work zones**. As part of the campaign a brochure is distributed by all the country's traffic tolls, that invites drivers in mutual commitment to respect human life and thus the safety of all those working on the road. [LINK](#)

## Investigation of the impact on road safety of increasing the speed limit on motorways 2014

A Diploma Thesis titled 'Investigation of the impact on road safety of increasing the speed limit on motorways' was presented by Eleni Georgiadou in January 2014. The objective of this Diploma Thesis is to investigate the impact on road safety of **increasing the speed limit on motorways from 120 to 130 km/h** in June 2007. In order to achieve this objective, data was collected concerning road accidents on motorway sections Athens - Thebes and Athens - Tripoli from the database of Department of Transportation Planning and Engineering of the N.T.U.A. with data from the Hellenic Statistical Authority and on sections of the Egnatia Motorway from Egnatia Odos S.A. for the period 2005 - 2010. The application of the methodology indicates a statistically significant increase in the number of deaths in the section Athens - Thebes a year after raising the speed limit, possibly due to the increase of the speed limit, and then ceases to be statistically significant, probably due to improvements made to the infrastructure. In the section Athens - Tripoli a reduction in accidents and victims is indicated probably due to improvements in the infrastructure while in the Egnatia Motorway there is no statistically significant change possibly due to the high geometrical characteristics of the road which might satisfy the higher speed limit. [LINK](#)

## Needs and priorities of road safety stakeholders for evidence-based policy making - 2014

A paper titled 'Needs and priorities of road safety stakeholders for evidence-based policy making' co-authored by Eleonora Papadimitriou and George Yannis is now published in Transport Policy Journal. The objective of this research is the analysis of needs and priorities of road safety stakeholders for evidence-based policy making. Needs and priorities concern both the data to be collected or made available and **the tools to be developed or made available to support science-based policy-making**. Within the EC co-funded DaCoTA research project, an on-line survey was addressed to more than 3.000 stakeholders, mostly from European countries, in which participants were asked to assess the importance of more than 50 items reflecting data and resources for all stages of road safety policy making. Cluster analysis was carried out, revealing 4 groups of stakeholders with similar needs and priorities: a "low priorities" group, a "need data and models group", a group mainly interested on "implementation" and an "in-depth analysis" group. Further analysis suggested that the four clusters are adequately - and often similarly - represented in all groups of countries, and in all types of organizations (e.g. national administrations, universities, interest groups, road safety organizations etc.). [DOI](#)

## IBSR - International Symposium on Road Safety Behaviour Measurements and Indicators 2015

An International Symposium on Road Safety Behaviour Measurements and Indicators, organised by the Belgian Road Safety Institute, will take place in **Brussels, on 23 April 2015**. The event will feature presentations by international experts on behaviour monitoring, exchange of experiences in implementing behaviour measurements and discussions about methodologies used to build representative indicators. Abstract submission deadline is set for 20 February 2015. [LINK](#)

## Transport Research Arena, Warsaw 2016

The Transport Research Arena 2016 (TRA 2016) will take place in **Warsaw, Poland - 18-21 April 2016**. TRA is the major European conference on transport, supported by the European Commission (EC), the Conference of European Road Directors (CEDR) and the four European Technology Platforms on surface transport: the European Road Transport Research Advisory Council (ERTRAC), the European Rail Research Advisory Council (ERRAC), WATERBORNE TP, and the Alliance for Logistics Innovation through Collaboration (ALICE). TRA 2016 Conference will contribute to innovation in sustainable mobility for Europe, by bringing together all the stakeholders of the transport system. The main theme of TRA 2016 is - **MOVING FORWARD Innovative Solutions for Tomorrow's Mobility**. TRA 2016 seeks to reflect the multidisciplinary nature of the transport sector and, for this reason, addresses all stakeholders in both the public and private sectors and all professionals, regardless of their roles (researchers, practitioners, designers, constructors, operators, administrators, policy makers etc.). Abstracts submission deadline is set for March 30th, 2015. [LINK](#)

## WCTRS - World Conference on Transport Research - Shanghai 2016

The World Conference on Transport Research organised by the WCTRS and the Tongji University will take place on **10-15 of July 2016, at Shanghai, China**. The WCTRS Young Researchers' Conference will take place on 10 July 2016. The aims of the conference are to offer a unique opportunity to bring together experts in all aspects of transport research, from all parts of the world and to stimulate the exchange of ideas in the broad field of transport research. The abstract submission deadline is on March 15th, 2015. [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.