



NTUA Road Safety Update - April 2016



National Technical University of Athens
Road Safety Update

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April 2016

European Commission - Risks and countermeasures for road traffic of elderly 2016



The Road Safety Unit of DG Move of the European Commission has recently released a Report titled 'Risks and countermeasures for road traffic of elderly in Europe' prepared with the active contribution of IMOB, NTUA, LAB and ERF.

The purpose of this Report was to provide a comprehensive view on the situation of elderly road users in traffic and to provide an action plan containing recommendations for the most promising measures to be taken at the EU-level in the light of **developing a proactive strategy to enhance the road safety of the elderly** in the (near) future. This strategy is developed by:

- Assessing the main trends and road safety risks for all older road user groups
- Providing an overview and analysis of various countermeasures, including ITS, aimed at increasing road safety for all older road user groups. [LINK](#)

NTUA presentations at the European Transport Research Arena - Warsaw 2016



During the European Transport Research Arena Conference 2016, that took place in Warsaw from 18 to 21 April 2016, **NTUA has contributed a series of road safety presentations** with key results from the various national and international road safety research activities that is involved:

 An Exploration of Road Safety Parameters in Belarus and the European Union

(BeSafe)

 Pedestrian Risk Taking while Road Crossing: A Comparison of Observed and Declared Behaviour


(PedMod)


 Innovative Insurance Schemes: Pay As/How You Driver (PHD)


 Predicting Road Accidents: a Rare-Events Modeling Approach (PHD)


 Use of Accident Prediction Models in Road Safety Management – An International Inquiry (PRACT)

 Development of a Transnational Accident Prediction Model (PRACT)

 Management of Road Infrastructure Safety (IRTAD)


 Road Safety Investments and Interventions in South East Europe (ROSEE)

 Investigating the Effect of Area Type and Traffic Conditions on Distracted Driving Performance (Distract)

 Which are the Critical Measures to Assess the Driving Performance of Drivers With Brain Pathologies? (DriverBrain)

 How Safe Are Cyclists on European Roads? (ERSO+)

 Characteristics and Causes of HGV and Buses Accidents in Europe (ERSO+)

 Socioeconomic status and traffic safety of pre-school children: a study in Athens (PHD)

Transport Research Arena, Warsaw 2016



The 6th Edition of the Transport Research Arena 2016 (TRA 2016) took place with great success in Warsaw, Poland from 18 to 21 April 2016. TRA is the **major European Conference on Transport Research**, 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 contributed to innovation in sustainable mobility for Europe, with the active participation of more than 2.200 participants from more than 50 countries. The main theme of TRA 2016 was – **MOVING FORWARD Innovative Solutions for Tomorrow's Mobility**. TRA 2016 sought to reflect the multidisciplinary nature of the transport sector and, for this reason, addressed 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.). Several road safety sessions and discussions were among the key activities of the TRA 2016 Conference. [LINK](#)

UN Resolution to Establish Road Safety Trust Fund 2016



The United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution seeking to establish a road safety trust fund, **Aimed at Halving Global Number of Traffic Deaths and Injuries**. Acting without a vote, the Assembly adopted a draft resolution titled "Improving global road safety" (document A/70/L.44), expressing concern that road traffic crashes killed more than 1.25 million people and injured as many as 50 million people a year. It invited Member States and the international community to step up collaboration to meet target 3.6, and encouraged the upcoming United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Development to consider road safety and safe, affordable public transport.

Jean Todt, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Road Safety, stated that the Road Safety Trust Fund is a priority, taking into account that **the cost of road accidents and their consequences is estimated to around \$500 billion a year**. [LINK](#)

SafetyCube - Developing an Innovative Road Safety DSS - Newsletter April 2016



SafetyCube is a research project funded by the European Commission under the Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, in the domain of Road Safety. The project started on May 1st, 2015 and will run for a period of three years with primary objective to **develop an innovative road**

safety Decision Support System (DSS) that will enable policy-makers and stakeholders to select and implement the most appropriate strategies, measures and cost-effective approaches to reduce casualties of all road user types and all severities in Europe and worldwide. NTUA is actively contributing to all phases of the SafetyCube project. [LINK](#)

The latest SafetyCube newsletter with the latest project developments is now available. [LINK](#)

Road fatalities characteristics, Greece 1991-2014



Basic characteristics of road fatalities in Greece for the period 1991 - 2014 are summarised in a comprehensive Table (data source: ELSTAT). Since 2001, there are more than 1.000 less road fatalities per year in Greece. According to these time series data a **spectacular decrease (more than 60%) in road fatalities for young people and children** is observed during the last decade, as well in fatalities outside urban areas, especially in junctions and in accidents with heavy goods vehicles. On the contrary, fatalities decrease during the last decade is quite limited for motorcyclists and cyclists, older drivers, women drivers and non resident riders, as well as in junctions inside urban areas. 

Driving Instructors & Safe Driving Workshop - Athens 2016



A workshop on 'Driving Instructors and Safe Driving: **The primary sector of road safety**' organised by the Pan-hellenic Federation of Driving Instructors within the framework of Athens Money Show 2016, took place with great success on April 23rd, 2016, in Athens. Several presentations and discussions highlighted the key current road safety challenges in Greece, whereas driving instructors delivered safe and eco-driving seminars to visitors of Athens Money Show 2016 with the support of car and motorcycle driving simulators. [LINK](#)

NTUA presentation concerned:

 Road accident characteristics and countermeasures

ESRA Conference on European road users' safety attitudes, Brussels 2016



The results of the **European Survey of Road users' safety Attitudes (ESRA)** will be presented at a targeted Conference to take place on **20 June 2016, in Brussels**. This Conference is organised by the Consortium of 17 Institutes that participated at the survey under the coordination of the Belgian Institute for Road Safety (IBSR).

During the conference the main results of the ESRA survey 2015 will be presented together with the first five thematic reports on European drivers attitudes towards:

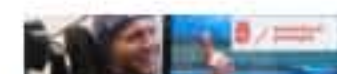
- Speeding
- Driving under the influence of alcohol & drugs
- Distraction & fatigue
- Subjective safety & risk perception
- Enforcement & support for road safety policy measures [LINK](#)

MS Hannover - 7th Expert Symposium on Accident Research, Hannover 2016



The 7th International Expert Symposium on Accident Research (ESAR) will take place in **Hannover on 9-10 June 2016**. ESAR is organised by the Medical School of Hannover, the University of Technology of Dresden and the Federal Highway Research Institute of Germany and it is a scientific colloquium which can be seen as a platform for exchanges of information on accident research issues. Representatives from authorities as well as from medical and technical institutions will come together to discuss new research issues and exchange experiences on accident prevention and methodologies of accident reconstruction. The goal of ESAR is to give the opportunity to all kind of studies on Accident Investigation Methodologies, Accident Analysis, Active and Passive Safety, Injury mechanisms and Injury Prevention to an audience of experts from government, industry and other researchers from all parts of the world. [LINK](#)

UGroningen - Traffic Psychology and Sustained Mobility MSc Programme - 2016



The MSc programme 'Traffic Psychology and Sustained Mobility' will **start running on 1 September 2016, by the University of Groningen**. The programme is based on different disciplines covering the broad theme of mobility and offer courses that examine social perspectives that consider how a decline in the ability to process information affects mobility and that focus on the clinical effects of ageing (e.g. dementia). Road Safety in the modern mobility framework is a key issue addressed by this MSc Programme. [LINK](#)

Towards an integrated approach of pedestrian behaviour and exposure - 2015



A paper titled 'Towards an integrated approach of pedestrian behaviour and exposure' authored by Eleonora Papadimitriou is now published in Accident Analysis & Prevention. An integrated methodology for the analysis of pedestrian behaviour and exposure is proposed. The paper builds on existing research on pedestrian exposure, namely the Routledge microscopic indicator, and uses integrated choice and latent variables (TCLV) models of pedestrian behaviour, taking into account road, traffic and human factors. The method is tested with data from a field survey in Athens, Greece, which used pedestrian behaviour observations as well as a questionnaire on human factors of pedestrian behaviour. The results suggest that **both pedestrian behaviour and exposure are largely defined by a small number of factors: road type, traffic volume and pedestrian risk-taking**. The probability for risk-taking behaviour and the related exposure decrease in less demanding road and traffic environments. A synthesis of the results reveals conditions of increased risk exposure: principal urban arterials (where risk-taking behaviour is low but the related exposure is very high) and minor arterials (where risk-taking behaviour is more frequent, and the related exposure is still high). A "paradox" of increased risk-taking behaviour of pedestrians with low exposure is found, suggesting that these pedestrians may compensate in moderate traffic conditions due to their increased walking speed. [DOI](#)

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 are 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 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.