



2nd International Conference, Bitola, May 17 – 19, 2018

CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS

The 2nd International Conference entitled "Transport for Today's Society" was held at the Faculty of Technical Sciences in Bitola, Republic of Macedonia, from 17th until 19th of May 2018. It was organized as a response to the current trends in transport activity characterized by the technological and automotive advances which change the way people travel and goods are transported.

The Conference was realized through six plenary sessions. Participants from Poland, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, prepared papers the contents of which moved from the new way of defining and solving the problems in the phase of planning, toward more comprehensive, IT oriented, sustainable and multimodal solutions to the problems of today's and future transport. The articles presented at the conference covered topics in technology advances in transport and their impact on highway design and infrastructure, travel demands and traffic management; trends of globalization and urbanization which affects the shape of cities, to new models for interacting with customers to provide transport services as well as the recent developments in the automobile industry, proposals for improvement of public transport services and urban transport sustainability and finally to the digital era in transport and its impact on traffic safety.

The fresh view on current global and Macedonian issues related to the field of traffic and transport, was given by the guest speakers and presenters from Great Britain, Germany, Serbia, Macedonia, within their lectures and presentations, focused on: public – private partnerships in financing the public transport development; methods and applications for using simulation in railway transport; ICT technologies as the main tool for connectivity in the Western Balkans; the capabilities of signaling and safety systems for railway infrastructure; mobile application and web platform in reporting the defects on Macedonian road network; need for new articles in the Macedonian Rulebook for traffic signs and specific solutions for better urban sustainability of urban transport in Macedonian cities.

Besides the mentioned topics, special attention was paid to the presentation regarding transnational approach towards European Transport Culture within the European Platform of Transportation Sciences, (EPTS).

Additionally, the book "Rapid Transit Line Performance Analysis: A Stochastic approach" was promoted by its author. It is available through www.amazon.com and refers to "systems approach that included operation and interactions among many trains along an entire rapid transit line".

In accordance with the Conference website, students on various study cycles were encouraged to participate at the event. Therefore, parts of the seminar papers and diploma works of students from the first study cycle within the Department of Traffic and Transport Engineering at the Faculty of Technical Sciences, were presented by poster presentations, in the frame of specific session.

The main conclusions raised during the Conference are:

- ✓ There is a need for a shift from conventional planning, (based on speed, convenience and automobile oriented improvements), to more comprehensive and multimodal approach which includes a broader range of modes, objectives, impacts and improvement options;
- ✓ Dynamic management of the system, encouraging mode shift, using of adequate pricing policies, improving the reliability of the road network, while providing funds for selected road capacity, and promoting green road construction in order to emphasize the sustainable development and environmental protection, are key actions directed towards safe roads, reliable journeys and informed travelers, as the basic objectives which will shape the future of road network;
- ✓ Connectivity and digitalization are key trends which will mark the direction of movement in automotive industry. It means that, according to the required characteristics of future mobility, (it should be much easier, more flexible and more individual for users), car of the future will be electrified, autonomous, used, shared and connected;
- ✓ Fundamental changes in technology, operation, design and financing of world transport system are needed in order to make it more sustainable. This involves the engagement of government, business, civil society and individuals in the process of minimizing carbon and other emissions and negative environmental impacts;
- ✓ Improving traffic safety by setting reduction targets,(make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; ensure healthy lives), and adopting a safe system approach,(road safety management, safe infrastructure, safe vehicles, safe road users, post-crash response);

- ✓ Recent technological and automotive advances, combined with networked assistance systems, are the prerequisites for efficient transport systems. Therefore, current areas for innovation are: digitization, which implies planning based on real-time data, technology leads to energy – efficient and safe processes while flexible management is oriented towards supporting collaboration within and between companies;
- ✓ Urban transit plays an integral part in the cities of tomorrow. Global trends, such as technology and digitalization, climate change, increasing urbanization, shape the future of urban transport systems, which means application of new mobility services within public transport or so called integrated mobility platforms in order to combine and use diverse transport modes;
- ✓ Rail is a very important service which leads to the sustainable development of society. In order to meet the challenges ahead, railway transport should deliver smart solutions regarding safety, security, availability, accessibility, connectivity, sustainability.
- ✓ Sustainability of transport solutions has becoming a major issue and it must be the main driving force in building and enforcing any transport policy.
- ✓ There is a need for establishing a platform for joint action of institutions co-organizers of the Conference. This involves the sharing of opinions and experiences, ensuring support and strengthening cooperation in the process of applications on various projects, promotion and stimulation of academic mobility, development of joint programs.

These conclusions are the direct results of the Conference and will serve as the foundation for the future activities and work of all those involved in the area of traffic and transport.

Done in Bitola, Macedonia on 19th of May 2018,