

## EWGT2013

Proceedings of the 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the EURO Working Group on Transportation

### Editorial

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#### 1. Introduction

These Proceedings contain the revised versions of a set of papers submitted and presented at EWGT 2013, the 16th Meeting of the Euro Working Group in Transportation, held in Porto, Portugal, in September 2013.

The Euro Working Group on Transportation (EWGT) was founded in July 1991 in Cetraro (Italy) during the 7th Euro Summer Institute on Urban Traffic Management, a school for young researchers, organized by Maurizio Bielli.

The 1st EWGT meeting was held in Landshut, Germany, in October 1992, organized by Markos Papageorgiou. Next meetings were held in different European cities, namely Paris (2), Barcelona, Newcastle upon Tyne, Goteborg, Helsinki, Budva, Rome, Bari (2), Poznan (2), Ischia, and Padua.

These meetings were always designed as a way to enhance the development of the multiple fields in transportation research within the various participating teams, also providing an invaluable opportunity for networking and fruitful contacts between researchers and practitioners of the different countries.

EWGT 2013 was held under the motto “Can we do more with fewer resources?”

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## 2. *Can we do more with fewer resources?*

We are living today a widespread financial crisis, with worrying signs of deterioration of public services and negative impacts on citizens' mobility. However, nothing at the moment allows us to conclude that the world of tomorrow has to be worse than that of today. Against the fatalistic trends, our challenge and motivation for this conference was: let us, in our field of research or activity, find positive answers for the future of transportation - why should we not be able to do more even with less resources?

The Transportation sector involves a wide range of industries and services from vehicle manufacturers and suppliers to infrastructure providers, mobility management, communication technologies, energy companies, and many others, employing millions of people in our planet and therefore with a tremendous economic, social and environmental impact.

Nevertheless, transportation is the main promoter of accessibility (to people, goods, information, leisure, services,...) which is a key factor in developing social, regional and economic cohesion within the countries.

Through mobility and accessibility, transportation contributes to the quality of life of every citizen. Due to the importance of the role of Transportation, an accelerated development of sustainable, integrated transport solutions is necessary.

And the EWGT can and, in fact, does contribute to provide a framework to focus coordination efforts of public and private resources on the necessary research activities.

Knowing that, in the future, the world population will mainly live in cities, the focus of our activities today should have in mind three key elements of the transport systems: urban mobility; freight transport; and interfaces between transport means. Together, these elements should provide an integrated core transport system to serve the transport demand of more than 80% of the world population.

As referred by the European Commission, in these domains, transport research should probably address efficiently one issue and be efficient in delivering benefits towards 4 pillars, representing the main 4 societal objectives of the transportation field:

- Environment and Health in Transport, looking at understanding and decreasing the negative impacts that mobility has on both;
- Mobility and Traffic Efficiency, addressing issues related to network management and innovative services, in particular those enabled by intelligent transport systems (ITS);
- Transport Systems Safety and Security; and
- Social and Economic Challenges of Transport, mainly Social Cohesion and Mobility for Urban Economic Development.

Globalization presents many challenges and it is the appropriate time to cooperate with the aim of achieving mutual benefits.

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