



The Conference Opening Ceremony

**11th International Conference
TRAFFIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS
OF COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION IN TERMS OF
INTEGRATION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION
Vlašić, Travnik, Bosnia and Herzegovina,
2015**

The 11th International Conference “Traffic and Environmental Problems of Countries in Transition in Terms of Integration in the European Union”, organized by the International University Travnik (Faculty of Traffic and Transport Engineering and Faculty of Ecology), was held on 22 and 23 May 2015 at the Hotel Pahuljica on the Vlašić mountain. The main aim of the Conference was to present and exchange the latest scientific, professional and practical knowledge in solving topical transport and ecological problems of states in transition from the aspect of integration processes into the European Union. The Conference focused on the topics dealing with contemporary problems in transport and ecology related to integration processes into the European Union.

The International Conference was opened by the Rector of the International University Travnik, the academician, Prof. Ibrahim Jusufrić, Ph.D., emphasizing the positive effects of the increased scope of transport on the economic development of cities and regions. However, he warned especially of the increasing negative effects of transport and past transport policy,

whose negative effects are most expressed in urban environments. The consequences of the increasing number of citizens and motor vehicles result in ever greater congestion on road networks, increased harmful emissions, increased fuel consumption, noise, traffic accidents and occupation of space and time. It is, therefore, necessary to invest even greater efforts in protecting rationally using natural resources, so that future generations would have greater possibilities for development and progress, especially in relation to the negative effects of transport on the environment and natural resources.

The Conference received direct academic support by the attendance of the members of the Academies of Sciences from Zagreb, Belgrade, as well as from Europe (European academies of sciences, innovation and sustainable development) and the United States of America (New York Academy of Sciences). The Conference was also attended by a number of scientists, distinguished presenters and experts in the mentioned topics from Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, England and Bosnia and Herzegovina. On behalf of the Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences in Zagreb, the audience was addressed by the Vice-dean for science and international cooperation, Prof. Tomislav Josip Mlinarić, Ph.D., emphasizing the cooperation in development projects and exchange of scientific and technical knowledge.

The support to this Conference, as expression of a strong link with the social community and bodies of local authority and self-government through the pres-

ence of Muhamed Softić, Adviser to the Prime Minister of the Central Bosnia Canton (SBK), Sedžad Milanović, the Minister of SBK Economy, Zoran Matošević, Deputy Minister for Education and Science of SBK and Admira Hadžiemrić, the President of the Travnik Municipality, confirmed once again that the already second decade of organizing international conferences by the International University Travnik contributes to the fact that the consistency of methodological occurrence of scientific and academic orientations has no alternative except for even more detailed and improved quality of epistemological and empirical analytic approach to the realization of the defined goals.

The most important Conference topics in the field of Transport included: traffic policy and transport problems, mobility, traffic safety, transport infrastructure, multimodal transport, new technologies in transport, etc.; the fields of Logistics covered: green logistics, logistic and distributive centres, transport logistics, warehousing, and inventory management; the field of Ecology included: global ecological problems, ecological problems in transport, ecological systems, urban ecology, etc.

The Conference saw presentations and considerations of influences of transport and ecological problems on integration processes of the states in transition, and different approaches to their solving, with special emphasis on Bosnia and Herzegovina. At all levels of management and decision-making one should improve the development processes and the provision of high-quality traffic surfaces and to raise the operational efficiency of transport and ecological system. The key activities are oriented to accelerated economic growth and development, with faster and more efficient overcoming of the present transport and ecological problems, both in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in other states in transition. The integration

processes into the European Union require harmonization and achievement of the defined standards that will enable entry onto a unique economic area and faster economic development.

The scientific and technical papers presented at the Conference, with the results incorporated into the conclusions, are expected to contribute to upgrading of scientific and professional competencies of the staff dealing with transport and ecology. Through the presentation of scientific and research possibilities, included in the publication of the Proceedings, the International University Travnik provided assumptions for the recognizability of the possible solutions within valid presented possibilities of solving the transport and ecological problems in the process of integration in the European Union.

Therefore, the efficient solving of topical transport and ecological problems in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as in other states in transition, requires intensive cooperation with the European Union and its members. The regional connectivity, intense and productive cooperation with the surrounding states presents an opportunity that needs to be used to synergically improve the transport and ecological dimension. The definition and adoption of strategic documents (National Safety Program, action plans, Traffic Development Plan), with intensive introduction and application of new technologies will define a long-term vision of the transport sector development with the focus on safety, transport infrastructure development and institutional frames, at the same time contributing to the economic development and prosperity.

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