



COST ACTION CA16222

**WISE-ACT**

Wider Impacts and Scenario Evaluation of  
Autonomous and Connected Transport



Funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme  
of the European Union

Winter 2019

## Newsletter #2

Welcome to the WISE-ACT Newsletter! This issue covers the latest updates on Action activities, highlighting opportunities to get involved with the WISE-ACT community.

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*60 participants from more than 30 countries joined the WISE-ACT workshop in Budapest*

### Workshop #2 report *by Domokos Esztergár-Kiss & Nikolas Thomopoulos*

**B**udapest is well known for its history and beautiful architecture since the Austro-Hungarian empire. However, not many of the 60 WISE-ACT participants were aware that BME – the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, founded in 1782, is one of the oldest Institutes of Technology in the world. BME hosted on 21-22 November 2018 the second WISE-ACT workshop titled **ACT for Public Transport**. Participants appreciated how such a historic city is able to blend its legacy with new mobility trends, namely **Autonomous and Connected Transport (ACT)**.

The event was opened by WISE-ACT Action Chair, Dr Nikolas Thomopoulos, who illustrated the workshop agenda. Then, the local host Dr Domokos Esztergár-Kiss welcomed workshop participants to the BME premises and highlighted relevant Faculty research projects about transport automation. Subsequently, **Dr Zsolt Szalay**, the Head of the BME Automotive Technologies Department, presented the comprehensive approach at the university in terms of education and research. Whilst trying to summarise the breadth of BME activities, he presented the mobility platform, the [RECAR](#) research center, the Autonomous



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Vehicle Control Engineer Master programme, the PhD research programme, as well as the modules of the Zalazone automotive proving site. Given the overlapping interests and the high quality of teaching and research conducted at BME, WISE-ACT will be exploring collaboration opportunities in the future. Among others, this will also contribute to increase collaboration with an important institution located in an ITC COST country.



The first keynote speaker was **Dávid Vitézy**, the former CEO of BKK Transport Centre for Budapest, who focused on the inclusion of autonomous technologies in public transport systems. His primary message was that **autonomous vehicles will have a very significant effect on everyday transport behaviour and could be particularly useful in rural areas**. However, they cannot fully substitute a well-functioning public transport network which would include diverse modes and would constitute the mobility infrastructure backbone in most urban areas.



Along similar lines, **Piia Karjalainen**, from ERTICO ITS Europe and MaaS Alliance, gave a

keynote on the second day focusing on **Mobility-as-a-Service**. Through a range of initiatives undertaken in cities from Finland to Spain, she outlined the opportunities and challenges of this emerging mobility concept. She highlighted the **need for trials and relevant regulatory frameworks**, which triggered a lively follow up discussion with WISE-ACT experts.

Work conducted during the Working Group meetings was focused on survey design. WISE-ACT Vice Chair, Prof.ssa Cristina Pronello, underlined the need to align efforts in this task. Furthermore, workshop participants provided input for the WISE-ACT Glossary and a DG CONNECT 5G consultation. The workshop concluded with a plenary session and the Managing Committee meeting, where key decisions about future activities were taken.



Aside meetings and discussions, we were privileged to attend lab and test site visits organized by our local host, Dr Domokos Esztergár-Kiss. Workshop participants had the



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opportunity to visit the vehicle test lab, the transport technology lab and the traffic control lab within the BME Faculty of Transportation Engineering and Vehicle Engineering. Yet, the highlight of this workshop was reserved for Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018, when an optional trip to **Zalazone** took place, co-funded by a national project of BME. A small but enthusiastic group travelled to Zalaegerszeg where a **new autonomous test track** is being built. Zoltán Rózsás, of the Zalazone technical team, talked about the technical functions of the proving ground, while Dr Viktor Tihanyi, associate professor at BME Faculty of Transportation Engineering and Vehicle Engineering, presented the results of a national research project related to the test track. After a short Q&A session, the participants had the opportunity to go around the test track and have a first-hand experience of the planned functionalities of the site i.e. Smart City zone,

junctions, motorway, braking platform, dynamic platform and high-speed oval.



Needless to say, workshop participants left BME with very fond memories through informal discussions and ideas exchanged, including those during the formal dinner at Vörös Postakocsi (Red Post Coach) in one of the famous walking streets of the Pest side of the city. Some are already looking forward to the next opportunity to revisit Budapest e.g. at the [hEART 2019 conference](#), but **everyone is looking forward to the next WISE-ACT event which will be a Training School hosted by Prof. Yoram Shifan at the Technion in March 2019.**







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## News & Updates



WG1 Leader, Dr Floridea di Ciommo, and WG2 participant, Prof. Bert van Wee, along with Action Chair Dr Nikolas Thomopoulos were invited to join the **Automation in Transport** event in Brussels on 20 November 2018. The event, opened by the European Commissioner for Transport, Violeta Bulc, highlighted the significance of labour issues for policy makers and labour unions across Europe. It also offered WISE-ACT participants valuable insight linked with WG objectives about automation in transport which is evident across modes.



WG2 Leader, Dr Eda Beyazit Ince of the ITU Faculty of Architecture founded **IstanbulON Urban Mobility Lab** aiming at addressing the challenges associated with the currently increased levels of urban mobility. IstanbulON, which is supported by ITU's award-winning Technopark and Europe's largest incubation centre, is a knowledge production and sharing platform based on the living lab concept, focusing on: increasing awareness about the social, economic and environmental impacts of transport; overcoming cultural barriers or innovative and shared mobility; monitoring transport policy implementation and information of policy makers among others. Those interested in collaboration should contact Dr Eda Beyazit or directly IstanbulON: [istanbulon@itu.edu.tr](mailto:istanbulon@itu.edu.tr).



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**ESPM** in Brazil hosted the WISE-ACT Action Chair and **ITS Rio (Institute for Technology & Society)** invited him to the Varandas ITS #66 public engagement event to discuss contemporary issues surrounding autonomous and connected transport. Given its country size and rate of development, Brazil is making leaps in several sectors including transport. It was agreed with Dr Fabro Steibel, Executive Director, that further collaboration opportunities will be explored through WISE-ACT.



2019 started with the **OASC Connected Smart Cities conference** in Brussels, where WISE-ACT participant Seppo Haataja hosted a very interesting session about Human Centred Mobility. Local authorities and award-winning organisations joined the session panel which discussed the MaaS integration with EVs and AVs.

In January, several WISE-ACT participants attended the **98<sup>th</sup> TRB (Transportation Research Board)** conference in Washington DC, presenting their research and contributing in the knowledge exchange between Europe and the US. The **Socioeconomic impacts of Automated and Connected Vehicles** report based on the outputs of the 6<sup>th</sup> EU-US Symposium was released during the TRB conference. Dr Marcin Stepniak was among the 6<sup>th</sup> EU-US Symposium Planning Committee members, whereas Dr Karel Martens was one of the two keynote speakers alongside Michael Ableson of Ford.



A range of surveys on various issues of ACT are taking place globally, while the WISE-ACT surveys are being currently designed. Prof. Andreas Riemer of the human-computer interacting group at Technische Hochschule Ingolstadt is co-leading the European part of a survey focusing on trust in automated vehicles. Measuring trust is a key challenge, since no universal scale exists currently. If you would like to complete this survey, which will take you 20' – 30', please follow this link: <http://www.automationtrust.net>. THI-CARISSMA is also offering job opportunities for researchers and PhD which are available here: [www.thi.de/forschung/carissma/karriere](http://www.thi.de/forschung/carissma/karriere)



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## Calls for Papers



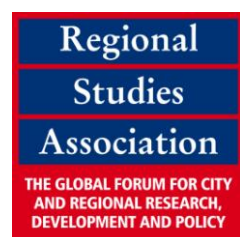
Integrated Transport Research Lab (ITRL)

KTH is organising the **Conference on Integrated Transport CIT2019** in June and Prof. Yusak Susilo is contributing. Extended abstracts of 1,000 words are accepted until 20th February 2019. More information available here:

[www.itrl.kth.se/events/cit19](http://www.itrl.kth.se/events/cit19)

The call for abstracts of the **8<sup>th</sup> Symposium of the European Association for Research in Transportation – hEART** which will take place 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at BME in Budapest has been extended to 28<sup>th</sup> February. More information is available here:

<http://heart2019.bme.hu>



A RSA Special Session: **Predicting spatial impacts of Automated Vehicles** is organised by Dr Marcin Stepniak and Dr Veronique van Acker during the RSA Annual Conference in Santiago de Compostela 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Relevant queries should be directed to them and 300 words long abstracts are invited to be submitted until 28<sup>th</sup> February through the RSA website:

<https://members.regionalstudies.org/lounge/Meetings/Meeting?ID=209>

Dr José Santa Lozano is guest editing a Special Issue about **Smart, Connected and Efficient Transportation Systems**, covering the following topics: vehicular communications, cooperative services, sensor integration, onboard smart devices and autonomous vehicles, through analysis, simulation and field trials. Those interested should contact him directly and submit full papers by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019 here: <https://susy.mdpi.com/user/login>

A lot of submissions have been received in response to the Call for Abstracts for the edited volume **Policy implications of Autonomous Vehicles** of the Elsevier Advances in Transport Policy and Planning book series. Dr Dimitris Milakis, the WISE-ACT publications Co-ordinator, has taken the lead in the review process and will offer relevant updates in future WISE-ACT events. Feel free to contact him with relevant queries about this edited volume.





## Get involved in the Action

- We are currently developing a range of **WISE-ACT surveys** for 2019, so get in touch if you have a relevant survey or project in progress. We would like to hear your suggestions and share experiences.
- Are you a policy maker trying to find your way within this rapidly developing field? Are you an expert and use subject related terms? Then you need to consult or contribute to our **WISE-ACT Glossary**!
- Our Action has completed various **STSM** rounds last year and there are still ongoing ones. Check out for new calls in the next few months here: <https://wise-act.eu/stsm>

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## Stay in touch

The WISE-ACT community combines offline and online interactions. To get in touch with us:

- Visit our **website**: <http://www.wise-act.eu> and subscribe to our **Newsletter**.
- Contact us by **e-mail**: [info@wise-act.eu](mailto:info@wise-act.eu)
- Follow us on **Twitter**: @WISEACT2050

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