

# EUROPEAN MOBILITY WEEK

16-22 SEPTEMBER 2016

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In the year 2000, the Car-Free Day started as a European initiative. It served as an opportunity for towns and cities to show how environmental issues concern them. Following the success of the Car-Free Day, the European Commission launched a full week dedicated to the promotion of smart and sustainable urban mobility; EUROPEAN MOBILITY WEEK was born and it has been held from 16 to 22 September every year since 2002.

The campaign is politically and financially supported by the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport of the European Commission. The European Secretariat is managed by a consortium led by EURO CITIES, the network of major European cities, and it includes other two city networks (ICLEI and Polis), a professional communication agency (ICF-Mostra) and a recognised international organisation (Regional Environmental Centre).

EUROPEAN MOBILITY WEEK is only possible thanks to an extensive list of partnerships sought by local campaigners. Among these partners are civil society organisations, local media, schools and academic institutions.

This year the campaign has presented a renewed website. [www.mobilityweek.eu](http://www.mobilityweek.eu) aims to be a single online meeting point for public and private organisations working to promote sustainable urban mobility. Participating local authorities can be found [here](#) and the MOBILITY ACTIONS registered by other organisations during the whole are displayed [here](#).

The campaign supports the promotion of EU policies in the areas of transport, climate change, energy efficiency and sustainable urban development. Last year 799 local authorities implemented 5,657 permanent measures. The longstanding measures relate to issues such as urban freight, the improvement of public spaces - including reallocating motorised areas for clean and soft modes of transport and walking - and ICT solutions.

As recently revealed by the European Commission, one of EU's big priorities is decarbonising the transport sector. The transport sector is taking the first step towards a low-carbon economy and would need to reduce its emissions by 30% by 2030 compared to 2005.

Several policy statements have pointed out the importance of raising awareness on sustainable urban mobility. Given the negative impact of local transport on economic development, air quality, energy consumption, CO2 emissions and quality of life, it is important to raise awareness on the benefits of a multimodal lifestyle.

**Smart mobility. Strong economy.**

[www.mobilityweek.eu](http://www.mobilityweek.eu)



REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

