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PRESS RELEASE

“Autonomous vehicles: driving the debate on public transport”

“What is the impact on our European cities?”

Brussels, 30 January 2018

The role of autonomous vehicles is *driving the debate* on public transport.

As the European Commission supports the development and testing of autonomous vehicles, the Europe Department at UITP hosted a half-day conference (Brussels, 25 January 2018) to discuss the impact of AVs on European cities.

The objective of the event was to tackle the most important questions surrounding the impact autonomous road vehicles will have on cities and public transport.

Beyond the technological aspects, UITP wished to highlight what the deployment of autonomous vehicles will mean for cities and under which conditions this innovation can really become a success.

In order to develop to debate surrounding AVs, the Europe Department at UITP were delighted to welcome distinguished speakers and contributors such as Karima Delli, MEP and Chair of the Committee on Transport and Tourism, European Parliament; Professor Markus Friedrich, University of Stuttgart, Germany and Maximilian Strotmann,



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Member of the Cabinet of Andrus Ansip, Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of the Digital Single Market, European Commission to offer their opinions on autonomous vehicles.

"How will AVs develop? They will develop because of people like you (transport associations and bodies). Tomorrow the autonomous car must be sustainable...the electricity must be green. Renewable energy needs to happen now."

Karima Delli MEP

The event addressed and discussed key issues such as the public transport sector's experience so far with autonomous road vehicles; AVs becoming a part of public transport across our cities, the improvement of urban mobility and quality of life, public transport priorities and investments and what recommendations can be made for the European Union.

The future of autonomous vehicles will continue to develop – in order to stay involved in the debate read the official UITP policy brief on autonomous vehicles [here](#)

NOTE TO EDITORS

The International Association of Public Transport (UITP) is a passionate champion of sustainable urban mobility and is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes. We have 1,500 member companies giving access to 16,000 contacts from 96 countries. Our members are public transport authorities and operators, policy decision-makers, research institutes and the public transport supply and service industry. Visit our website www.uitp.org
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