

Workshop Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS)
**“Towards a new transportation culture:
technology innovations for safe, efficient and sustainable mobility”**
17 – 18 November 2014, Brussels

On 17-18 November UNECE and the Federal Public Service Mobility and Transport of Belgium organized a workshop in Brussels on Intelligent Transport Systems. The goal of the workshop was to discuss how technology can be better used to create a driving and transportation culture that contributes to safe, efficient and sustainable mobility in the coming years.

The workshop attracted internationally renowned experts, policy makers, and stakeholders from the public and private sectors. The workshop consisted of several panel discussions that explored topics such as the technological and regulatory expectations for connected and automated vehicles, and the challenges of harmonizing different levels of automation.

The workshop concluded that safe, efficient and sustainable mobility was unthinkable without ITS. A revolution is definitely on-going. Technologies are evolving to create a new transportation culture based on sharing and connected vehicles. Some of the main opportunities in the use of ITS are in improving road safety, managing mobility, protecting the environment, and enhancing economic development. The challenges remain in finding a common definition for ITS and adapting existing conventions and agreements to new developments. Also funding and the management of data and connectivity may pose some challenges, for example in the area of cyber security. The way new technologies are introduced to the market is an additional consideration.

The top priority areas identified during the workshop and where progress is needed in the near future include the development of autonomous cars and automated driving, safety in intersections and level crossings, intelligent road charges and smart e-tolling, traffic management, and variable message signs.

When looking towards the future, a way forward would include encouraging new ideas and partnerships in order to further develop regulations in Working Parties such as WP.1 and WP.29, supporting the vehicle industry, and increasing cooperation between stakeholders, both on a national and international level.

More information about the event and the presentations that were delivered during the workshop can be found on the Transport Division's website.