



# A Price Worth Paying

**MAKING ROAD CHARGING WORK FOR EUROPE**

## **A MAJOR ONE-DAY CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF ROAD CHARGING IN THE EU**

**Brussels, 9 April 2008**

Goethe-Institut • rue Belliard, 58 • Brussels

*speakers include:*

**Dr. Peter Verlič**

Secretary of State for Transport, Slovenia (current holder of the EU presidency)

**Anne Houtman**

Director European Commission DG TREN

**Ulrich Stockmann & Corien Wortmann-Kool**

Transport and Tourism Committee  
European Parliament

In recent years, several countries in the EU have introduced road user charges for heavy goods vehicles. Many others have plans to introduce similar systems in the future.

This year, the EU law that governs road user charges, the so-called 'Eurovignette' directive may be revised. In Summer 2008 the European Commission is expected to propose a revised model and rules for states that wish to include the 'external costs' of road transport in charges.

This significant change could, for the first time, enable member states to charge road users for the social costs of air and noise pollution, climate change, congestion and road accidents. Integrating the 'polluter pays' principle in road charging schemes promises a more efficient road transport industry and numerous environmental and social benefits.

On 9 April 2008, the Slovenian Presidency of the EU in cooperation with T&E, the European Federation for Transport and Environment, will host a major international conference on the future of road charging in Europe.

Existing schemes in Europe will be presented along with future plans currently in the development stages. The discussion will focus on economic, technical and political aspects of charging and will provide an important contribution to the preparation of the new EU legislative framework on fair and efficient pricing.

**Live interpretation in English, French and German will be available.**



**To register:**  
[conference@transportenvironment.org](mailto:conference@transportenvironment.org)

**Further information:**  
[www.transportenvironment.org](http://www.transportenvironment.org)



**European Federation for  
TRANSPORT and ENVIRONMENT**

# PROGRAMME

## Moderators: Jos Dings, Director T&E (AM) and Magnus Nilsson, Vice-President T&E (PM)

09.15 Welcome on behalf of the Slovenian Presidency of the EU  
*Dr. Peter Verlič, Secretary of State for Transport, Slovenian Presidency of the Council*

09.30-10.45 External costs internalisation and road user charging

Methodologies to estimate external costs: results from the IMPACT Study  
*H.P. van Essen, CE Delft*

Benefits of external cost internalisation  
*Steve Perkins, International Transport Forum*

Panel debate with the speakers and participation of *Professor Dr. Werner Rothengatter (Institute for Economic Policy Research (IWW), University of Karlsruhe, Germany) and Andrea Ricci (ISIS, Italy)*

## COFFEE BREAK

11.15-12.30 Implementing charging schemes: technical possibilities and challenges

Implementation of road charging schemes: experience and outlook  
*Karel Feix, Managing Director, Kapsch TrafficCom Czech Republic*

Enforcement of road charging schemes and the EU legislative framework  
*Jonas Sundberg, SWECO*

Costs of road charging schemes  
*Andrea Felix, Rapp Trans*

## LUNCH

14.00-14.30 Keynote speech on the internalisation of external costs of transport  
*Anne Houtman, Director European Commission DG TREN*

14.30-16.00 European experiences and plans on road user charging

The Swiss experience  
*Dr Christian Küng, Vice-director, Department for Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications, Switzerland*

The experience in Germany: social and environmental benefits.  
*Professor Dr. Werner Rothengatter, (Institute for Economic Policy Research (IWW), University of Karlsruhe, Germany)*

Plans for France  
*Olivier Quoy, Ministry of Environment and Transport, France*

Plans for expansion in Czech Republic  
*Jiří Hodač, Deputy Minister of Transport, Czech Republic*

## COFFEE BREAK

16.30-17.30 Debate on the policy challenges

Corien Wortmann-Kool MEP  
Ulrich Stockmann MEP  
Jens Huegel Head of Sustainable Development, IRU  
Johannes Ludewig Executive Director, CER  
Jos Dings Director, T&E

*The conference organisers gratefully acknowledge funding support from:*

Deutsche Bahn; Kapsch TrafficCom AG; SNCF; Gobierno de Aragon - Spain; Generalitat de Catalunya - Spain; Bundesamt fuer Verkehr; Switzerland; Gobierno Vasco - , Spain; Associacio' per a la Promocio' del Transport Public (PTP), Spain



T&E gratefully acknowledges funding support from the European Commission.



eu2008.si



European Federation for TRANSPORT and ENVIRONMENT