



## Press release

Perugia, 28 November 2012

### **CITY OF PERUGIA RE-ELECTED FOR POLIS PRESIDENCY**

**At today's Annual General Assembly the city of Perugia received a unanimous vote to hold the presidency of the Polis network once again. On Thursday, Perugia will open this year's Polis Conference to an audience of more than 200 urban mobility practitioners from across Europe.**

"We have to continue to address the transport challenges of our cities and regions and to strive for more efficient transport systems", said Perugia's mayor Wladimiro Boccali when Perugia was re-elected as Polis president this afternoon. As vice president of the network BKK Budapest was elected. "We look forward to strengthening our cooperation with Polis in order to achieve important objectives for our city."

Perugia is the capital of the Umbria region in central Italy and is a classic example of an Italian fortified hill-top city. In recent years the city has initiated several transport projects as part of its sustainable urban mobility planning process, with the aim to reduce air pollution from motorised traffic and to improve accessibility to the city centre by offering alternative mobility solutions (i.e. escalators, Minimetrò) which are fully integrated into the traditional public transport system.

Having held the 2012 presidency already, Perugia hosts this year's Annual Polis Conference on the coming days. On 29 and 30 November conference delegates will learn and debate about decision-making support tools, open systems for traffic management and information services, financing transport and the link between transport and health. Perugia, for example, will present the city's experiences on providing public transport services in peripheral areas to ensure territorial cohesion, and the city's road safety decision support system. The technical visits on Friday afternoon will offer attendees a hands-on view of some of these initiatives.

The Annual Polis Conference is an important event in the year for urban mobility professionals. It provides an opportunity for cities and regions to showcase their transport achievements to an international audience, and for the wider transport community to engage with representatives of city and regional authorities on innovative transport solutions. Technical sessions at the conference cover innovative topics identified by Polis members.

"We are most satisfied with the high level of interest in the Annual Polis Conference. It is a good indicator of the health of our network and of its interest across Europe", concluded Polis president Wladimiro Boccali.

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**The 2012 Polis Conference will be streamed online:**

<http://www.polisnetwork.eu/livestream>

For twitter users: the hashtag is #polis12.

More information incl. the conference programme: <http://www.polisnetwork.eu/annual-conference>

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**Notes to editors:**

Polis is a network of European cities and regions working together to develop innovative technologies and policies for local transport.

Our aim is to improve local transport through integrated strategies that address the economic, social and environmental dimensions of transport. To this end, Polis supports the exchange of experiences and the transfer of knowledge between European local and regional authorities.

In Polis, decision makers are provided with the necessary information and tools for making sustainable mobility a reality. Within the Political Group of Polis, they formulate recommendations to the European institutions.

Polis members meet regularly in working groups organised in the framework of four pillars:

- Environment and Health in Transport
- Mobility and Traffic Efficiency
- Transport Safety and Security
- Social and Economic Aspects of Transport

The Italian city of Perugia holds the 2012 presidency of the Polis network. Polis has a permanent secretariat located in Brussels.

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