



Press Release

Madrid, 26 November 2014

CITY OF MADRID POLIS 2015 PRESIDENT

At today's Annual General Assembly, the city of Madrid was unanimously re-elected to be the president of the Polis network in 2015. Madrid continues to hold the presidency for a second year and will open this year's Annual Polis Conference tomorrow.

“Madrid is proud to be a benchmark in the development of sustainable urban mobility policies”, said Diego Sanjuanbenito Bonal, Madrid's Deputy Mayor for Transport and Environment at today's Polis Annual General Assembly. “We are honoured to hold the Polis presidency in 2015 and remain determined to work with all our partners in the Polis network to increase the influence of cities and the local level towards the European Institutions.”

Madrid has been promoting sustainable transport for many years, both locally and through cooperation across borders. Outstanding initiatives in the Spanish capital include the city's ambitious Air Quality Plan, the promotion of cycling and walking, Madrid's intelligent on-street parking scheme, its multimodal interchanges, and its pioneering urban consolidation centre for electric freight.

At the General Assembly, Budapest, Pisa and Stuttgart region were also elected to join the Management Committee of Polis for a second term.

As of tomorrow, the Annual Polis Conference “Innovation in Transport for Sustainable Cities and Regions” is taking place for two days in Madrid, gathering around 300 urban mobility professionals from across Europe. Madrid's Deputy Mayor for Transport and Environment, **Diego Sanjuanbenito Bonal**, will open the conference and welcome high-level speakers including Madrid's mayor Ana Botella Serrano, Spain's Minister for Public Works and Transport **Ana Pastor**, and Italy's Transport Minister **Maurizio Lupi**, who is currently holding the presidency of the Council of the EU.

The Polis Conference is an important annual highlight 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. The third issue of “**Thinking Cities**” will be released on 27 November at the conference, a joint magazine by Polis and H3B media, incl. a feature of Madrid's smart parking scheme. Following the conference, technical site visits lead delegates to Madrid's electric urban freight consolidation centre, its bike sharing scheme and a major interchange.

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For twitter users: the hashtag is #polis14.

More information incl. the conference programme: <http://www.polisnetwork.eu/2014conference>

For more information, please contact Polis:

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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 around four thematic pillars:

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

Polis has a permanent secretariat located in Brussels.

www.polisnetwork.eu