Overview of the nature of pedestrian research in PQN countries

Policies, issues, research, concerns, interests

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Evolution of research on pedestrians
Themes & topics

- **Safety of crossing** - crosswalk design, guardrails, behaviour, visibility, risks, training, countermeasures
- **Pedestrian needs** - sidewalk standards, furniture, comfort, bus stops, individual differences, demographics, old-young
- **Walking as transport** - travel behaviour, access, links with cycles and public transport, VRU
- **Pedestrians’ Rights** - safe walking, clean air, less noise, speed controls, calming zones, by-passes
- **Urban planning should be for pedestrians** - urban landscape for walkers, quality of urban environment, distribution of amenities, connectivity, pedestrian-only zones, social impact
- **Walking is a healthy lifestyle** - promotion, re-think urban design of work-school-shop-social-recreation mix
Professions involved in research

- Safety of crossing - crosswalk design, guardrails, behaviour, visibility, risks, training: Traffic Engineers, psychologists, accident analysts, risk analysts, "safety experts"
- Pedestrian needs - sidewalk standards, street furniture, comfort, bus stops: Ergonomics, architects, Soc. Science,
- Walking as transport - travel behaviour, VRU, accessibility, link with public transport: Transport planners, urban geography,
- Pedestrians’ Rights! - quality environment, speed controls, calming zones, by-passes: road-traffic-environment Eng
- Urban planning should be for pedestrians - urban landscape for walkers, quality of urban environment, distribution of amenities, connectivity, green-islands: town planners, policy DM
- Walking is a healthy lifestyle - promotion: Public Health

The “logical” way of understanding pedestrian safety

**Look at: Preconditions**
travel need, Land Use, legislation, social organization

**Look at: Latent accident causes**
i.e.: routes, road design, management and maintenance, adjacent buildings, vehicles, time-space, knowledge,

**Look at: Traffic behaviour**
individual traffic behavior of wheeled traffic and crossing pedestrians
The way pedestrian research actually evolved

**Look at: Preconditions**
- travel need, Land Use, legislation, social organization

**Look at: Underlying factors**
- routes, road design, management and maintenance, adjacent buildings, vehicles time-space

**Look at: Traffic behaviour**
- individual traffic behaviour of wheeled traffic and crossing pedestrians

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A socio-political perspective on pedestrian research

**Agendas**
- **Conflicts** about sharing the road in time & space
  - Regulating pedestrians
  - Separating pedestrians from vehicles
  - Regulating vehicles
- **Gaining recognition** for walking as a transport mode
- **Protecting** the physically and socially weak
- **Claiming** a fair share of the given urban territory for people doing other things than driving or parking
- **Shaping** the whole urban landscape for walking people
- **Creating an integrated policy** of land use, urban planning, transport, and sustained environment, with pedestrians’ interests at its core
PEZH  “Respect to Pedestrians”, Greece