



POLITICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) OF THE CIVITAS INITIATIVE

Position paper Clean Power for Transport Package.

Final version
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CiViTAS
Cleaner and better transport in cities



THE CIVITAS INITIATIVE
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About this document

This Position paper answers to the invitation of the European Commission to the CIVITAS Political Advisory Committee (PAC) to support the Clean Power for Transport Package, adopted by EC on 24th January 2013. The CIVITAS PAC acts as an advisory body to the EC.

The PAC met on the 30th of September 2013 in Brest to discuss their views on the Clean Power for Transport package.

The resulting paper was circulated among the PAC members. This document represents the final version.

Introduction - The Clean Power for Transport Package

Clean Power for Transport Package is composed of a European alternative fuels Strategy, a proposal for a Directive on the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure and an Action Plan for the development of LNG in shipping. Those documents are available under http://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/urban/cpt/index_en.htm

Policy initiatives so far have mostly addressed the actual alternative fuels and vehicles. We are however not witnessing a sufficient market up-take and also need to consider fuels distribution. Alternative fuels are being held back by three main barriers: the high cost of vehicles, a low level of consumer acceptance, and the lack of recharging and refuelling stations. It is a vicious circle. Refuelling stations are not built because there are not enough vehicles. Vehicles are not sold at competitive prices because there is not enough demand. Consumers do not buy the vehicles because they are expensive and the stations are not there.

In the Directive on the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure, the Commission has proposed binding targets on Member States for a minimum coverage of recharging and refuelling infrastructure for electricity, hydrogen and natural gas (CNG and LNG), as well as common EU standards for the related equipment. It has also proposed minimum consumer information on the vehicle, in the vehicle manual and at the pump, about the compatibility between the vehicle and the fuels. The development of alternative fuels is of particular relevance to cities where the negative impacts of fossil fuels are concentrated: greenhouse gas emissions, poor air quality and high noise levels. Alternative fuels are not the only solution to those issues and attention must also be paid to sustainable urban mobility planning with the development of public transport, the environmental-efficiency of urban freight logistics, etc. But alternative fuelled vehicles are definitely part of the integrated mix of solutions and CIVITAS measures have precisely made this link between innovative technologies and ambitious policy measures

*The legislative proposal is currently under discussion at the European Parliament and at the Council. **This is why we would like to ask for your active support in mobilising your national authorities for its swift adoption¹.***

¹ Letter to CIVITAS Members sent by Ms. Daniela Rosca, EC, DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT- Innovative and sustainable mobility - Clean transport and sustainable Urban transport



The position of the Political Advisory Committee (PAC)

1. Shifting to different transport modes and investing in transport infrastructure

The PAC members will positively support the adoption of the Clean Power for Transport Package, hoping that it will contribute to solving local, regional, national, European problems.

Although alternative fuels solutions may represent a good solution and are very important for cities, PAC members would like to express their concern on the fact that alternative fuels may not represent the best solution as such and that a strong investment in shifting transport modes with an integrated planning is the key of success for cities.

The CIVITAS PAC would like to highlight the importance of fostering the use of alternative fuels and of an energetic transition. However, the PAC would like to emphasize that also a huge investment in the transport infrastructure is essential for improving the urban mobility at city and region level. In particular, in less developed regions transport infrastructure is very weak, consequently more relevant investments in infrastructures for alternative fuels and for public transport are needed to finally allow cities to combine the different transport modes. To this regard, cohesion and regional development resources should also be taken into account as important sources for improving transport infrastructure in such regions.

By ensuring basic transport infrastructure and by creating an integrated system to reduce traffic congestion and to support alternative mobility through public transport cities can effectively make a step forward in the urban mobility.

2. Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan

PAC member also would like to emphasize the importance of SUMP – Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan, especially the relevance of adapting SUMP to the specific circumstances of cities or regions. Many guidelines exist for the development of SUMP, but a real and effective support for the cities who have limited resources is lacking.

The CIVITAS PAC stresses the importance of helping local authorities in identifying cost-beneficial measures and improving the environmental, economic and social performance of urban transport systems.

3. Setting a new target for 2020

Finally, the PAC proposed to set a new target for transport infrastructure by 2020 and also remarked on the need of having a legislative approach to support the adoption of the Clean Power for Transport Package.



About the CIVITAS Political Advisory Committee (PAC)

The Political Advisory Committee (PAC) constitutes a small group of motivated politicians from within CIVITAS cities that acts as the Initiative's steering group. Members participate in a personal capacity.

Typically, the PAC's work takes the form of short policy-styled notes (the "*PAC statements*"). These are drafted by the PAC with the support of a Secretary and may be directed towards policy makers at either European, national or local level, as well as towards industry, transport operators and other stakeholders.

PAC members apply for membership in their personal capacity and can serve a maximum of three mandates of two years each. Every two years a call for interest is launched and the new PAC is formed. PAC members are ultimately appointed by the European Commission based on general criteria of representativeness and proven record of the individual candidates.

As a result of the 2013 call for new PAC members a new PAC was constituted in September 2013. These are its members:

- **Sándor Nagy** (Chair), City Development Committee, Szeged, Hungary
- **Gheorghe Nichita** (Deputy Chair), Mayor, Iasi, Romania
- **Ian Davey**, Lead Member on Transport Green Party Councillor, Brighton & Hove City Council
- **Helena Hećimović**, City Counsellor, Koprivnica, Croatia
- **Christian Lavigne**, First Vice-President of Tisséo SMTC, Greater Toulouse, France
- **Steen Moller**, Mayor of Culture and urban Development, Odense, Denmark
- **Gisela Nacken**, Commissioner for Planning and Environment, Aachen, Germany
- **Hans Lindberg**, Vice Mayor, Umeå, Sweden
- **Paolo Pissarello**, Vice President of AGSC, served in the last five years as First Deputy Mayor in the Municipality of Genoa, Italy
- **Gerhard Rüschi**, City Counsellor, Graz, Austria
- **Gabriel Vallejo Gomila**, Counsellor for Mobility, City of Palma, Mallorca, Spain

For any further questions concerning the PAC, please contact its Secretary: Ms. Chiara Frenica, pac@civitas.eu