

Insights into Sustainable Urban Mobility: A Student-Centric Analysis

Živilė Stankevičiūtė

Kaunas University of Technology, School of Economics and Business, Lithuania
 zivile.stankeviciute@ktu.lt

Eglė Staniškienė

Kaunas University of Technology, School of Economics and Business, Lithuania
 egle.staniskiene@ktu.lt

Asta Savanevičienė

Kaunas University of Technology, School of Economics and Business, Lithuania
 asta.savaneviciene@ktu.lt

Abstract

Quality of life in the cities is one of the main issues the citizens and city municipalities are facing. In order to address it, new patterns of travel behaviour are needed. Accordingly, the concept of sustainable urban mobility, which includes walkable and bikeable cities, inclusive transport infrastructure, access to public transport car-sharing systems, and autonomous (electric) vehicles, has gained widespread recognition in many cities. However, the question remains about the readiness of citizens to rearrange urban mobility according to sustainability principles and their success in doing so. The current paper aims to reveal the attitude of students regarding sustainable urban mobility. With this purpose in mind, a student survey was conducted in Kaunas, one of the leading cities in Lithuania, in the area of mobility changes. Six dimensions, namely walkability, transit safety, safety, attractiveness and environmental quality, infrastructure and technology for drivers, and alternative routing, were included in the survey. The findings revealed that students identified a lot of positive initiatives in the city in terms of sustainable urban mobility. Summing up, the findings encourage the municipality to continue with “hard measures” within urban transport (for instance, safer crossings); however, education and other “soft measures” should receive more attention in order to encourage student behavioural changes.

Keywords: sustainable urban mobility, green urban mobility, behavioural changes, walkability, travel behaviour.

Acknowledgement: This research has been funded by European Union within the project “Lifelong Learning on sustainable urban mobility” (GREENMOBILITY). The project No. 2022-1-LT01-KA220-HED-000085575.