ANNUAL REPORT

2015-2016
Introduction

The International Federation of Pedestrians’ (FP) mission includes the statement: “Walking is a legitimate use of public space and people should be supported and encouraged to choose to walk”. While it would be difficult to disagree with this statement, we see too often that it is not embraced in practice, resulting in environments that are unappealing and even hostile to pedestrians. In many new developments or major ‘improvements’ of streets and public space, designers often still seem to be building cities for cars rather than for people, focusing largely on vehicle movements or parking capacity for private motorized transport.

But change is happening! We see more and more global policies and local implementations where mobility is seen from a holistic point of view. Where multimodality becomes the base to build upon and planning concentrates on the most effective movement of people, not movement of vehicles. Where people do not see themselves as either pedestrians, cyclists, transit users or car occupants, but as individuals who will choose a mobility mode to meet their needs at any particular time. By allocating the appropriate portion of available public space to the different mobility modes, and by further expanding supporting technologies and systems such as easily accessible time tables, and bicycle and car sharing systems, authorities have the potential to stimulate those modes the cities benefit from most.

Inevitably, this leads to the prioritization of different modes in the following order: walking, cycling, using public transport, movement of freight, shared car systems and finally private motorized transport.

Through our presence at international forums and meetings, the IFP continues to remind policymakers that pedestrians should not be viewed as a vulnerable species that needs to be isolated and protected from more invasive mobility modes, but that they are an integral and essential part of moving people, to goods, services, spaces and each other.

Geert van Waeg, President IFP
About the International Federation of Pedestrians

IFP is a network of nonprofit associations and individuals from all over the world, working for pedestrians and liveable public space. IFP was founded as is an UN-accredited NGO in 1963. IFP is an association according to the Swiss Civil Code (Article 60 – 79).

Originally, our focus has been on promoting the rights of pedestrians as such. Gradually, our focus evolved to a broader area, recognizing and promoting the contribution of pedestrians to liveable public spaces and to sustainability.

History and milestones

1963 : The IFP was created in 1963 as an umbrella organization for national pedestrian advocacy groups.


2000 : With the start of the yearly WALK21-conferences, IFP synchronized the General Assembly with this annual event.

2005 : Relaunch of IFP with a new logo. Ole Thorson becomes president (till 2012)

2009 : First Global Meeting of NGOs Advocating for Road Safety and Road Victims. IFP becomes member of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration.

2012 : Living end roads project launched

2013 : Publication by WHO of the Pedestrian Safety Manual, for which the IFP has been an important contributor.

United Nations Road Safety Week on Pedestrians (May 6-12)

Publication of the Mission and Vision Statements

2014 : New website, including member interaction module

Start of Facebook activity

2015 : Start Twitter activity
Advocacy

**United Nations Road Safety Collaboration (UNRSC)**

IFP continues to actively participate to the UNRSC meetings and activities. Focus is on assuring that the needs of the pedestrians are taken into account when decisions or recommendations are made regarding road safety, and on raising awareness that a pedestrian focus is essential to overall road safety. Together with the European Cyclists Federation, we worked on pillar 2 of the Decade of Action on Road Safety (Safer roads), in order to strengthen the voice of active mobility.

The 2nd High Level Ministerial Conference on Road Safety (Brasilia) gave a valuable reflection on the way the road safety priorities are moving. The value of walking, cycling and public transport as a road safety measure was clearly recognized. We contributed as panel member to an interactive discussion on infrastructure, enforcement and sharing space.

**Habitat III**

We participated in the preparations of the Habitat III meeting in Quito, including in the Thematic Meeting on Public Spaces in Barcelona.

**OECD & ITF (International Transport Forum)**

The annual ITF meetings in Leipzig gather key players in transport and mobility. We increased our active presence there, both by contributing to the ITF planning meetings in Paris and attending the Leipzig meeting.

We were invited by the ITF – and accepted - to join the “decarbonizing transport initiative”.

**Other advocacy events**

Our Secretary General gave a presentation in the Italian Parliament within the framework of the “Stati Generali per la Sicurezza Stradale”. He also chaired the VII Forum CiviNET in April, and was keynote speaker at the “Segurança e Microacessibilidade em Faixas e Corredores de Ônibus in São Paulo” (Brazil), where he also participated in a workshop on the Bus Rapid Transit for São Paulo.
Our President was invited speaker and panelist on The Safe Roads | Safe Kids Global Road Safety Summit in Washington DC in Dec 2015.

**Contributions to other projects**

Input from the IFP was solicited by several organizations on their projects. For example, the ETSC (European Transport Safety Council) asked for feedback on their PIN Flash report on pedestrian and cyclist safety. The critical comments from the IFP were well received, and subsequently we were invited as panelist on the Annual PIN Road Safety Conference in June (Brussels), where this report was presented.

We were also asked to provide feedback on the work performed by VRUITS (Vulnerable Road Users IT Systems). Our constructive but critical feedback was appreciated, and resulted in further interaction with the VRUITS consortium.

We constructively participated together with nearly 30 other NGOs in the “Multi-Stakeholder Consultation on Road Safety” with the UN Special Envoy on Road Safety at the UNECE in Geneva.

**WALK21**

As usual, IFP members contributed actively at the annual WALK21 congress, as presenters, moderators and panelists.

**Networking**

**Website**

While the recently renewed IFP website still is a basic reference to find all information on the IFP, we also clearly experience a shift towards other web-based communication means such as Facebook and Twitter. But IFPedestrians-NET became a valuable contributor.
Facebook

The IFP Facebook page (established 2013) continues to extend its reach and engagement with followers. The page now has over 2300 followers (likes). The page is becoming an important source of information and forum for conversations around pedestrian issues. Over the year, more than 250,000 people saw IFP page posts.

Twitter

In November 2015 we setup our twitter account (https://twitter.com/IFPedestrians). In less than a year, we did more than 3,000 tweets and gained nearly 1,300 followers. While most followers could be found in North America (40%) and Europe (36%), we are happy to see clear interest from Asia (9%) and South America (7%). Oceania followed at 6%, and only limited activity was seen in Africa (2%). Part of that is likely due to the limited language range we have had so far (mainly English and Spanish).

IFPedestrians-NET

For twenty years Pednet was a place for debate and exchange for pedestrian advocates around the world. For many of those years Pednet was run by a volunteer. Faced with technical difficulties he decided to look for alternatives. In March 2016, the International Federation of Pedestrians accepted to run a new network (renamed IFPedestrians-net).

As an experimental first year it was decided to not publicize it beyond IFP and former Pednet. As of October 2016 the IFPedestrians-NET list had 163 members.
Vision
A world that is inviting, safe and comfortable for all to walk.

Mission
Walking is not only a natural right. Walking is a legitimate use of public space and people should be supported and encouraged to choose to walk. Being an essential part of sustainable mobility, walking improves health and liveability of communities. IFP will increase the awareness about walking through:

- facilitating exchange of experience and expertise between members worldwide,
- formulating policy statements based on input from members,
- inspiring/engaging grassroots capacity building,
- stimulating local, national and international initiatives,
- working with international organizations supporting the cause of the pedestrians.
### Members

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<td>Walk21</td>
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*status Aug 31, 2016*

### Board

- Geert van Waeg, President (johanna.be, Belgium)
- Ben Rossiter, Vice President (Victoria Walks, Australia)
- Mario Alves, Secretary-general (Associação de Cidadãos Auto-Mobilizados, Portugal)
- Christian Thomas (Fussgaengerverein Zuerich, Switzerland)
- Eduardo J. Daros (ABRASPE, Brasil)
- Jackie Kennedy (Canada Walks, Canada)
- Mauricio Leandro (Asociación Caminar, Costa Rica)
- Gregory Mavrakis (Enosipezon, Greece)
- Andy Smith (Living Streets Aotearoa, New Zealand)
- Dieter Schwab (Walk-Space.at, Austria)
- Bronwen Thornton (Walk21, UK)
- Ole Thorson Jorgenson (Catalunya Camina, Spain)

### Seat

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