Mobility and Road Risk for Disabilities in Moldova

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Automobile Club of Moldova

ACM is:
- founded in 1998
- Non-governmental, public association
- Member of EASST and FIA, iRAP, and Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety
- Member of the National Road Safety Council in Moldova

Launched Make Roads Safe Moldova in 2009
ACM and Eastern Alliance for Safe & Sustainable Transport

EASST is a partnership of successful local road safety organizations in:

- Armenia
- Kyrgyzstan
- Azerbaijan
- Moldova
- Belarus
- Russia
- Georgia
- Tajikistan
- Greece
- Ukraine
- Kazakhstan
Disability and road risk are interlinked.

The WHO World Report on Disability points out that “People with disabilities are at a higher risk of non-fatal unintentional injury from road traffic crashes” and other causes.

Road crashes are the primary cause of head injuries, and an estimated 30% of those injured on the roads remain permanently disabled.
“Disability, Mobility & Road Risk in Moldova” Survey by EASST and ACM

- **Survey Aim** – to interview 100 individuals with disabilities to record the types of issues faced by them as road users -
- **One third of them children and young people**
- Survey published by the UN Office in Moldova, highlighted the impact of unsafe roads and inaccessible transport on the lives of people with disabilities and their families.
Findings

Level to which disabled people in Moldova face mobility difficulties during basic journeys

- Difficulties leaving home: 34%
- Difficulties traveling to work: 21%
- Difficulties traveling to school/education: 12%
- Difficulties visiting friends/socialising: 16%
- Difficulties visiting shops: 46%
- Difficulties visiting a doctor: 34%
49% of disabled people face mobility difficulties traveling to other cities.

16% of disabled people never travel to other cities because it is too difficult.

40% of disabled people face mobility difficulties crossing the road.

The main types of transport used by disabled people are:

- 54% trolleybuses
- 47% pedestrian travel by foot or wheelchair
- 37% buses
- 35% maxi-taxis
- 15% cars with only one driving an adapted car

51% of disabled people reported difficulties in using public transport including 13% who said it was impossible for them.

3 personal interviews:

1. **Maxim** – with Cerebral Palsy, uses crab-cane. Drivers do not stop when see him and his cane

2. **Raisa** – is a caring mother with her twin-son, who was born with malformations that make him unable to walk. She wants safer road crossings and more adapted transport

3. **Nicolae** – a blind man who is frustrated by the indifferent attitude of the authorities, the feeling got worse over the past ten years
International Day of People with disabilities in December
Recommendations

- Accessible Buildings and Transport
- Pavements
- Road Crossings
- Safer Roads
- Driver Behavior and public awareness
- Participation in policy-making
Recommendations

- **The law** requiring disabled access for **public buildings** and all **new construction** should be **enforced**;

- Inclusion of persons with disabilities into **the commissions** responsible for giving permission, approval and certification for buildings;

- Development of a **plan for accessible inter-city travel** and for accessible tourism in Moldova;

- Improving **road markings**, particular at crossing-points;

- Putting in **ramps** where needed or **lifts** to enable full access to important services....
Official Launch of the Survey Report

Open-air press-conference and round table hosted by the Trolleybus company with the surveyed people, UN participation, Mass Media and relevant Ministries
Follow-up

- Raise awareness among policy-makers
- Cooperation with the Association of NGOs for disabilities
- A pilot project with blind people
- Working with children at Tony Hawks, etc.

TO MAKE ROADS SAFER FOR ALL
Our Partners in Belarus – BKA Club

- 43% disabled people in Belarus used public transport in 2016
- 59% disabled people in Belarus face mobility difficulties during basic journeys
- 15% road traffic crashes account for permanent disabilities in Belarus

Disability, Mobility and Road Risk in Belarus

Level to which disabled people in Belarus face mobility difficulties during basic journeys as reported by disability type

- Mental disorders: 100%
- Brain injury: 75%
- Loco motor: 50%
- Sensory disorder: 25%

Results based on survey of 1000 disabled people in Belarus conducted by the Belarusian Auto Moto Touring Club (BKA)
Thank you!

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