

PRESS RELEASE

“THE URBAN MOBILITY COUNCIL” THINK TANK PANEL DISCUSSION “SELF-DRIVING AND COOPERATIVE DRIVING: FROM SAFETY TO ETHICAL IMPLICATIONS OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGY”

(Turin, 28 October 2022). The Municipality of Turin, with **Mayor Stefano Lo Russo** in attendance, hosted a panel discussion on ***“Self-driving and cooperative driving: from safety to ethical implications of infrastructure and technology.”***

With its second meeting held in a city that has always supported innovation in the area of mobility, the event falls within the scope of **The Urban Mobility Council** Think Tank activities, promoted by the **Unipol Group**, and aims to involve the various players to help identify the priority actions to take in the development of new mobility models from technological, regulatory, and industrial standpoints.

Operators from the automotive, ICT and TLC industries took part in the panel discussion to explore the role of self-driving and cooperative driving and the implications on regulatory, infrastructure and technological as well as ethical issues. It is an ever-evolving process that requires a collective effort by all the interested parties to deal with future transport habits and the profound change that we are about to experience in the mobility sector.

The panel discussion was kicked off with introductory remarks by the Mayor of Turin, **Stefano Lo Russo**, and **Stefano Genovese**, Unipol Group Head of Institutional & Public Affairs.

Stefano Lo Russo, the Mayor of Turin, said *“the future of the city and urban areas in general depends on infrastructure and the ability to offer integrated, high-quality mobility. Global challenges linked to environmental quality means that we have much work to do on the ecological transition and ensuring that mobility takes a new innovative, gentle direction. Therefore, cities will be the cornerstone of this new vision of sustainability. I believe that the public sector will have to work hand in hand with the private as the only way to build a better, truly durable future.”*

Head of Institutional & Public Affairs at the Unipol Group, **Stefano Genovese**, said that *“the transition towards more sustainable forms of mobility has increased the number and variety of players in the process. Technology is greatly increasing the safety of vehicles, but – especially for assisted driving or self-driving – it will further shift risk factors from the human behaviour of individual drivers to the programmed behaviour of driving assistance devices. This poses new challenges for businesses, like the insurance business, whose traditional duty has been to protect people. The Unipol Group also supported The Urban Mobility Council Think Tank event to delve deeper into the ethical and cultural*

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impacts on our sector, sharing the various unanswered questions in the extended industry with all the new operators.”

Contributions were also made to the debate – chaired by **Paola Carrea**, Head of the UnipolTech Head Office – by **Vito Mauro**, previously Professor at the Polytechnic University of Turin, and **Father Philip Larrey**, Lecturer in Philosophy at the Pontifical Lateran University at the Vatican.

Professor **Vito Mauro** said *“self-driving cars are already in operation in some cities in the United States, and highly advanced experiments are also being carried out on Italian roads; cars with increasing levels of automation already drive on our roads; the first “self-driving” cars are entering the European market; we are currently witnessing a potential revolution, perhaps without even realising it. However, we cannot yet predict when “universal” self-driving vehicles – that can move independently to all places under all conditions – will become a reality (if they ever do), but we have to acknowledge that the automation levels of road-driving vehicles on the market are continuing to grow, and performance and the range of application will increase over time.”*

Father Philip Larrey, Lecturer in Philosophy at the Pontifical Lateran University at the Vatican, said *“the car industry is moving ever closer towards self-driving vehicles, no longer such a new frontier. This model requires the application of new technologies such as Artificial Intelligence which is neutral in its own right and can’t be defined as either good or bad. Its application by man, for better or worse, is what will make it good or bad.”*

The debate then featured speakers from the main corporate stakeholders and the automotive, ICT and TLC sectors, including the following: **Fabrizio Arneodo**, Chief Information Officer, 5T; **Giovanni Blandina**, CEO, EasyRain; **Alberto Broggi**, General Manager VisLab/ Ambarella; **Ludovico Campana**, Co-founder, Inventor & CEO of @TUC.technology; **Massimo Canducci**, Chief Innovation Officer, Engineering Ingegneria Informatica; **Brunella Caroleo**, Senior Researcher with the Links Foundation; **Claudio Casetti**, Lecturer at the Polytechnic University of Turin, “Torino Smart Road” Representative; **Elena Deambrogio**, Driving Innovation and change through “Torino City Lab” & CTE NEXT”; **Marco Franza**, Global Head of Customer Service Iveco BUS, IVECO Group; **Fabio Gadda**, Marketing Manager, Teoresi Group, Cooperative CAR project; **Mauro Giancaspro**, Technology, Innovation & Digital Spoke Manager, ANAS; **Carlo Mannu**, Business Development, Sales & Institutional Affairs, Bosch; **Andrea Mondo**, Technology & Operations Director, INWIT; **Rossella Panero**, President, TTS Italia, General Manager, 5T; **Tatiana Rizzante**, CEO, Reply; **Marco Vassallo**, Automotive Research & Advanced Engineering – Italy, Stellantis.