

# **Ori Fartook: The Israeli Smart Transportation Research**

## **Center HUMANIST conference report**

The HUMANIST conference brings together a wide range of researchers and experts from the communities of researchers in Human Factors, Behaviour, ITS and vehicle automation. During the conference, researchers presented results of recent developments and trends in those areas. The conference served as an interesting forum for discussion and debate. This year was the 7th International HUMANIST which brought a unique and attractive forum to present current and planned activities as well as a platform to share ideas and experiences.

Some of the topics that arose in the conference were:

- How is the road users behaviour, safety and mobility affected by new traffic scenarios including automated vehicles, novel vehicle types, car-sharing schemes and Mobility as a Service?
- What concerns, needs and expectations do people have in relation to these emerging technologies and services? How do people see themselves in the digital transport epoch? How can inclusion and accessibility be promoted and ensured?
- Which are the priorities and technological solutions to be envisaged and adopted within a smart cities transportation environment?
- Which directions should ergonomic designs evolve in so as to ensure adequate passive safety in the changing environments?
- How and to what extent should current HMI (Human Machine Interaction) concepts and tools be adapted to address the evolving technologies?
- How to integrate non-connected and potential socially excluded citizens within future transport systems.

The conference itself was held at the Mediterranean hotel in Rhodes, which was a wonderful experience. Since it is my first-time being part of a conference, and especially after a very challenging years with COVID, meeting people in person and learning from their own expertise and knowledge was priceless. The conference brought forward the opportunity to socialize, enrich my understanding of both academic and industrial perspective of smart transportation, and most importantly, gave me a chance to present my own work and contribution to this field of research. My presentation received a great deal of interest and great comments which inspired interesting conversations that I believe would lead to future coaptations in my research.

I would recommend anyone who is involved in Human Factors in traffic safety research and smart transportation research to be as involved as possible with the HUMANIST community as it is an accepting, warm, supportive and most of all at the cutting edge of its fields of research. My time and experiences from the conference would contribute to me and my research profoundly.