

Legislation with benefits

The bicycle traffic policy of the Austrian Ministry of
Transport, Innovation and Technology

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Legislation with benefits

- Results of the commitment for a targeted political support of bicycle traffic:
 - 40% increase of bicycle traffic in Austria
 - 7 million bicycles in Austria
 - Austria is one of the EU's most bicycle-friendly countries
 - BUT: there is still some opportunity for improvement
- New global transport plan for Austria
 - Intermodality: intelligent combination of routes and means of transport
 - Important role of bicycle traffic

Instruments for promoting bicycle traffic

1. We create legal framework conditions
2. We promote road safety work and awareness raising activities
3. We support research and innovation

Legal measures I

- Subcommittee for Bicycle Traffic within the Road Traffic Safety Council
 - Central motivator for bicycle traffic policy
 - Declared objective to improve cycling conditions
 - Ability to create and design general conditions
 - Formed the strategic basis for central transport policy steps of the past

- “Bicycle Packages”
 - Introduction of bicycle streets, strolling zones, etc.
 - Introduction of the consideration command as an extension of the existing principle of legitimate expectations

- Preparations for more flexible Bicycle Regulation

Legal measures II

- Regulations and prohibitions are also necessary for increased road safety:
 - Particular protection of children e.g. compulsory wearing of a helmet to the age of twelve
 - Ban of phone calls without a hands-free kit
- Conclusion:
 - We create new opportunities for bicycle traffic with new, innovating instruments
 - Clear, comprehensive legal regulations for more traffic safety

Road safety work and awareness raising activities

- Key figures:

- 11% of all persons injured and 7% of all persons killed in road traffic are cyclists
- 5.000 injured cyclists each year

- Challenges:

- Promotion of bicycle traffic
- Reduction of accidents involving cyclists

- Our strategy: Road Safety Programme 2011-2020

- Includes legal framework conditions for increased safety
- Practical training e.g. AUVA road workshops for children aged 6-10

- Awareness raising and information activities e.g. road safety campaigns

Support of research and innovation / Application of innovations

- A few highlights:

- Promotion of improvements at the interfaces between bicycle traffic and public traffic (intermodal interfaces)
- Technical information on the development of bicycle traffic infrastructure
- Research on the subject of e-bikes and their safety aspects

We consider ourselves as comprehensive enablers, as catalysts, as door-openers for an intermodal and peaceful coexistence!

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Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology