

# Overview of the nature of pedestrian research in PQN countries

Policies, issues, research, concerns, interests

David Zaidel & Shalom Hakkert

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## Evolution of research on pedestrians

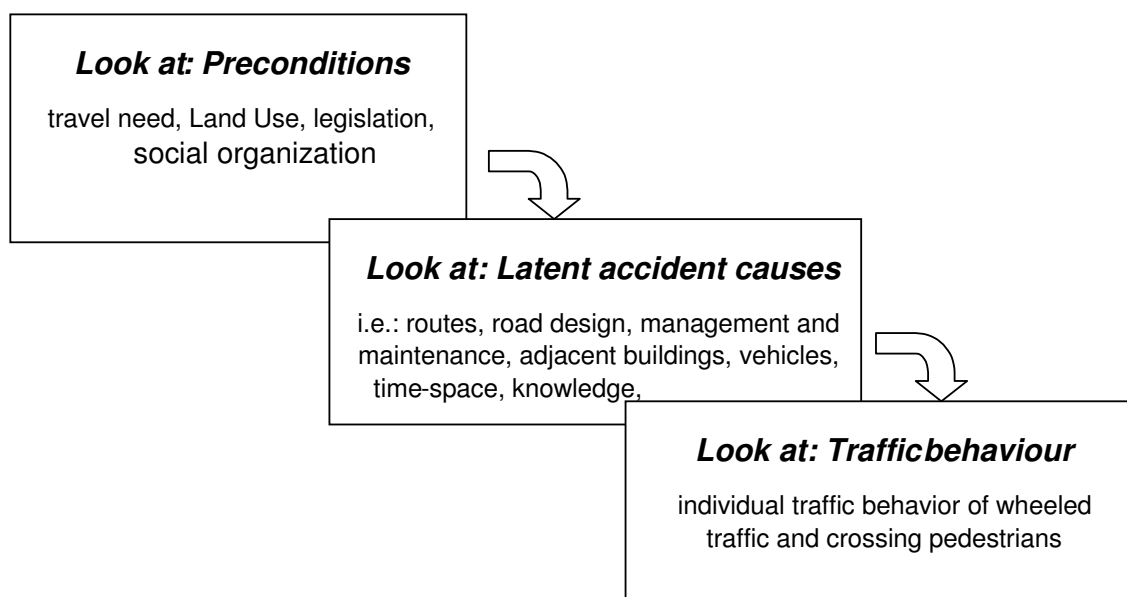
### Themes & topics

- **Safety of crossing**- crosswalk design, guardrails, behaviour, visibility, risks, training, countermeasures
- **Pedestrian needs**- sidewalk standards, furniture, comfort, bus stops, individual differences, demographics, old- young
- **Walking as transport**- travel behaviour, access, links with cycles and public transport, VRU
- **Pedestrians' Rights!**- safe walking, clean air, less noise, speed controls, calming zones, by-passes
- **Urban planning should be for pedestrians**- urban landscape for walkers, quality of urban environment, distribution of amenities, connectivity, pedestrian- only zones, social impact
- **Walking is a healthy lifestyle**- promotion, re-think urban design of work- school- shop- social- recreation mix

## Professions involved in research

- Safety of crossing- crosswalk design, guardrails, behaviour, visibility, risks, training: **Traffic Engineers, psychologists, accident analysts, risk analysts, “safety experts”**
- Pedestrian needs- sidewalk standards, street furniture, comfort, bus stops: **Ergonomics, architects, Soc. Science,**
- Walking as transport- travel behaviour, VRU, accessibility, link with public transport, : **Transport planners, urban geography,**
- Pedestrians’ Rights!- quality environment, speed controls, calming zones, by-passes: **road- traffic- environment Eng**
- Urban planning should be for pedestrians- urban landscape for walkers, quality of urban environment, distribution of amenities, connectivity, green- islands: **town planners, policy DM**
- Walking is a healthy lifestyle- promotion: **Public Health**

## The “logical” way of understanding pedestrian safety



## The way pedestrian research actually evolved

### ***Look at : Preconditions***

travel need, Land Use,  
legislation, social organization



### ***Look at: Underlying factors***

routes, road design, management  
and maintenance, adjacent  
buildings, vehicles time -space



### ***Look at: Traffic behaviour***

individual traffic behaviour of wheeled  
traffic and crossing pedestrians

## A socio- political perspective on pedestrian research Agendas

- **Conflicts** about sharing the road in time & space
  - Regulating pedestrians
  - Separating pedestrians from vehicles
  - Regulating vehicles
- **Gaining recognition** for walking as a transport mode
- **Protecting** the physically and socially weak
- **Claiming** a fair share of the given **urban territory** for people doing other things than driving or parking
- **Shaping** the whole **urban landscape** for walking people
- **Creating an integrated policy** of land use, urban planning, transport, and sustained environment, with pedestrians' interests at its core

## PEZH “Respect to Pedestrians”, Greece



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