



## 5<sup>th</sup> POLIS EU Workshop on Building Accessibility *Towards a POLIS white paper?*

Monday 12 June 2006  
(10:30 - 16:00)

European Commission  
DG Research  
SDME Building  
Square de Meeûs 8  
1049 Brussels, Belgium

Meeting Room: SDME 7E

Free participation upon  
invitation

<http://www.polis-ubd.net>

Within the framework of the European POLIS project, « Decision Support Tools and Policy Initiatives in Support of a Universal Design of Buildings », the POLIS partners organise with the kind assistance of the European Commission a workshop on Building Accessibility and EU Policy Action.

The POLIS project is a DG Research co-funded research project related to building accessibility and universal design. POLIS is intended to produce a completely functional technical specification of a Decision Support System for Universal Building Design (DSS). The POLIS DSS methodology includes a number of aspects including the development of Building Accessibility Metrics, an accessibility database and the front end decision support system for the technical user.

POLIS also works on policy issues. Around Europe and elsewhere an increasing number of policy instruments to promote universal access have been developed. Advances and strategies vary however from one region to another. There are also multiple obstacles towards their implementation. POLIS examines policies, strategies and recent advances in order to prepare a **POLIS WHITE PAPER for policy action as regards building accessibility**. With that aim, multiple events have been or will be organised around Europe (Luxemburg, 8 June 2005 - Warsaw, 16 September 2005 - Antwerp, 31 March 2006 - Watford, 18-19 May 2006 - Tel Aviv, 2-4 July 2006 - Chersonissos, 29-30 September 2006 - Bruges, 16-17 November 2006).

The main purpose of this specific workshop is to present to you the POLIS project and the DSS and to discuss with you future European and/or national priorities with regard to policies, strategies, regulations and standards.

### PROGRAMME

- 10:30 - 11:00 *Registration & Coffee*
- 11:00 - 11:20 **Welcome & Introduction**  
Ir. *Jan Desmyter*, POLIS leader WP3
- 11:20 - 11:50 **POLIS experiences so far; Research, Policy and Dissemination activities and future exploitation perspectives**  
Dr. *Nikos Sakkas*, POLIS Coordinator
- 11:50 - 12:20 **Policy, Regulations and Standards: An Overview**  
Ir. *Jan Desmyter*, POLIS leader WP3
- 12:20 - 13:00 *Lunch*
- 13:00 - 15:00 **Open Discussion on Policy Priorities at European and National Level**
- 15:00 - 15:30 **Short Presentations of Related Projects (Build-or-All, Building Accessible Services, Reasonable Access, ...)**
- 15:30 - 16:00 **Conclusions & Closure**



## WHO WILL BE PRESENT?

Following persons have confirmed their attendance:

*Javier Arregui-Alvarez*, DG Enterprise and Industry, European Commission

*Stephanie Caro*, DG Research, European Commission

*Jan Desmyter*, POLIS WP3 Leader and Belgian Expert of ISO TC 59 SC16, BBRI

*Manfred Fuchs*, DG Enterprise and Industry, European Commission

*Monika Anna Klenovec*, ANEC and Austrian Expert of ISO TC 59 SC16

*Ewa Kurylowicz*, Architects Council of Europe

*Isabelle Lechat*, Belgian Building Research Institute

*Rüdiger Leidner*, DG Tourism, European Commission

*Adèle Lydon*, DG Research, European Commission

*Silke Moschitz*, EUROCITIES

*Maria Nyman*, European Disability Forum (EDF)

*Ulrich Paetzold*, European Construction Industry Federation (FIEC)

*Silvio Sagromola*, European Concept for Accessibility, Build-for-All Coordinator

*Nikos Sakkas*, POLIS Coordinator, BPM, Greece

*Yair Sharan*, POLIS Member, ICTAF, Israël

*Elizabeth Straw*, DG Employment and Social Policy, European Commission

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## LOCATION

DG Research - SDME Building - Square de Meeûs 8, 1049 Brussels

Meeting Room: SDME 7E

### How to get there:

**By Metro:** Line 2 (Simonis-Clemenceau) nearest station is Trône/Troon, from there about 5 minutes walk to SDME.

**By Train:** Nearest station is **Bruxelles-Luxembourg**, from there about 5 minutes walk to SDME. Trains running from Gare **Bruxelles Central/Brussel Centraal** about every 15 minutes during peak hours, otherwise about every 30 minutes on working days.

**From the airport:** It takes about 50 minutes to get from the airport to the venue by public transport. You can either take bus n° 12 (bus stop "place Luxembourg" - 5 min. to Square de Meeûs) or the train to Gare **Bruxelles Midi/station Brussel Zuid** + metro (see above). There are 4 trains an hour going from the airport to Brussels.

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If you need further information, please contact the POLIS-Secretariat:

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