Mr Jean-Claude Juncker  
President  
European Commission  

cc: Frans Timmermans, First Vice-President, in charge of Better Regulation, Inter-Institutional Relations, the Rule of Law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights  
Andrus Ansip, Vice-President for the Digital Single Market  
Jyrki Katainen, Vice-President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness  
Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President for the Energy Union  
Vytenis Andriukaitis, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety  
Elżbieta Bieńkowska, Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs  
Violeta Bulc, Commissioner for Transport  
Miguel Arias Cañete, Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy  
Corina Crețu, Commissioner for Regional Policy  
Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation  
Cecilia Malmström, Commissioner for Trade  
Pierre Moscovici, Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs  
Tibor Navracsics, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport  
Günther Öttinger, Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources  
Marianne Thyssen, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility  
Karmenu Vella, Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries  
Margrethe Vestager, Commissioner for Competition  

Brussels, 16 June 2017  

Re: Contribute to economic growth and climate change mitigation through a EU Cycling Strategy  

Dear President Juncker,  

With this letter, signed by leaders from businesses, public authorities and civil society, we call upon the European Commission to unlock the potential for creating jobs and decarbonising the transport system by developing a EU Cycling Strategy as part of the Commission Work Programme 2018 or subsequent initiatives.  

As a source of inspiration, an expert group has produced a document for said strategy which will be handed over today to the Commissioner for Transport, Mrs Violeta Bulc, at the Velo-city conference in Arnhem-Nijmegen.
Three other EU institutions explicitly support the EU Cycling Strategy:

- The European Parliament called for ‘an EU roadmap for cycling to be included in the Commission Work Programme 2016’ (September 9, 2015); ii
- The EU Member States’ Transport Ministers endorsed the ‘Declaration of Luxembourg’, calling for an ‘EU level strategic document’ (October 7, 2015);iii
- The Committee of the Regions recommended to include an EU Roadmap for Cycling into the Commission Work Programme 2018, as part of its own-initiative report on ‘An EU Roadmap for Cycling’ (October 12, 2016).iv

The EU should take action for at least three reasons:

1. **Competence**: The treaties have given the EU the mandate to take action in a large number of policy fields with relevance to cycling. The Luxembourg Declaration asked the Commission to i) Identify EU policy and funding instruments that are already mobilized or that should be mobilised to increase cycling’s mode sharev (about EUR 1.5 billion of EU funds will be invested in cycling infrastructure between 2014 - 2020); and ii) Facilitate the exchange of best practices among Member States by setting up a European focal point for cycling.vi

2. **Scale and effect**: Article 5-3 TEU on subsidiarity calls for EU action in so far as the objectives of the proposed action can be better achieved at Union level for reasons of scale or effect.

   Scale: Half of the EU (adult) population does cycle, as many as 160 million bicycle trips are made daily on European roads.viii 8% use the bicycle as their primary mode of transport. This figure differs hugely across Europe: from 36% in the Netherlands to less than 1% in Malta, indicating the tremendous potential for growth.ix 2,112 cyclists were killed on European roads in 2014, representing 8% of all road fatalities.x

   Effect: The economic benefits of cycling have been valued at EUR 513 billion and 650,000 jobsxi. Doubling cycling would create another 400,000 jobs and positively impact the Commission Priorities “Jobs, growth and investments” as well as “Energy and Climate”.

3. **A level-playing field for cycling** with other transport modes: Many policies, both at national and European level, have historically often neglected cycling. An EU Cycling Strategy would increase the status and visibility of cycling both within Commission services as well as to other stakeholders.

   An ambitious EU Cycling Strategy which brings together all relevant actors has the potential of increasing cycle use by 50 % by 2030. 80 million daily additional bicycle trips would be a massive investment into the liveability of Europe’s towns and cities, the public health care systems, the climate and environment as well as for Europe’s businesses.
Cycling can clearly help confront some of the most pressing challenges that citizens want EU leaders to tackle. An EU Cycling Strategy is a low cost, high impact win for the European Commission and will have a positive influence on the life of all European citizens. Please include the EU Cycling Strategy into the Commission Work Programme 2018 or subsequent initiatives.

Yours sincerely,

All following signatories:

Non-Governmental Organisations

Bernhard Ensink
Secretary-General
European Cyclists’ Federation

Stephen Russell
Secretary-General
ANEC

Thomas Brose
Executive Director
Climate Alliance

Haritz Ferrando
Secretary-General
ConBici

Dr. Jacques de Haller
President
CPME

Judith Liddell
Secretary-General
European Federation of the Associations of Dietitians

Nina Renshaw
Secretary-General
EPHA

Antonio Avenoso
Executive Director
ETSC
Cities, Regions & Countries

Gemeente Amsterdam

Pieter Litjens
Transport Commissioner
Amsterdam

Boele Staal
Acting Mayor
Arnhem

Eleni Myriyili
Chief Resilience Officer, Council Member Urban Sustainability
Athens

Pascal Smet
Minister of Mobility and Public Works
Brussels Capital Region

Morten Kabell
Mayor of The Technical Environmental Administration
Copenhagen

Owen P. Keegan
Chief Executive
Dublin

Paweł Adamowicz
Mayor
Gdansk

Máriusz Révész
Government Commissioner for Cycling and Active Recreation
Hungary
Juan Espadas Cejas  
Mayor  
Seville

Jean-Baptiste Gernet  
Deputy Mayor in charge of Urban Mobilities  
Strasbourg

Giuseppe Grezzi  
Concejal Mobilitat Sostenible  
Valencia

Maria Vassilakou  
Vice-Mayor  
Vienna

Floor Vermeulen  
Regional Minister for Transport and Traffic  
Province of Zuid Holland
Elected Representatives

MEP Lucy Anderson  
S&D  
United Kingdom

MEP Georges Bach  
EPP  
Luxembourg

MEP Michael Cramer  
Greens/EFA  
Germany

MEP Ismail Ertug  
S&D  
Germany

---

MEP Anneli Jäätteenmäki  
ALDE  
Finland

MEP Merja Kyllönen  
GUE/NGL  
Finland

MEP Bernd Lange  
S&D  
Germany

Gesine Meissner  
ALDE  
Germany

---

Kevin Peel  
Manchester City Council  
CoR Rapporteur on EU Roadmap for Cycling  
United Kingdom

MEP Dominique Riquet  
ALDE  
France

MEP Ivan Štefanec  
EPP  
Slovakia

---

Page 9 of 15
Businesses & Business Interest Groups

Jeroen Snijder Blok
Chief Operations Officer
Accell Group N.V.

Dirk Vanderschrik
CEO, Chairman of the Management Board
Belfius Insurance - Member of the Management Board Belfius

José Antonio Gómez
Representative BHBIKES EUROPE, S.L.

Miguel Belenguer
CEO
Bikebitants.com

Jose Díaz
Co-founder & CEO,
ByCycling

Robert “Bob” Giddens
CEO
USED GmbH
Carry Freedom Bike Trailers

Teet Praks
Co-Founder
Comodule

Manuel Marsilio
General Manager
CONEBI
Raymond Gense  
Director Future Technology & Public Affairs  
PON

Benjamin Krempel  
CEO  
Pumptire

Bruno Salgado  
Board Member  
RTE, S.A

Irene McAleese  
Co-founder  
See.Sense

Joakim Stenberg  
GM/CEO  
Swedish Bike Federation

Josh Hon  
Founder and Team Captain  
Tern Bicycles

Alexander Thun  
Management  
Alfred Thun GmbH & Co. KG

Taco Carlier  
Co-Founder & CEO  
VanMoof

Rytis Paulikaitis  
CEO  
Vasare

Drs. Rudie Campagne  
President  
Vittoria Industries Ltd.

Petr Ladman  
General Manager  
WTB Europe

Page 12 of 15
Dr. Tim Jones  
Reader in Urban Mobility  
Oxford Brookes University UK

Laboratorio de Cambio Social  
Dr. Lake Sagaris, directora  
Centro de Urbanismo Ciudando  
Santiago, Chile

Nick Cavill PhD MPH MFPH  
Research Associate, University of Oxford  
Honorary Senior Research Fellow, University of Salford

Karl Heinz  
CEO  
FGM AMOR

Prof. Thérèse Steenberghen, on behalf of Prof. Chris Tampère, Chair of L-MOB

Bas de Geus  
Senior Researcher (PhD)  
– Human Physiology Research Group (MFYS)

Dr. Tim Schwanen, Director  
Transport Studies Unit  
University of Oxford

Dr. Marco te Brömmelstroet  
Associate Academic Director of the Urban Cycling Institute, Centre for Urban Studies, University of Amsterdam

Dr. Ida Sabelis, Associate Professor, Faculty of Social Sciences, dept. of Organisation Studies
Independent Researchers

Lotte Bech, Architect
Urban Cycle Planning

Christian Brand
Senior Research Fellow and Associate Professor Fellow of Linacre College
Transport Studies Unit and Environmental Change Institute University of Oxford

Dr. Peter Cox
Senior Lecturer, Department of Social And Political Science University of Chester

Rosa Félix
PhD candidate in Transportation Systems, Instituto Superior Técnico Universidade de Lisboa

Carlo Mari
Associate professor of marketing University of Molise Italy

John Parkin CEng FICE FCIHT FCILT, Professor of Transport Engineering University of the West of England, Centre for Transport and Society

Gianni Rondinella, PhD Investigador senior TRANSyT - Centro de Investigación del Transporte Transport Research Centre Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

Dr. Harry Rutter
MB BChir, Senior Clinical Research Fellow, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Nicola da Schio
PhD researcher in Urban Ecology Cosmpolis Centre for Urban Research Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Dr. Peter R.H. Wood
Independent Researcher

Assoc Prof Ben Wooliscroft MRSNZ Associate Dean Research Otago Business School

Assoc Prof Ben Wooliscroft MRSNZ Associate Dean Research Otago Business School
EU Cycling Strategy, Link: www.cyclingstrategy.eu

European Parliament resolution of 9 September 2015 on the implementation of the 2011 White Paper on Transport: taking stock and the way forward towards sustainable mobility, point 64. (2015/2005(INI))


‘Declaration on cycling as a climate friendly transport mode’, Action plan, point 2.

According to estimations by DG REGIO

‘Declaration on cycling as a climate friendly transport mode’, Action plan, point 3.

Eurobarometer 406, 2013.

Eurobarometer 422, 2014.


ECF, The EU Cycling Economy. Arguments for an integrated cycling policy, 2016.