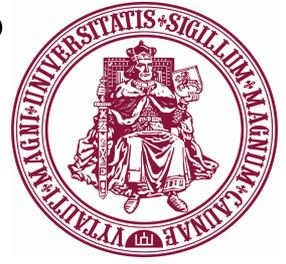# Low Carbon Transport: Ready to Pay a Car Tax? Lithuanian Case

R. Dagiliūtė*, V. Čiteikytė

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INTRODUCTION. The European Union aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the transport sector is one of the be the main sector s where these emissions could be reduced. Car tax (70 – 100 EUR) is one of the quite often referred taxes by local politicians as well as by EU and international organizations for the fiscal policy and environmental improvements in Lithuania.

METHODS. Transport sector analysis and contribution to the climate change was based on the data from Statistical office of Lithuanian and Eurostat.
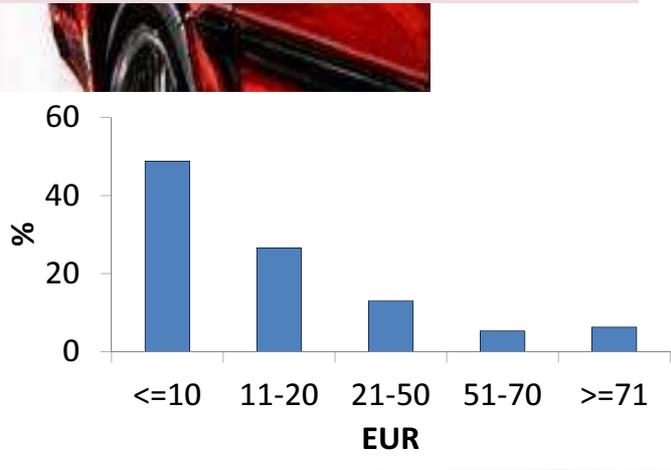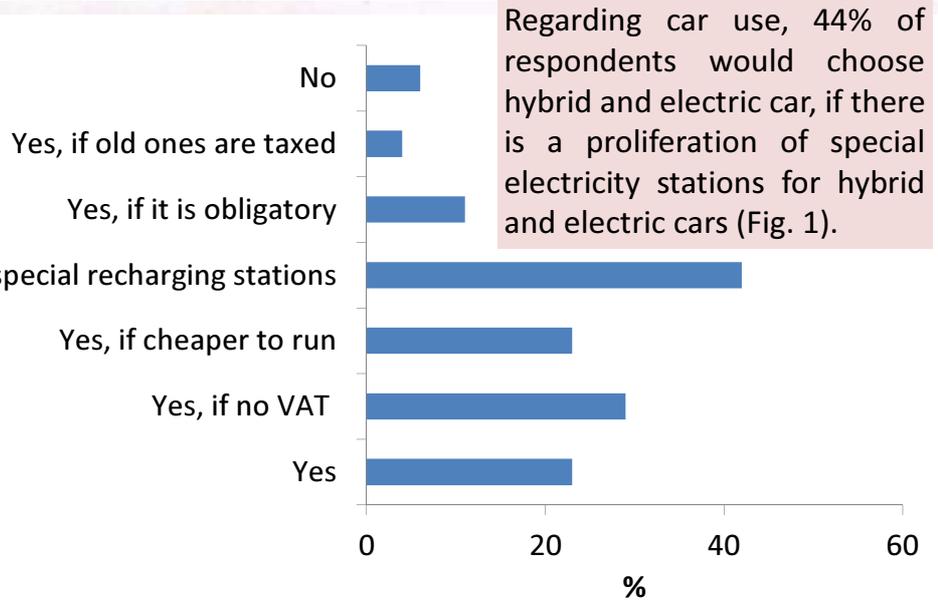The survey was carried out in 2015, in March-April. The questionnaire was placed in the web page www.apklausa.lt . The questionnaire was filled by 207 respondents .

RESULTS

Transport sector is one of the main final energy consumers in Lithuania. Renewable energy consumption in road transport consist up to 5%. CO_2 emissions after the economic decline has recovered much faster and recently exceeds 2008 year level. In 2014 a new registration rules were applied therefore the statistical number of cars has decreased, reaching 410 cars/1000 inhabitants.

In-between measures for transport pollution mitigation respondents agreed on car taxes, sharing initiatives, information provision. On the personal level even 42 % of respondents agreed on car tax.

Regarding car use, 44% of respondents would choose hybrid and electric car, if there is a proliferation of special electricity stations for hybrid and electric cars (Fig. 1).

49% of respondents said that 10 euros annual vehicle tax would be optimal (Fig. 2).

Fig. 1. **Willingness to switch to the hybrid /electric car (survey results, multiple answers possible).**

Fig. 2. **Willingness to pay a car tax (survey results).**

	χ^2	p
Age	**4,834**	**0,089***
Gender	1,692	0,193
Social status	1,979	0,372
Education	3,221	0,200
Incomes	**4,697**	**0,095**
Willingness to pay car tax	**1,115**	**0,000**
Responsibility for the climate change	2,261	0,133
Perfunctory attitude to the environment	0,03	0,862

Tab. 1. **Determinants for acceptance of intended car tax (survey results).**

CONCLUSIONS. In general, people are against any new taxation and strong political will is needed to introduce measures like that. The main reason to postpone a car tax is grounded by relatively low incomes in Lithuania; though car dependence is very high.