Hassiba Ben Bouali University of Chlef

Faculty of Economics, Business and Management Sciences

Laboratory of Financial Systems and Economic Policies

The 19th International Seminar on

Economic Burden of Road Traffic Accidents:

Costs, Public Policy Effectiveness, and Reform Challenges

December 8-9, 2026

Honor President: Pr. GOUINI Larbi – University Rector

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Preamble

Road traffic accidents constitute a phenomenon with significant economic repercussions that extend beyond direct human losses to their deeper impact on the macroeconomic structure and the sustainability of public resources. Alongside the approximately 1.2 million lives lost each year, and the 30 to 50 million injuries recorded annually—many of which result in permanent disabilities and weaken individuals' capacity to work and produce—these accidents generate an economic cost estimated, on average, at around 3% of GDP in most countries. This cost includes healthcare expenditures, productivity losses, long-term care, and the resulting imbalances in growth and development trajectories.

The economic burdens of road traffic accidents are not limited to visible expenditures associated with medical care or the repair of material damage affecting vehicles and infrastructure; rather, they extend to indirect costs, including the loss of individual and household income, a decline in institutional productivity, and increased pressure on social security and pension systems. In addition, a significant share of public budget allocations is redirected toward addressing the consequences of these accidents, often at the expense of investment spending in sectors with long-term returns. Thus, road traffic accidents become a systemic factor that drains financial resources and constitutes an additional constraint on the achievement of comprehensive and sustainable development.

The effectiveness of public policies in the field of road safety emerges as a decisive factor in controlling the economic cost of road traffic accidents. Indicators of human and financial losses reveal a gap between the actual burden and the effectiveness of existing intervention tools. Assessing this effectiveness requires examining the legislative framework, enforcement and monitoring mechanisms, the quality of infrastructure, and the financing patterns of prevention programs. Accordingly, reform challenges emerge as a structural necessity, aimed at reallocating resources, strengthening coordination among stakeholders, updating governance approaches in managing accident risks, and adopting innovative technological solutions. These reforms are expected to contribute to reducing the economic burdens of road traffic accidents and to embedding an approach that positions investment in road safety as a core component of a sound and sustainable development policy.

Objectives

- Diagnosing and measuring the economic burdens arising from road traffic accidents by highlighting their various financial, economic, and social components, both direct and indirect;

- Analyzing the cost of road traffic accidents on the macroeconomy in terms of their impact on growth, investment, human capital, public finances, and the labor market;
- Assessing the effectiveness of public policies adopted in the field of road safety and traffic accident prevention from economic, financial, legislative, and institutional perspectives;
- Reviewing international experiences in monitoring the economic burdens of road traffic accidents and in designing and implementing effective policies to reduce these burdens;
- Highlighting the role of innovation, technology, and digitalization in reducing the economic cost of accidents and improving tracking tools, data collection, and decision-making processes;
- Proposing practical reform directions at the level of the legal framework, the institutions responsible for road safety, and financing mechanisms, in a way that contributes to enhancing the effectiveness of public intervention;
- Building a platform for international dialogue and cooperation among researchers, experts, decision-makers, and representatives of national and international organizations in order to formulate a shared vision on the economic burdens of road traffic accidents and ways to reduce them.

Main Topics

- The theoretical and conceptual framework of the economic burdens of road traffic accidents;
- The economic cost of road traffic accidents and its implications for economic growth and the Sustainable Development Goals;
- The implications of road traffic accidents for insurance and social security systems;
- The social and demographic dimensions of the economic impacts of road traffic accidents;
- The role of technology and innovation in reducing the economic cost of road traffic accidents;
- The legal and institutional framework and governance in managing the economic impacts of road traffic accidents;
- Leading international experiences in assessing the economic burdens of road traffic accidents and policies to reduce them.

Participation Requirements

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- The paper must be original and must not have been previously published or presented at scientific events;
- The submission must fall within one of the conference tracks;
- The submission may be prepared in one of three languages: Arabic, English, or French;
- Authors are required to use the template available at the link, according to the language of the paper.

Important Dates

Deadline for Paper Submissions

September 2026
30

October 2026
30

Notification of Accepted Papers

Seminar Date

December 2026
08-09

Papers Submission

Full papers must be submitted via the following link:

https://forms.gle/LPwSQDGBbMyJAb7o6

Or by scanning the attached QR code.

Scan to submit your paper