



## **ACADEMIC YEAR 2013 – 2014**

### **TITLE OF DIPLOMA THESIS:**

The impacts of urban freeway development in the urban environment

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### **ABSTRACT**

The last decades has been an extensive research upon the negative environmental effects in air quality and climate change, mainly caused by the extensive use of car, which is a great source of global warming and deterioration of human health gases. Therefore there is a necessity to address such issues and provide sustainable solutions that will extinguish or minimize those negative effects to the future generations. Main objective of this dissertation is to address and redefine the term sustainability and sustainable development, in order to be able to estimate the contribution of the urban freeways to sustainable or non sustainable development of large urban centres. The dissertation addresses key points of the evolution of urban freeways, which affected and to an extent defined the way such infrastructure evolved and developed within the urban areas. Furthermore a general reference to sustainability assessment models is provided, as well as the indicators that are mostly used and their suitability relative to area and/ or policy to be assessed. The literature review as well as the analysis of the current dissertation conclude that the issue of the urban highways, and their connection with the urban development is a complicated issue that cannot be addressed with simple and careless solutions. Detailed planning and design procedures as well as careful integration within the urban environment and the existing transport infrastructure are required in order to provide infrastructure that enhance sustainability and urban well being.

### **KEYWORDS**

Sustainability, Development, Economy, Society, Environment, Models, Indicators, Demographic, Transportation, Infrastructure