

4th WORLD NAKED BIKE RIDE
Friday 3 June 2011 - Thessaloniki Greece
supported by Kids In Action - Alli Opsi - Street Panthers - Sfina -
Thessaloniki Allios - Network of Movements of Thessaloniki

It's high time we put a "STOP" to the immodest exposition of people and the planet to the pollution!

World Naked Bike Ride is an international movement and more than 70 cities take part in it. In Greece it's being held in Thessaloniki on Friday, June 3rd, 2011 for the 4th time in a row. It is an absolutely **peaceful celebration** for the **promotion of the bicycle as a means of transportation**, as opposed to the car culture and the pollution it creates, for our **independence from petrol and non-renewable energy sources**, for **humans and the environment**, for the **incrimination of our natural naked body**.

On occasion of the nuclear accident in Fukushima and the 25 years anniversary from the nightmare of Chernobyl, the old motto "Nuclear Power? NO Thank you!" is coming back as topical as ever, because nothing has changed, as in the environmental matters of the city. Their solutions are self-evident, documented and tested, but in Thessaloniki they remain a school essay at best.

After the provision of less than four kilometers of unguarded and dangerous bicycle lanes in three remote parts in 2009 the bicycle remains lost and found. The international economic crisis is an excuse for the non-realization of a substantial network of bicycle lanes for the cheapest of transportation media, but at the same time much costlier works are being discussed.

The traffic issue is according to our inhabitants, the most important issue of our city. Aimless use of private cars for distances less than one kilometre is 9 times greater in Greece, where as bicycle use is less than 1% of the total of all movements. Bike stands are removed due to their cheap construction, even with the locked bicycles on them, whereas bicycle theft has risen exponentially without any measures being taken to stop them.

The bill for Bicycle hasn't been realized and, as a result, Bicycle is not included in the public works being constructed and the Highway Code doesn't include special settings for its growth and protection.

Combined use of Bicycle on the public means of transport is not allowed in buses, taxis or trains (with an exception of the Suburban train of Athens), neither has it been planned for in the future city Metro of Thessaloniki. With the city Metro taking so many years to be completed, the city declines without alternative means of transport. Tram and sea transport remain just announcements. Trains and ships have stopped doing many routes from and to Thessaloniki, and as a result its inhabitants are caged and cut-off from the countryside and the islands.

Absence of environmental policy enlists Thessaloniki as the most polluted city in Europe in terms of air particles, without any measure being taken for the protection of public health, not even briefing. The ratio of green space per capita is only 2 sq.m., whereas Bonn has 35 sq.m. and the european minimum

limit for a viable city is 9 sq.m. Pavement is inaccessible with all these parked cars, motorcycles, tables and chairs, advertising signs, a city inaccessible for people with kinetic disabilities. Free public space has shrunk, town squares are just names on the map, whereas Thessaloniki International Fair and the 3rd Army Corps and its military camps are threatened to be built up instead of being rendered as Metropolitan parks, lungs of green space and recreation with no further construction. Despite all promises the delays in them being rendered to the people bring up plans for commercial malls and "concreting". Last time a road was pedestrianized was decades ago and the plans for new ones remain in drawers.

For all these reasons on Friday June 3rd, 2011 we are confronting the movement of cars with our naked bodies as the best way to defend our dignity. Our naked body is the most natural thing we have and is surely more beautiful than the exhausts of our cars. In today's society of peeping and keyholes the naked body is an object of exploitation by a whole industry. Set it free!

World Naked Bike Ride has a peaceful and artistic character. Painted and adorned bodies and bicycles, natural decoration, accessories, colour and music will be our arms in order to assert friendlier cities for the people, the environment and the bicycles. Come as naked as you dare with spirit and imagination, from swimsuits down to how mother nature bore you.

Feel free! You can take part on other alternative, non-machine-driven means of transport as skateboards, rollers, etc.

Press Conference, Q&A and Screenings: Monday 30 May 21.00 at Olympion Cinema:

The action will be presented and they will be screened the Award Winning on 11th Thessaloniki Documentary Festival "1st World Naked Bike Ride at Thessaloniki project" (trailer:<http://www.worldnakedbikeride.gr/documentary>) and the "World Naked Bike Ride London" Documentaries and also many videos about WNBR. A discussion will follow the documentaries. FREE ENTRANCE.

World Naked Bike Ride takes part this year up to this point at the following events:

Friday 29 April 21.00 - Street fest for the claiming of the European Capital of Youth, 2014, White Tower.

Saturday 30 April and Sunday 1 May 21.00 - Anti-Forbidding fest "Legalize", Kodra Barracks.

Thursday 12 May and Friday 13 May 21.00 - Unblock Art- Block 33.

Friday 20/5 17.00 - Art is Hard, Storehouse C, Port.

Thursday 26 May 21.00 - Projections at the Ecological Movement, Filippou 51.

Friday 27 May 21,00 - Kodra Fest for open spaces, Kodra Barracks

Wednesday 1 June 21.00 - World Naked Bike Ride Information Party at Vilara Street.

Be briefed about our news, events and projections, help our organizing. World Naked Bike Ride is a self-helped event from everyday citizens and is supported by groups from our city.

Official Page <http://www.worldnakedbikeride.gr/english>

Facebook <http://facebook.com/wnbr.greece>

Facebook Event <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=208692555831314>,

Twitter http://twitter.com/wnbr_greece

E-mail info@worldnakedbikeride.gr