



## Press Release

### One-stop website on driving in European cities

#### Complete multilingual website with full details of Low Emission Zones, Urban Road Charging and other city Access Regulations

Emmendingen, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014. The CLARS Platform, run by Sadler Consultants Ltd on behalf of the European Commission, has announced the launch of a unique website supporting those that need to drive into European town and cities. The website gives haulage and travel companies, as well as tourists and ordinary drivers, all the information they require on all Urban Access Regulations, in one place, on one click, in multiple languages.

Many cities have Urban Access Regulation Schemes (ARS) as part of measures to reduce congestion, air pollution and noise. This might be by [a congestion charge](#), a Low Emission Zone where [cleaner vehicles can enter](#) or [by limiting the times different types of vehicles can enter](#). However, those who need to bring goods, services and people into the city by vehicle need to know how to gain access. Coach operators need to know where they can bring tourists, those delivering goods need to know when, or with what vehicle, they can deliver.

[www.urbanaccessregulations.eu](http://www.urbanaccessregulations.eu) is the solution vehicle operators have long called for and the only resource of its kind. It gives all the information that vehicle operators need in one place. Questions like: Where are these zones? Can our vehicles drive into them? Do I have to register before I drive in, if so where? How much does it cost? All these details and more are answered in a user-friendly, regularly updated website with 1 click from the homepage.

Now for the first time, information on the main access regulations in Europe's towns and cities are collected together in a clear and comprehensive way, as well as in your language. For example the Rome ZTL, the London Lorry Control Scheme or Budapest's protected and restricted zones, and many more.

[www.urbanaccessregulations.eu](http://www.urbanaccessregulations.eu) provides details of the **268** Low Emission Zones in Europe and the **14** urban road charging schemes. Now it also gives full information on **42** major access regulation schemes, and will provide details of more schemes in the coming months. Now details of **8000** towns and cities with access, weight, height, width or length restrictions, are now available on on fully interactive GIS maps.

Only [www.urbanaccessregulations.eu](http://www.urbanaccessregulations.eu) will tell you where you have to register or get a sticker or permit, who is exempt, the emissions standards you need to meet, how the scheme will change in the future, where and how to pay, for all schemes in Europe.

Need information on the move? [www.urbanaccessregulations.eu](http://www.urbanaccessregulations.eu) is now optimised to work well for smartphones and tablets, as accessible as you would expect from an app, to make information easily available on the move. It has a fully interactive map to help you navigate the website too.

CLARS also provides support to towns and cities in operating Access Regulation Schemes, with a free members platform for public authorities. This platform helps support authorities operating urban access regulations, by best practice, sharing experience and knowledge.

Lucy Sadler says “It is important to us that users can rely on the information we provide, so it is constantly checked and updated. It is also important to us that the website is user-friendly, so information is given within 1 click from our homepage. We provide an interactive GIS map so the cities of interest are easily found, we also have a quick guide look-up table providing an overview of the schemes on our homepage so that visitors can immediately get the information they need.”

The screenshot shows the 'Urban Access Regulations In Europe' website interface. At the top, there is a language selector set to 'English', a search bar, and a 'Log in' button. The navigation menu includes: Home, Map, Overview, Countries, Quick Guide, Low Emission Zones, Urban Road Charging Schemes, Urban Access Regulations, Vehicle Operators, and Public Authorities. The sidebar on the left lists four categories with icons: Low Emission Zones (LEZ), Urban Road Charging, Major Access Regulation Schemes, and Physical Regulations. Below these is a section titled 'Find cities with Schemes' with a search bar and a table of results. The table has columns for Country, City, and icons for LEZ, Urban Road Charging, Major Access Regulation Schemes, and Physical Regulations. The main content area is a map of Europe with colored dots representing the locations of these regulations. The footer contains links for 'About this website', 'Disclaimer', 'FAQs', 'News and Press', 'Search', 'Privacy and Cookies', 'city weblinks', 'Useful Links', and copyright information for 2014 EU.

## Notes to editors:

1. The website has Urban Access Regulations Schemes (ARS) through 4 types of data:

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The European Commission is the EU's executive body.

“The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders”.



**Low Emission Zones** where access is regulated by vehicle emissions. Vehicles entering the zone must meet the emissions standards given.

Our website gives all the information you need on all current or confirmed future LEZs. Search using our [country menu](#), [Quick Guide](#), [overview](#), [map](#) or search using the table of all schemes below.



**Urban Road Charging** where access is regulated by payment. Vehicles are allowed in, but need to pay a charge to enter the city area (except Milan; Area C is both a LEZ and charge).



**Major Access Regulation Schemes (key-ARS)** where access is regulated by other methods. For example where access is allowed at certain times of the day or only permits are needed and granted for certain types of vehicles (see the [overview](#) on our website).

These schemes are also known as Traffic Restrictions, Access Control Schemes, Permit Schemes or in Italy ZTLs. We also call them key-ARS, as they are the largest, main ARS in Europe.

We do not generally include pedestrian areas or parking schemes, except some very large schemes. We also do not (yet) include all key-ARS, but those for larger cities. If a city does not have a key-ARS, it may have a physical ARS, that can be found via the [Quick Guide](#) or [homepage table](#).



**Physical Regulations (p-ARS)** where access regulated by vehicle type, weight, height, width, length or weight by axle. Cities with schemes can be found via our [Quick Guides](#). Details are shown on the [map](#) when zoomed into the city or town of interest, for which free [registration](#) is needed either directly or with facebook, Google+ and LinkedIn.

2. **How can I best use the website?** You can find cities with our [homepage map](#), [our overviews](#), with our [Quick Guides](#) where typing a country or city brings up a list and description of all schemes, by [country menus](#), or by our general search.
3. **Who needs this site?** Anyone who drives around Europe; including hauliers, tourists, lorry and coach operators, but also often owners of private vehicles. With one button the website is in your language and most information is in one or two clicks from the homepage.
4. **Your questions on how to access Europe's cities are answered** in a user-friendly, regularly updated website. Questions like: Where exactly are these zones? Can our vehicles drive into them? Do I have to register before I drive in? How much does it cost?
5. **Who are we?** Sadler Consultants Ltd is a consultancy company specialising in air quality policy. We have run the well known [www.lowemissionzones.eu](http://www.lowemissionzones.eu) website since 2008. The European Commission has now funded this to be extended to other types of urban access regulation, and is now [www.urbanaccessregulations.eu](http://www.urbanaccessregulations.eu), to reflect its wider remit.
6. **Completeness of the dataset.** We make every attempt to ensure that the data on LEZ and charging schemes presented on our website are complete. We provide all details for LEZ, charging schemes and key-ARS.

The coverage of major Access Regulation Schemes is as of the re-launch in November 2014 all cities with a population of over ½ million. This will increase over time, focusing on the larger

cities, touristic areas and areas we know have schemes. Meanwhile any schemes we do not yet have as key-ARS are included in the physical regulations, all be it with fewer details. The completeness of the physical Regulations is dependent on the completeness of the [HERE](#) dataset that we use for this data, and is used for many satellite navigation systems.

7. Many cities and towns struggle with issues like congestion, air pollution and noise. Many have levels of pollution that harm our health or need to make sure their historic town centre is somewhere that tourists want to visit. Congested polluted, noisy cities are not attractive for businesses, residents or tourists. Access Regulation Schemes can be part of a package of measures to help improve this.
8. Air pollution is one of the reasons cities implement ARS. Air pollution kills more people than road accidents. The human health damage from air pollution is estimated to cost Europe between €427 and €790 billion per year (reference: EU Cafe program <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/archives/cafe/general/keydocs.htm>).
9. Congestion in the EU is often located in and around urban areas and costs nearly 100 billion Euro, or 1% of the EU's GDP, annually. (reference EC EG MOVE, link below).
10. More information on the European Commissions work on urban mobility can be found at [http://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/urban/urban\\_mobility/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/urban/urban_mobility/index_en.htm)
11. [www.urbanaccessregulations.eu](http://www.urbanaccessregulations.eu) uses the fully interactive GIS maps from ArcGIS Online, provided by ESRI (UK)
12. Aspects of the website include:
  - All details for all LEZs, urban charging schemes, and key-ARS, including maps, dates and vehicle emissions standards, vehicles affected, maps of the LEZ, links to further information and city websites, road signs, enforcement, hours of operation.
  - Easy ways of searching for information on your cities, through maps, databases of schemes, country menus, general search..... Includes look-up tables to find schemes and cities easily.
  - Translation into all EU languages
  - Fully interactive frontpage map to help navigate the LEZs, as well as menus by country and city
  - Overall table showing all LEZs with dates, emissions standards, vehicles affected, sorted by country or by start date, to help give an overview and help plan vehicle fleets
  - Background information on Urban Access Regulations, their impacts, purposes, air quality.
  - FAQs, useful weblinks...
13. For information on our CLARS members platform see <http://urbanaccessregulations.eu/public-authorities>.
14. Any questions or more details, please do not hesitate to contact us. Email address [alert@urbanaccessregulations.eu](mailto:alert@urbanaccessregulations.eu), or +49(0)7641 9375 335, in English, German or French