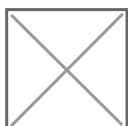




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## **Yellow vests and mobility crisis: what did the “True” and the “Great” Debates lead to?**



Submitted by Forum Vies Mobiles on Fri, 07/03/2020 - 09:00

Mots clés

Yellow Vests

Debate

citizen participation

mobilization

État du projet

Research notes

Visuel



Activer

Activé

Niveau de profondeur

Balise H2 + H3

Ajouter le trianglesi ce contenu est affiché dans la quinzaine

Désactivé

Date du début

Wed, 07/01/2020 - 12:00

Présentation longue

The very existence of the Yellow Vests movement, which appeared in October 2018, is intrinsically linked to mobility issues. Indeed, it emerged and structured itself in opposition to a series of projected policies limiting the mobility of car users:

- Increasing the carbon tax
- Increasing in the price of diesel
- Lowering the speed limit to 80 km/h on all secondary roads.

With the Yellow Vests movement - which is characterised by people wearing yellow road safety vests and congregating on roundabouts - we witnessed a real crisis of mobility.

The arguments challenging these measures were essentially based on claims of fiscal and territorial justice. First of all, in areas that are highly car dependent, most people don't have much of a choice in terms of travelling to work, see a doctor, go shopping, etc. Moreover, and throughout the whole country, the implementation of these measures would have a considerable impact on the daily lives of many people whose job relies on travelling (who represent a quarter of working adults: delivery workers, home services, drivers, train and airplane crews...) and whose need to use a motor vehicle such as a car is often forgotten or neglected. The scrappage bonus for the purchase of a less polluting vehicle isn't an effective incentive for those with small incomes: it is up to 5,000 euros for the purchase of a new vehicle. Finally, people's misunderstanding of the proposed taxation of motor fuel was contrasted with the lack of taxation of kerosene: why tax motorists and not airline passengers? Indeed, even if air travel has been democratized with the rise of air traffic and low-cost airlines, it remains mainly a privilege for the more well-off - who are also globally the biggest polluters.

Following the emergence of this social movement and its demands, and alongside the organization of "grievance books," local debates and regional conferences, two online platforms were set up to collect citizens' opinions: one from the Yellow Vests movement itself, and another by the Government that saw it as a tool for ending the crisis.

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