

## The future of the auto world in the COVID era

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**Abstract:** *The eco car of the year 2020 was the "Corolla HB" 1.8 HSD. The French made the original car, after the new "Peugeot 208", the base is the same as in the model "2008", which is 25 cm longer, the wheelbase is 2.6 meters and it is dominated by power. Its maximum speed is 198 kilometers/h. No one can compare to the French "lion". "Mercedes" announced that Formula 1 drivers will drive completely black cars instead of the "silver arrow" in the upcoming season, thus promising the fight against racism and increasing diversity in their champion team.*

*The auditing company "Deloitte" claims that the automobile industry in the world is about to collapse due to the consequences of the Corona virus pandemic. The Covid-19 pandemic is not subsiding, now Mexico and the Brazil are the most endangered. During the epidemic in Serbia in April this year, the production of motor vehicles and trailers decreased by 84%, and in Kragujevac based "Fiat" was faced not only with a lack of demand, but also with a lack of parts for production. During the state of emergency, truckers were particularly endangered and suffered heavy losses. Losses in the passenger domestic and international bus traffic were then estimated at 28 million euros.*

*Despite the pandemic that reigns, "Renault" has confirmed its leading position on the European electric car market. The "Renault Zoe" is the best-selling vehicle in its class. "Renault Kangu ZE" achieved the highest sales in the class of electric commercial vehicles. And the offer of electric vehicles for the new 2021 will be enriched by "Renault Twingo Electric" and "Dacia Spring".*

*At the end of 2020, the two automotive groups received the consent to merge. "Fiat" and "Peugeot" have joined forces to neutralize the negative effects of the slowdown in demand and more easily bear the costs of producing cleaner vehicles, in order to meet the requirements of the stricter gas emission regulations. The emergence of "Stellantis" will contribute to the expansion of the market.*

### Introduction

*"Hello, world. My first look at my forever home" (NASA's Perseverance Mars Rover).*

The first car magazine was published in the United States in 1895 under the title "The Horseless Age", which clearly showed that the old mode of transportation was outdated.

It is interesting that on February 19, 2021, the NASA Rover successfully landed on Mars. After 7 months of travel and 270 million kilometers, the largest and strongest rover of the American space agency "Perseverance" /perseverance/ landed on Mars. The landing happened at 9.55 pm and photos soon arrived. This is the most technologically sophisticated mission on Mars. And the predecessor of this rover landed in 2012, was the rover "Curiosity", which remained in operation.

In April, NASA announced that NASA's Rover ("persistence") has transformed carbon dioxide from Mars' atmosphere into oxygen, what was the first transformation done on another planet. This was a crucial first step towards converting carbon dioxide into oxygen on Mars and will help astronauts who go on a mission to Mars, not to carry large amounts of oxygen with them, in order to be able to return to Earth.

### News from the Automotive Industry in the World and Serbia

Since the factory in Kragujevac, Serbia, is one of the most modern in the "Fiat Chrysler Automobiles" (FCA) group, in which most of the production has been digitized, it is expected that the joint company will find a new car model faster. Together, the FCA and PSA groups will have a projected production of 8.7 million vehicles per year and will become the fourth largest car manufacturer in the world, behind "Volkswagen", "Toyota" and "Renault - Nissan - Micubishi.", but in front of the companies "General motors" and "Ford".

It is interesting that in October 2020 in Italy the production of the new electric model "Fiat new 500" has already started. "Fiat" has refreshed its best-selling models, e.g. "Fiat typo cross" and "Fiat typo city sport".

The Korean manufacture "Hyundai" will go to public with the official technical data of the sports model "Kona N".

According to the research, Chinese consumers are more willing to accept alternative drive assemblies than European or American customers. Otherwise, the electric car market has experienced rapid growth and evolution. "Tesla" is the most famous company that produces electric cars, and one of the new companies is the Chinese "NIO" company of electric cars, which announced the ET7 model, an electric sedan with autonomous driving technology, as well as the new luxury electric crossover EC6.

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(with a total of 115,888 vehicles sold, what is a sales growth of 101.4% compared to 2019). It will be a company worth about 50 billion euros, illuminated by stars at the end of this difficult year.

The factory "Continental Automotive Serbia" was opened in Novi Sad in Serbia, which will produce the most modern displays and screens in cars, innovative electronics. It is planned to purchase 10 new electric buses for Belgrade, and two factories have applied for the tender, one from Bulgaria together with one Serbian company and one from China.

During the March in 2021, the purchase of 10 new electric vehicles was announced, these are "Hayger" electric buses that performed well on the streets of Belgrade.

It is expected that the metro in Belgrade will be finished only in 2030.

### Cycling Initiative and Traffic Safety in Serbia

There is a constant struggle in Belgrade for the improvement of bicycle traffic.<sup>1</sup> Cities and municipalities should commit to constantly improving cycling and pedestrian infrastructure. In addition, it is necessary to see bicycle<sup>2</sup> traffic as an equal mode of transport with other types of traffic. Around the world, for example, Berlin and Budapest are expanding or turning parts of roads into bicycle lanes, in Vienna there are expanded zones of calm traffic within the settlement, in Milan, pedestrian and bicycle space is being expanded, while in Brussels, in the wider city center, a speed limit of 20 km/h has been introduced and pedestrians have been given an absolute advantage.

The Association of the Western Balkans deals with the development of urban mobility and the popularization of bicycle traffic.

Unfortunately, the Traffic Safety Agency published that from the beginning of the 2020 till June 11<sup>th</sup> 2020<sup>3</sup>, on the roads throughout Serbia 180 people died. Special attention was paid to the extra caution of drivers in the summer months. However, today, at a time when the corona is not letting up, information are still coming on the renewed restrictions in Italy, while restrictive measures are

<sup>1</sup> The association "Streets for cyclists" demands that the sloping and jagged curbs be removed and that they be flat, just as the transition to completely flat curbs is being made throughout Western Europe. This controversy was conducted during the summer of 2020 in Belgrade and Novi Sad with the company "Belgrade Road" and the Directorate for Construction Land and Construction of Belgrade.

<sup>2</sup> The General Assembly of the United Nations in April 2018, declared June the 3rd – the **World's Bicycle Day**.

<sup>3</sup> Just in the first 11 days of June, 16 people were killed and about 260 people were injured on the roads in Serbia.

being eased in Israel. The transport of goods<sup>4</sup> also suffered losses. Some firms have a problem maintaining the liquidity.

Also, there are more and more cases of violent driving and driving under the influence of psychoactive substances. As part of the International Action, which was carried out in 29 member states of the organization "Road Pool" (European Traffic Police Network), the traffic police discovered 15,501 violations and 81 criminal offenses. During the action, 577 traffic accidents were registered on the roads in Serbia, in which six people were killed and 143 people were injured. Of the total number of dead, 3 people were killed in motor vehicles, 2 as drivers and 1 passenger. These 3 people were not wearing seat belts at the time of the accident.

### Conclusion

The eco car of the year 2020 was the "Corolla HB" 1.8 HSD. And in the exceptional competition for European cars in 2021, the "Toyota Jarris"<sup>5</sup> was chosen, as the completely new car, except for the name it bears, which is still synonym for reliability. "No more boring cars" is a strategy by which the Japanese brand wants to attract new drivers.

The new third generation of the "Peugeot 308"<sup>6</sup> model, which comes with a new logo of the French manufacturer, has been officially presented.

"KIA" showed the EV6 model, the first exclusively battery electric vehicle (BEV), and the Bavarians, i.e. the Munich-based manufacturer<sup>7</sup> has presented a production E-version of its new electric model "14" with a sporty look with best-in-class driving dynamics and zero emissions.

In 1972, the United Nations adopted the decision to celebrate the World Day of Environmental Protection every June the 5<sup>th</sup> with a series of various events<sup>8</sup>. A "Caravan of electric vehicles" was organized in our capital on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June, thus indicating the impact of traffic on the air quality in our metropolis. Participants were the drivers of electric vehicles, as well as scooters and motor scooters, who promoted the importance of driving that does not disturb our environment and contributes to the reduction of exhaust gases.

And on the 22-nd of April 2021 a Climate Summit was organized, a two-day online discussion on climate issues. The administration of the American president has committed to halve greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, i.e. that the goal is for the United States to reduce emissions for 50 to 52% compared to the level from the year 2005. On the Earth Day, President Biden virtually hosted 40 leaders at the White House Summit, and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned that global warming had already reached 1.2 degrees Celsius and was "rushing to the brink of disaster." It is significant that Japan has also increased its target carbon reduction rate to 46% by 2030, from 2013 levels.

At the time of the current Covid-19 epidemic, we launched moral forces in order to affirm true values in all segments of life and work. At the end of April 2021 many lives were lost all over the world. It is evident that a culture of support and solidarity is a strong stimulus in crisis situations.

### References

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<sup>4</sup> About 10,000 companies are operating in the transport sector, of which 1,700 in the international sector.

<sup>5</sup> The maximum speed of this new car is 180 km/h.

<sup>6</sup> A plug-in hybrid with 180 hp is also available to customers.

<sup>7</sup> They offered the serial "14", as one of a total of 25 electrified models - novelties until 2025, of which 12 are fully electric.

<sup>8</sup> This year's slogan of the World Environment Day was "It's time for the nature".