Chapter 4
Ethical and Social Implications of Urban Mobility

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ABSTRACT

Urban mobility determines the vector of economic development of territories. And if the positive aspects of it have been studied quite fully, its negative aspects have not been studied sufficiently. A systemic view of the problem of urban mobility determines not only the formulation of tasks, but also determines the methods of their solution. The chapter uses an interdisciplinary approach, including the analysis of normative documents, statistical data, a comparative study of foreign experience. Content analysis methods of interviews with experts in the field of urbanism were used to study ethical aspects. The results of the study revealed that urban mobility contributes to the deepening of social stratification in a number of cities. The

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analysis shows that effective urban mobility management should be based on the principles of social justice, environmental sustainability, and ethical responsibility. The chapter provides recommendations for the implementation of inclusive transport solutions and emphasizes the importance of integrating ethical principles into an urban policymaking.

INTRODUCTION

Modern cities are complex social and economic systems that define trends in regional development and determine living standards. In the context of rapid urbanization and technological advances, urban mobility is becoming a key to sustainable development, affecting economic functions, as well as social structure. Despite a considerable amount of research on urban mobility positive aspects, its ethical and social impact is still understudied.

Modern cities face a whole host of challenges in transportation development, including the need to modernize infrastructure, integrate environmentally friendly transport means, ensure equal access to transport services, and minimize mobility negative environmental impacts. These processes are followed by complex social changes, specifically by growing social inequality, changes in the urban space structure, increase in digital divide, and labor relations transformation in transport and logistics.

Besides, the urban mobility concept is fundamentally changing. In addition to traditional transport mobility predicated on the principles of safety, comfort, speed and economic efficiency, new forms of mobility are becoming increasingly relevant: academic, professional, social, and virtual. Advances in digital technologies contribute to the expanding mobility concept, creating new behavior patterns and ways for people living in urban space to interact with each other. Virtual mobility operating in a barrier-free cyberphysical environment opens up new opportunities for communication and cooperation, reducing dependence on geographical location.

Aside from that, modern trends in urban redevelopment indicate a transition from traditional digitalization to intelligent systems that ensure integration of information technologies into urban space management. Intelligent mobility, based on the concept of Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS), implies an integrated approach to transportation management aimed at increasing service availability and efficiency. However, introducing such technologies requires consideration of ethical aspects related to compliance with the social justice principles, consumer protection and ensuring transport solution inclusivity.