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Graffiti Vandalism: the Graffolution Rail End-users Workshop, organised by UIC on 3 February 2016, brought together railway companies representatives and members of the Graffolution Consortium at UIC Headquarters

(Paris, 4 February 2016) The Graffolution Consortium, including the Project Coordinator SYNNO, and the UIC Security Division team, held the Graffolution Rail End-users Workshop at UIC Headquarters on 3 February 2016. Around 26 participants came from 10 different countries, representing 12 companies.

For the record, the Graffolution is a EU FP7 Project (N0. 608152) that focuses on 'smart responses', multi-directional awareness and positive solutions for the wider public – including both those who are in charge of managing graffiti vandalism as well as those who construe street art as part of city regeneration, place making, creative or community action.

At the invitation of UIC, Security, Maintenance and Legal experts from UIC members attended a presentation of the project and its most important results. In addition, the participants were able to test the Graffolution platform, which delivers an extensive set of "Collaborative Tools and Resources" to empower transport operators and other stakeholders such as city administrations and law enforcement agencies to share knowledge and to create their own intervention strategies. The Graffolution Consortium members also used this opportunity to collect feedback and inputs from the workshop participants in order to improve the finished platform for end-users.

Jerzy Wieniewski, UIC Fundamental Values Department Director, and Jacques Colliard, Head of the UIC Security Division, opened the workshop by reminding the audience that their team was *"happy to be involved, to contribute and to offer advice on the matter, especially since security issues regarding passengers are growing in importance nowadays, namely due to terrorism"*. The participants particularly appreciated the balance between repressive and constructive strategies in graffiti prevention and found the platform relevant for the railway context. They are also committed to disseminating the results within their organisations.

The project is now coming to an end and the aim of the Consortium is to conduct large-scale dissemination. If it were to be extended thanks to the support of the European Commission, UIC would obviously continue to disseminate further and to encourage railway stakeholders to use the Graffolution platform.

Meanwhile, for more information, it is possible to visit the dedicated website at <http://project.graffolution.eu/>, subscribe to the newsletter and follow the project on Twitter and Instagram.

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