

# PRESS RELEASE

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**Stay at home ! For trips that are absolutely necessary, consider cycling : it's efficient, healthy, and enables social distancing.**

## **Covid-19 crisis : French Bicycle Users Federation (FUB) calls for civil responsibility and benevolence.**

France has been officially put under lockdown since midday on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 due to the coronavirus. In terms of responsibility and to lead by example, FUB had already run its board-meeting (16 board members + 5 contributors) via teleconferencing on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March and its 12 employees were all made to work from home from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March.

**The official instructions are to remain confined as much as possible and limit trips to those that are absolutely necessary.** FUB nevertheless wishes to emphasize that for many of those indispensable trips, especially those of less than 7 km, cycling is the best solution. **For health workers in particular, this mode of transport enables efficient social distancing, keeps you away from public transport, and has beneficial effects on both body and mind.**

In order to avoid any accident that could put unnecessary pressure on the French health system, FUB is asking:

1. Drivers to **pay extra attention to pedestrians and cyclists**, including by slowing down, providing ample space when overtaking, and double-checking before opening doors.
2. Cyclists to **pay extra attention to their bicycles' technical state** (brakes, tyres, active and passive lighting), to wear bright or visible clothing if the trip includes poorly lit areas, and to generally be visible and predictable.
3. Cycling business professionals to **keep ensuring bike maintenance** for those who need it, especially health workers (if possible, speak to mechanics over the phone).
4. HR and operation managers to **encourage cycling**, especially if it replaces public transport.

## **PRESS CONTACTS**

Anne-Sybille Riguidel  
Chargée des relations presse  
Mail : [as.riguidel@gmail.com](mailto:as.riguidel@gmail.com)  
Tél. 06 32 10 26 38

Olivier Schneider  
Président FUB  
Mail : [o.schneider@fub.fr](mailto:o.schneider@fub.fr)  
Tél. 06 16 09 12 29

Perrine Burner  
Chargée de communication FUB  
Mail : [p.burner@fub.fr](mailto:p.burner@fub.fr)  
Tél : 03 88 76 70 86