

REDUCTION OF SUICIDES AND TRESPASSES ON RAILWAY PROPERTY



WARNING SIGNS AND POSTERS

WHERE: The stopping place named “Valladolid-Universidad” located at the conventional gauge railway, L Madrid-Irún, PK-25+600, in Valladolid, Spain.

WHY: To discourage pedestrians from using illegal crossing places by providing information concerning the possibility of being fined whether users cross through prohibitive or not authorised places as well as conveying information about the rail culture.

WHAT: The warning signs consist of a range of images and texts aiming to transmit information about punishments associated to cross illegally the rails, targeted at preventing trespasses in the railway property.

Consequently, trespassers who have become more aware of the illegality and punishments of their behaviours after reading the warning signs and the poster located at the site, will avoid crossing illegally in the railway area in the future, avoiding, thus, being fined as well.

RESULTS: The trespassers have been reduced from 128 to 77 after the implementation of the warning signs that indicated the possibility of being fined for trespassing. Furthermore, it should also be highlighted the reduction of people using the broken fence areas in order to access or go out of the stopping place. Chi Square tests were performed and they indicated that all these differences were significant ($p=0.025$).



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