First and foremost, smart city must be green. Do you agree?

My name is Danielius and today I will be talking about the smart cities and the need for them to be green. I will be basing my opinion on an article called Global urban sustainability assessment: A multidimensional approach, where the authors examine the concept of a smart city, as well as apply a multi-criteria approach to rank the smartest cities in the world.

Smart city is basically a city which uses the IoT and the ICT to improve efficiency and provide a better quality of government service and citizen welfare, but the status quo is, that the whole concept of a smart city is rather new and very broad, therefore we do not know what counts as a smart city, and what does not. That’s why I will be trying to answer the question – is it necessary for a smart city to be green?

In the article I mentioned before, the authors were trying to define the concept of a smart city by comparing the best cities to live in, and one of the main comparison points was the CO2 emmisions per capita or per person.

They also did other tests and found out that CO2 emmisions correlate to the share of trips made by walking, cycling and public transport, which are also sometimes mentioned as a smart city component. The research also showed that The role of renewable energy in reducing CO2 emissions in global cities has been confirmed at a very high level of statistical significance.

Many more comparisons regarding CO2 emissions and renewable energy sources were made, and the results show that two, almost three of the top five cities that have environmental priorities are also the cities with smart city policy priorities – San Francisco, Stockholm and Seoul

The conclusion also states that the authors of the article wanted to focus on the global cities which were responsible for a considerable share of global co2 emmisions and found that the defining concepts of a smart city are: economic, social and environmental priorities.

Personally, I agree that every smart city should be green. The waste and pollution has been enormous lately, therefore I am excited to more ant more cities implementing ways to lower emissions and waste, for example giving the priority for electric cars, or handing out paper straws, like we see here in Vilnius

And I believe we will keep moving toward the goal of cities becoming both smarter and greener in the future.