2017 Polis Conference
6-7 December, THE EGG, Brussels, Belgium

First announcement and call for speakers

Innovation in Transport for Sustainable Cities and Regions

Submission deadline: 29 May 2017

www.polisnetwork.eu/2017conference
About the conference

The 2017 Polis Conference takes place on **6 and 7 December in Brussels**.

The **Annual Polis Conference** provides an opportunity for cities, metropolitan areas and regions to showcase their transport achievements to a large audience, and for the wider transport community to engage with representatives of local and regional authorities on innovative transport solutions.

The conference offers a mix of high-level plenary sessions, with prominent figures debating topical issues and trends, and **technical sessions** showing innovation in policy and practice across the transport spectrum. Each session will aim to offer a mix of contributions on current practice and future plans (in cities and regions), academic research and industry initiatives. Sessions will be delivered in different formats, including workshops, round-tables and short, focused presentation-style sessions.

This year's conference technical sessions will showcase many of the key topics recently explored by Polis within its thematic working groups and projects. These topics are listed on the next page.

Last year's Polis conference in Rotterdam welcomed **around 500 delegates**, including members of Polis, i.e. transport practitioners and policy makers from local and regional authorities; transport professionals and decision makers from other public authorities; representatives of the transport industry, transport researchers & consultants; and high-level representatives and experts from the European institutions.

**Event language**: English

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About Polis

Since 1989, European local and regional authorities have been working together within the Polis network to promote sustainable mobility through the deployment of innovative transport solutions. Polis fosters cooperation and partnerships across Europe with the aim of making research and innovation in transport more accessible to cities and regions.

Current president of the network is vice-mayor Pex Langenberg, from the city of Rotterdam.

[www.polisnetwork.eu/2017conference](http://www.polisnetwork.eu/2017conference)
**Call for speakers**

The following list shows the topics on which presentations are sought for the technical sessions. All abstracts should highlight the **innovative dimension** as well as **results achieved and lessons learned**. Innovative presentation formats are also welcome! Interested speakers are requested to prepare an abstract using the online submission form: [http://www.polisnetwork.eu/2017abstracts](http://www.polisnetwork.eu/2017abstracts)

### ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH IN TRANSPORT

- New datasets, apps, and assessment tools to capture the economic, health, congestion reduction, and safety benefits of increased active travel in city centres
- Designing public space to encourage active travel, and measuring the impact of pedestrianisation on accessibility, urban vitality and local business
- The commuting cyclist: the rise of e-bikes, fast cycle lanes, impact on urban regions
- Air quality: emission models, ICT tools, quick wins and emergency measures to reduce local transport emissions
- Electromobility charging infrastructure: successful business models, public-private partnerships, location policies, smart grids, and energy management
- Procurement of clean vehicles: from political commitment to technical implementation

### TRAFFIC EFFICIENCY & MOBILITY

- Novel ways of improving transport integration and breaking down system and service silos – proven examples
- Cutting through the big data hype – how can open data and data-related activities serve the needs of local authorities?
- Automated vehicles: opportunities and risks for urban mobility.
- Traffic management of the future: Innovative technological and governance approaches to reduce costs and risks and maximise efficiency.
- The changing road user hierarchy in traffic management - strategies for optimising the movement of buses, trams, cyclists and pedestrians.

### ROAD SAFETY & SECURITY

- Promoting active travel while ensuring road safety for vulnerable road users
- Successful behavioural change and road safety campaigns
- Accident data, risk assessment, performance indicators and road safety benchmarking for urban environments
- Safer urban freight transport to protect pedestrians and cyclists
- Measures to increase the security of transport systems and public transportation infrastructures

### ECONOMIC & SOCIAL CHALLENGES

- Urban parking policy to support economic & urban development; using parking data & technology for policy delivery
- Managing the environmental, spatial and financial aspects of large infrastructure projects
- Public transport – integrated planning, clean vehicles, information services, automation, regional public transport
- The changing role of taxis in the urban transport system: new business and regulatory models
- Urban vehicle access regulations: which measures solve which problems; approaches to enhance political and public acceptance and ensure equity and fairness
- Improved access for all: new accessibility policies and demand responsive transport for specific target groups

### HORIZONTAL TOPICS

- Innovative services, tools and schemes to support clean and efficient urban freight distribution and service trips
- Integrating emerging or neglected policy areas into SUMP's, while taking account of public-private cooperation and stakeholder engagement: urban freight transport, safety, energy efficiency
- Smart cities: upscaling pilot projects to large-scale deployment, innovative finance tools, public-private partnerships and procurement approaches
- New mobility services in the sharing economy
- Emerging transport challenges in growing metropolitan areas: how to densify or extend cities (population growth, new developments etc.) without increasing car numbers nor penalising active modes and public transport
- Towards better funding and better regulation for urban mobility: what will Europe look like after 2020?
Abstract submission procedure

Please submit your abstract online by 29 May 2017 at http://www.polisnetwork.eu/2017abstracts

Authors will be informed about the outcome of the evaluation process in June. The draft conference programme will be available shortly afterwards on the Polis website. Online registration will also open in June; no conference fee will be charged for speakers.

WHY ATTEND THE CONFERENCE?

- Learn about the innovative transport projects and policies pursued by cities and regions
- Gain insight into the future direction of urban and regional mobility
- Discuss European transport policies for urban and regional mobility
- Learn about current practices and future plans to:
  - Reduce the environmental impact of road transport;
  - More effectively manage the movement of people and goods;
  - Deliver safer roads and a more secure transport network;
  - Manage transport demand and assess the social and economic benefits of transport measures.
- Gain understanding of the research needs for sustainable mobility in cities and regions
- Network with local and regional transport decision-makers from around Europe

Wish to exhibit or sponsor?

Enhance the visibility of your organisation or initiative through one of our sponsorship and exhibition packages! They offer an excellent opportunity to meet both officers and elected officials of local and regional governments from around Europe. For more information, visit our conference webpage www.polisnetwork.eu/2017conference or contact Julie Lucca, jlucca@polisnetwork.eu, tel +32 2 500 56 83.

CONTACT:

Rue du Trone 98
B-1050 Brussels, Belgium

Tel +32 (0)2 500 56 70 polis@polisnetwork.eu
Fax +32 (0)2 500 56 80 www.polisnetwork.eu

@POLISnetwork facebook.com/polisnetwork

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