



POLIS

CITIES AND REGIONS FOR TRANSPORT INNOVATION

ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

2023

LEUVEN, BELGIUM · 29-30 NOVEMBER 2023

**CALL FOR
SPEAKERS**

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The **Annual POLIS Conference** provides a unique opportunity for your organisation to connect with up to 900 committed transport innovation professionals who work in local and regional governments and related public and private sector organisations and companies.

Our **plenary sessions** focus on the European, urban and regional policy dimensions of sustainable transport and feature high-level speakers, such as ministers, deputy mayors, European Commissioners, and thought leaders from international organisations, academia, and the industry.

The **technical parallel sessions** feature in-depth presentations and discussions on urban transport solutions selected through this open Call for Speakers.

The **Annual POLIS Conference 2023** will take place on 29 and 30 November 2023 in Leuven, Belgium.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE



ABOUT POLIS

POLIS

CITIES AND REGIONS FOR TRANSPORT INNOVATION

Since **1989**, European local and regional authorities have been working together within POLIS to promote sustainable mobility through the deployment of innovative transport solutions.

The **POLIS Network** fosters cooperation and partnerships across Europe to make research and innovation in transport more accessible to cities and regions.





Presentations are sought for the technical parallel sessions on the topics listed on the next pages. Abstracts should highlight the **innovative dimensions, results achieved, and lessons learned by speakers and organisations.**

Sessions will be delivered in different formats, including workshops, roundtable discussions, and Pecha-Kucha-style presentations. **Other new presentation formats are welcome!**

Please choose **only one topic** to define the scope of your abstract.



CALL FOR SPEAKERS

Diverse perspectives, accessibility and inclusivity: From kids to older people, from women to minorities, and from physical to cognitive impairments, active travel is for all. Is everyone being heard?

Active travel beyond infrastructure: Social and soft measures to increase, improve and promote walking, wheeling and cycling for everyone

Harnessing the full potential of active modes: Physical and mental well-being, low carbon emission, less noise and air pollution, efficient use of space, social cohesion, where is this happening and how are we measuring this?

Mobility for proximity: Active modes supporting new ways of urban space organisation, from city centres to suburban areas

Early adopters and late bloomers: Shifting priorities toward active modes does not happen overnight - how are different cities and regions tackling the different stages of active travel development?

Bike sharing schemes: How are they evolving, and are they supporting the roll-out of active modes?

PRIORITY TOPICS

IN THE FIELD OF

ACTIVE TRAVEL & HEALTH



PRIORITY TOPICS

IN THE FIELD OF

CLEAN VEHICLES & AIR QUALITY

Upscaling e-mobility: How are cities and regions responding to the need for large-scale deployment of charging infrastructure? How to align this with their mobility and parking strategies?

Size (still) matters: Electric vehicles are getting bigger and heavier, and we are seeing more e-buses and e-trucks. Are cities ready for this? Do they want this? And what about the grid capacity?

Democratising e-mobility: Electric mobility needs to be truly accessible for all, from the design of the charging infrastructure to affordability concerns. Are we witnessing a just transition to e-mobility? How can cities and regions support this?

Beyond the pipe: Assessing non-exhaust emissions from road dust, tire abrasion and brakes

City-led innovations: Remote sensing of vehicle emissions, battery-swapping solutions for LEVs, wireless charging for taxis and other captive fleets, and more... Cities are a driving force for change. What's next?

What about hydrogen? If H₂ is the fuel of the future, then when will that future come?



Is traffic management delivering on SUMP goals?: Aligning traffic planning and management with sustainable mobility goals; balancing modes and modal trade-offs; traffic signal innovations prioritising sustainable modes; routing services respecting road function priorities ('societal routing')

How should local/regional authorities deal with an increasingly complex ITS and data ecosystem? New market offerings and new business/service models in the data, ITS and C-ITS domains, e.g., ownership versus 'as a service' models, raw v. processed data, and their public procurement implications

Digital multimodal platforms: Shaping MaaS to serve sustainable mobility goals and to create a healthy marketplace

(3 more Traffic Efficiency topics on the next page)

PRIORITY TOPICS

IN THE FIELD OF

TRAFFIC EFFICIENCY



Unlocking the value of data in local & regional government:

Organisational processes, capacity building, data sharing models and conditions, data analysis and insights - practical examples

Bringing transport data into the digital age:

Working towards standardised and **machine-readable** traffic regulations, spatial attributes and mobility services - practical experiences

How to prepare city and regional authorities for connected,

cooperative and automated mobility (CCAM) and why? How can

CCAM contribute to **inclusion** and **decarbonisation**?

(3 more Traffic Efficiency topics on the previous page)

PRIORITY TOPICS

IN THE FIELD OF

TRAFFIC EFFICIENCY



Reducing speed, fast!: How to reduce speed in urban areas, particularly through speed limit reductions, traffic calming (physical measures and traffic management), and action in specific neighbourhoods (residential, commercial, school streets, etc.); examples of strategies, policies, regulations, programmes, plans, or projects, permanent or pilots

News from the field: Practical experience in policies, plans, projects, research, communication, advocacy work, training, etc., successful and challenging cases both welcome, with lessons learned or in need of advice from peers' perspectives on the technical or political components of road safety work

Capacity building: How can we support local, regional and transport authorities to adopt the New Paradigm for Safe City Streets? How can we go beyond the road safety specialists and enable a much wider scope of professionals to make a difference through their own work, from planning and design to research and journalism, from public administration to corporate management, from research to advocacy? How can we make Sustainable Urban Mobility advance Vision Zero?

(3 more Safety & Security topics on the next page)

PRIORITY TOPICS

IN THE FIELD OF

***SAFETY
& SECURITY***



How smart is safe: How to collect and use new types of safety data to support decision-making and design (e.g. risk assessment, near misses, modelling for prediction, etc.); new methods for police and social enforcement to discourage risk behaviours by drivers; how can AV operation enable a new approach to street safety?

Fighting gender-based sexual harassment: Research and good practice to promote security in public spaces and public transport

Preparing for the climate crisis: Methods and strategies to understand and forecast threats posed to urban mobility systems, in particular public transport infrastructure, by extreme climate events and their potential social and economic implications

(3 more Safety & Security topics on the previous page)

PRIORITY TOPICS

IN THE FIELD OF

***SAFETY
& SECURITY***



Managing kerbside access: European and global best practices in dynamic use of the kerb

Positive parking agenda in cities: Urban parking policies supporting sustainable mobility, access for all, economic & urban development, using parking data & technology for service and policy delivery, parking in view of electromobility uptake

Public transport: Accessibility policies, improved access for all, new, demand-responsive transport for specific target groups and areas, social inclusion

Urban vehicle access regulations: Design, enforcement, acceptance, technologies, impacts and results

From local to global: Urban nodes and infrastructures as sustainable connectors between European Regions and the TEN-T

Urban Air Mobility: Time for local authorities to act?

PRIORITY TOPICS

IN THE FIELD OF

ACCESS



Pathways to climate neutrality: Future city visions - from strategy to action; innovative urban climate governance and intersectoral cooperation; decarbonisation impact of transport interventions, data and modelling for green transition; operationalisation of emission-reduction goals for transport

Just Transition: How to make the transport transformation inclusive and equitable, leaving no one behind; best practices on long-term strategies, funding the just transition, measures addressing digital inequality in transport, measures addressing groups at risk of vulnerability through co-creation processes, measures addressing social dimensions of climate change

Governing innovation, innovating governance: Smart regulatory approaches to manage disruption, make technology policy-responsive, maximise opportunities and mitigate negative externalities

Smart cities: Upscaling pilots, innovative finance and procurement instruments, smart infrastructures, public-private partnerships

(4 more Governance & Integration topics on the next page)

PRIORITY TOPICS

IN THE FIELD OF

GOVERNANCE & INTEGRATION



Jobs & skills: Assessing the impact of transport innovations on the workforce, defining responsibilities and collaboration frameworks for inclusive innovations, jobs & skills for more inclusive, efficient and sustainable mobility services

Co-creation in urban mobility: Citizen science, gamification, innovative participation approaches, working with youth

Next generation SUMP: Integrating innovations in SUMP, from planning to implementation, data analysis and usage of indicators, SUMP in multilevel governance contexts

Public opinion & behavioural change: Understanding and acting on public attitudes towards sustainable urban mobility; communication strategies to promote sustainable urban mobility; how to achieve significant and permanent modal shift

(4 more Governance & Integration topics on the previous page and 3 more on the next)

PRIORITY TOPICS

IN THE FIELD OF

GOVERNANCE & INTEGRATION



Mainstreaming the gender dimension into mobility planning:

Understanding different travel patterns and needs, data collection and disaggregation, gender-sensitive mobility data, making public spaces and public transport feel (and be) safer, convenience and physical access, fighting stereotypes, etc.

Women in Transport: Improving the gender balance across the transport sector, addressing employment, education and networking facilities

Shared and new mobility services: Regulatory frameworks, space management, data-sharing use cases and standards, integration with public transport and MaaS, public-private partnerships and new business models; deployment in suburban and rural areas

(4 more Governance & Integration topics on the previous page and 2 more on the next)

PRIORITY TOPICS

IN THE FIELD OF

GOVERNANCE & INTEGRATION



Small and Medium-Sized Cities: Data and digitalisation - how SMCs can navigate the growing data demands and challenges this holds; how to work with regions to combine resources and work in a common direction; impact of the TEN-T Urban Nodes on SMCs, climate neutral ambitions of SMC

Regions: Regional aspects of land use planning and settlement structures for sustainable mobility patterns; regional governance structures to manage and implement traffic infrastructures and mobility (“the next 15 years towards climate-neutral mobility”); the relationship between regions and SMCs and how they can support one another in developing SUMP and implementing its measures; attention to peri-urban areas, different sizes of cities, and functional areas, regarding multimodal hubs

(3 more Governance & Integration topics on the previous page)

PRIORITY TOPICS

IN THE FIELD OF

***GOVERNANCE
& INTEGRATION***



Roadmapping urban freight governance measures: Sharing visions, targets, and pathways for the design and implementation of Sustainable Urban Logistics Plans (SULPs), Low and Zero-Emission Zones for freight (LEZs and ZEZs)

Better integration of urban freight into the planning process: Best practices and approaches to ensure that sustainable urban logistics planning (SULPs) are fully integrated in the SUMP framework

Developing future scenarios and needs for urban freight: Modelling and simulation tools to help local authorities predict and anticipate future freight transport trends (e.g. via digital twins) and their impacts

Voluntary data sharing for freight management: Using data on freight vehicles, routes and types of use to design successful and evidence-based freight measures; innovative tools, methods and incentives for public-private information sharing

(3 more Urban Freight topics on the next page)

PRIORITY TOPICS

IN THE FIELD OF

URBAN FREIGHT



Upscaling successful consolidation, innovative solutions and space management solutions for freight: The most promising, scalable and transferable pilots, e.g. on curbside management, urban consolidations centres, microhubs, multimodal hubs, cargo bike schemes, reverse logistics

Reinforced approach to TEN-T urban nodes: Better integration of cities as logistics hubs and links between long-distance and local transport; including relevant infrastructure such as multimodal hubs, freight terminals interconnected with all urban nodes

Next generation trucks: Ready-to-market solutions and innovations to accelerate the shift to zero-emission heavy-duty vehicles (HDVs) in the logistics sector

(4 more Urban Freight topics on the previous page)

PRIORITY TOPICS

IN THE FIELD OF

URBAN FREIGHT



CLICK HERE



***SUBMIT
YOUR
ABSTRACT
BY 28 APRIL***

You will be informed about the **selection of abstracts in June** - the draft Conference programme will be available shortly after when registrations for the Conference will also open.

Only one speaker per abstract will be eligible for free participation in the Conference.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A SPONSOR?



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Our Conference provides an excellent opportunity to meet both officers and elected officials of local and regional governments from around Europe.



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