# Call for Speakers

**POLIS** | ANNUAL CONFERENCE **2024**

CITIES AND REGIONS FOR TRANSPORT INNOVATION

27-28 NOVEMBER 2024

KARLSRUHE (DE)

Baden-Württemberg
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

Karlsruhe

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# The Annual POLIS Conference: A mobility event like no other!

The Annual POLIS Conference is Europe's leading sustainable urban mobility event, providing an opportunity for cities and regions and other stakeholders to showcase their transport achievements to a large audience of mobility experts, practitioners, and decision-makers from both the public and private sectors.

After a record-breaking edition in 2023, the POLIS Team, Conference host Baden-Württemberg and co-host Karlsruhe are happy to welcome you to another fantastic Conference on 27 and 28 November 2024.

## Networking Opportunities
We give you the opportunity to connect with over 900 transport innovation professionals from cities and regions, as well as other public and private sector entities

## High-Profile Speakers
We reach out to ministers, deputy mayors, European Commissioners, and thought leaders from international organisations, academia, and the industry to engage with you

## Focus on Sustainable Transport
We address pressing issues in the transport sector and foster discussions on innovative sustainable mobility solutions, emphasising European, urban, and regional policy dimensions

## Rich and Varied Programme
We combine inspiring high-level plenaries with in-depth technical parallel sessions on innovative approaches and best practices in sustainable transport

# About POLIS:
# A network for sustainable mobility



## POLIS is the leading network of European cities and regions working together to develop innovative technologies and policies for local transport.

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

## Exchange of knowledge 💡

POLIS enhances local transport by fostering knowledge exchange among European local and regional authorities and facilitating dialogue between these authorities and various mobility stakeholders including industry, research centres, universities, and NGOs.

## Access to European research and innovation

POLIS promotes collaboration and partnerships throughout Europe by helping its members gain access to European research and innovation funding and results.
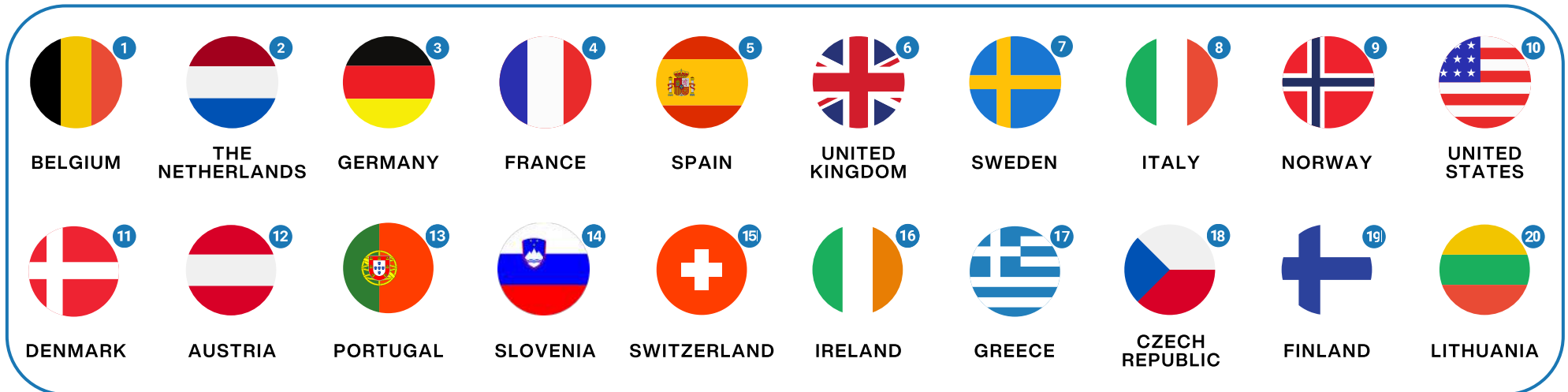
## Go-to European Network for urban mobility 🔗

POLIS equips decision-makers with the information and tools needed to achieve sustainable mobility. This is facilitated through regular meetings of the POLIS Political Group, and fostering a dialogue with European institutions.
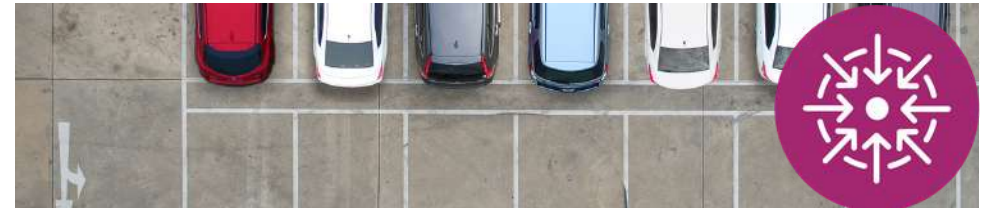
# Who attends our Conference

## Top 20 countries at #POLIS23 in Leuven:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 BELGIUM | 2 THE NETHERLANDS | 3 GERMANY | 4 FRANCE | 5 SPAIN | 6 UNITED KINGDOM | 7 SWEDEN | 8 ITALY | 9 NORWAY | 10 UNITED STATES |
| 11 DENMARK | 12 AUSTRIA | 13 PORTUGAL | 14 SLOVENIA | 15 SWITZERLAND | 16 IRELAND | 17 GREECE | 18 CZECH REPUBLIC | 19 FINLAND | 20 LITHUANIA |

## Type of organisations represented at #POLIS23:

- Cities and Regions
- Researchers
- Consultants
- Industry
- International associations
- Mobility service providers
- National associations and governments
- Data service providers
- European institutions
- Public transport operators
- Non-profit associations
- Media
- Finance

Media 0.4%

Mobility service providers 6.4%

Cities and Regions 33.6%

Industry 7%

International associations 7.1%

Consultants 14.4%

Researchers 18.7%
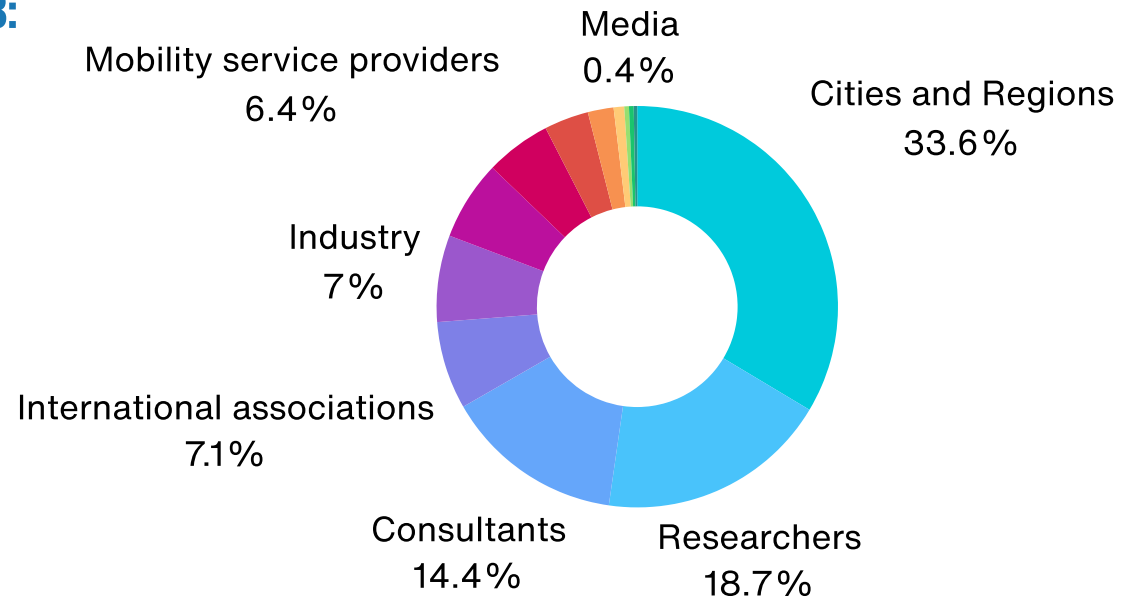
# What it means to be a Speaker at the Annual POLIS Conference 2024

## POLIS is thrilled to present 43 relevant topics in the field of urban mobility that you can choose from!

Presentations are sought for the technical parallel sessions on the topics listed on the next pages. Abstracts should highlight the innovative dimension of the presented solution, as well as the results achieved and lessons learned.

Sessions will be delivered in different formats, including workshops, roundtable discussions, and Pecha-Kucha-style presentations. Suggestions for other new presentation formats are welcome! Please note that we do not accept full session proposals, only individual presentation proposals.

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

# Active Travel & Health

# Clean Vehicles & Air Quality

- **Reshaped cities, liveable cities:** using active modes to redesign and reallocate urban space, changing how we move and live in our communities
- **Active modes for diversity:** making walking, wheeling and cycling equitable and welcoming; systematically hearing different voices to embrace diverse needs
- **That's active travel:** better use of space, low emissions, less noise and air pollution, physical and mental well-being, social cohesion - what are we aiming at, and how are we talking about active travel? Communication (individual benefits) versus framing (political benefits)
- **Improve, increase, engage:** reflecting on the different measures and approaches to improve and increase active travel, and engaging people in walking, wheeling and cycling

- **Air quality standards and climate protection:** cities and regions have to respond to the dual challenge of achieving more ambitious air quality standards, and decarbonising road transport. Do they have the right tools? And how will the new EU AADQ support the achievement of climate goals?
- **Non-exhaust emissions:** EVs have zero tailpipe emissions, but they still pollute. How to deal with microplastics from road dust, tyre abrasion and brakes, as well as other emerging pollutants?
- **Upscaling electromobility while ensuring city needs:** electromobility will play a crucial role in achieving the European Green Deal targets. How can cities & regions, as key enablers of this transition, address challenges like recharging infrastructure deployment, grid management, urban space management, integration in sustainable planning, clean vehicle purchase incentives, fire safety of EVs, and more?
- **Sending the right message:** how to secure political and individual buy-in for electromobility, while also ensuring that it will not be a missed opportunity to rethink the modal share of cities?
- **Right-sizing policies:** vehicles are becoming bigger and heavier, and EVs are not an exception. How can we help cities deal with autobesity and ensure right-sized vehicles fit for the urban environment?
- **What about 2-wheelers?** Everything on 4-wheelers seems to be electrifying fast, but what about motorcycles and mopeds? What are the barriers that are delaying their electrification and how can we overcome them?

# Priority Topics

## Traffic Efficiency

- **Redefining traffic management for Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning:** reimagining traffic management strategies to better align with sustainable mobility objectives; artificial intelligence applications in network management; traffic signal innovations prioritising sustainable modes; multimodal traffic circulation plans, routing services respecting road function priorities ('societal routing')
- **Are digital multimodal platforms delivering on sustainability:** shaping MaaS to serve sustainable mobility goals and create a healthy marketplace
- **Becoming data-driven cities & regions:** data quality assurance, organisational processes, cross-sector collaborations, AI applications, data sharing models and conditions, data analysis and insights - practical examples
- **How should local/regional authorities deal with an increasingly complex ITS and data ecosystem:** real-world applications of data and services in the ITS and C-ITS domains e.g. asset management, traffic planning purposes
- **Leveraging Data Spaces for enhanced mobility solutions:** real-world examples demonstrating the transformative potential of data spaces in mobility initiatives
- **Preparing cities and regions for Connected, Cooperative, and Automated Mobility (CCAM):** how can CCAM contribute to inclusion and decarbonisation; strategies to enhance readiness for the integration of CCAM technologies into urban environments; the human approach: dealing with the hopes and fears of CCAM

- **Reducing speed limits:** reducing speed limits to 30km/h (or 20 mph) in streets, neighbourhoods and the whole city. Reducing speed limits in rural areas as well. Practical examples of plans, pilots, measures and communication strategies, as well as research on the impacts of speed reduction (e.g., on crashes, air quality, noise, community life)
- **Road safety in practice:** practical experience in policies, plans, projects, research, communication, advocacy, training, etc.; collecting, sharing, and using data (quantitative or qualitative) to support decision-making and design (e.g. risk assessment, near misses, modelling for prediction); new methods for police and social enforcement to discourage risk behaviours by drivers;  perspectives on the technical or political components of road safety work
- **Fighting crime in transport settings:** how to prevent or reduce crime and foster the perception of security in public transport settings (stops, stations, multimodal hubs) and or the public spaces serving them (e.g., pedestrian paths connecting to bus stops)? Research and or good practice in data collection, strategies, and pilots, CPTED, enforcement, awareness of users and staff
- **Dealing with the climate crisis:** what to expect, and how to prepare; likely impacts of more frequent and extreme climate events on our mobility systems, and their cascading effects on the social, economic, and political systems that use, pay for, and govern that mobility; how to make the transport of people and goods more resilient; methods and tools to understand and forecast threats; climate change adaptation as a vehicle for climate protection

# Priority Topics

## Access

- **Managing curbside access:** European and global best practices in the dynamic use and management of the curbside
- **Strategic parking management:** urban and regional parking policies supporting sustainable mobility, access for all, economic & urban development; parking in relation to electromobility uptake; parking management and new mobility services; communicating parking policies; using parking data & technology for service and policy delivery; dynamic parking management and open Shared Data Space for parking information
- **Public transport:** improved access for all, demand-responsive transport for specific target groups and areas, social inclusion, tackling transport poverty, user satisfaction
- **Urban vehicle access regulations:** Design, enforcement, acceptance, technologies, governance, impacts and results, best practice use cases
- **From local to global:** Urban Nodes and infrastructures as sustainable connectors between European Regions and the TEN-T
- **Urban Air Mobility:** what's really in it for us?
- **Just Transition:** Implementing inclusive and equitable transformation in urban mobility, bridging the digital divide in transport, social dimensions of climate change in transport planning, co-creation processes to address groups at risk of vulnerabilities

## Governance

- **Pathways to climate neutrality:** from strategy to action; innovative urban climate governance and intersectoral cooperation; assessing the decarbonisation impact of transport interventions, data and modelling for the green transition; funding and financing the zero-emissions journey; public-private partnerships; net-zero mobility visions for rural areas and regions
- **Smart cities:** Upscaling pilots, innovative finance and procurement instruments, smart infrastructures, public-private partnerships
- **Next generation SUMPs:** data analysis and usage of indicators; SUMPs in multilevel governance contexts; national/regional SUMP support programmes
- **The citizen factor:** how can we best understand behaviour, and effectively foster behaviour change? How can we integrate public participation in transport planning? When and how can we reap the benefits of co-creation? How can serious games help, both as learning, planning, and decision-making? How can we communicate sustainable mobility policies? How can we prevent, and (when inevitable) deal with misunderstandings, backlash and even conspiracy theories?
- **Modal shift needs labour shift:** decarbonisation, electrification, digitalisation, automation, and platformisation pose challenges to the transport industry (from the companies who manufacture to the companies who operate), to its workforce (including both current and future workers), and to the regional economic clusters that sustain (and are

sustained) by it. How can local and regional governments support the transition of the transport industry?
- **The gender lens:** promoting gender balance and diversity in the transport workforce, overcoming gender stereotypes and bias in transportation, gender mainstreaming, intersectional approaches to gender equality in transport
- **Small and Medium-Sized Cities:** partnerships with regional governance levels, including resource sharing & working towards common goals; SMC strategies for citizens engagement; buy-in for climate-neutrality ambitions & policies; SMCs as testbeds for research and innovation projects (triple quadruple-helix cooperation) urban freight solutions for SMCs; data-sharing challenges and solutions in SMCs.
- **Regions:** overcoming national borders to enhance regional connectivity; bridging the mobility gap between urban and rural areas; urban nodes as key primary hubs for regional integrated planning; uncovering the interdependencies between capital cities and their hinterlands

## Shared mobility services

- **Enablers for shared mobility:** regulatory frameworks, space management, data sharing use cases and standards, integration with public transport and MaaS
- **Deploying shared mobility outside urban centres:** Research, proposals, pilots, and other practical cases, through regulation, innovative funding mechanisms, public-private partnerships

# Priority Topics
## Urban Freight

- **Sustainable Urban Logistics Plans (SULPs) as a planning tool to guide the transition to greener urban logistics:** best practices and approaches that are fully integrated with the SUMP framework
- **Low and Zero-Emission Zones for freight (L/ZEZs):** visions, targets, and results.
- **Digitising urban and regional freight:** modelling and simulation tools to better predict and manage incoming and outcoming freight flows and their impacts; the role of Physical Internet and Digital Twins in achieving inclusive, shared, and interconnected logistics networks at urban and regional scales
- **Innovative, transferable, and cost-effective solutions to green freight in cities and regions:** dynamic and flexible use of urban space (curbside management), urban consolidations centres, microhubs and hubs for passenger and freight, parcel lockers, bike-based solutions in urban logistics (type of vehicles, schemes), waste collection and construction logistics
- **Cities and regions as logistic nodes:** pathways and strategies to make supply chains less carbon-intensive, more efficient and better connected along the TEN-T corridors (focus on inland and railroad terminals, seaports, etc.)
- **Zero-emission vans and trucks:** market-ready solutions and innovations to accelerate the shift to next generation zero-emission heavy-duty vehicles

# Submit your Abstract by 26 April 2024!

You will be informed about the selection of abstracts in June 2024 - the draft Conference programme will be available shortly after when registrations for the Conference will also open.

Only <u>one speaker per abstract</u> will be eligible for free participation in the Conference.

Please note that our host (Baden-Württemberg) & co-host (Karlsruhe) will be involved in the reviewing process of the abstracts and that some of your data will be shared with them.

## CLICK HERE

# Do you want to become a Sponsor?

Enhance the visibility of your organisation or initiative through one of our Sponsorship and Exhibition packages!

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

## Sponsorships

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