17th International NECTAR Conference
Brussels, Belgium, 3 - 5 July 2024

Towards resilient, disturbance-free and equitable freight transport

Call for papers for the thematic session of Cluster 3 (Logistics & Freight)

The involvement of stakeholders is key in the planning and regulation of transport systems, services and infrastructure, the design and deployment of innovations and in the evaluation of transport activities. However, the diversity of stakeholders, their roles and responsibilities and their degree of willingness to participate in research and planning vary greatly across the different transport domains and at different stages of transport planning. Therefore, new methods, approaches, tools, and insights are needed to better understand why stakeholder involvement is important. Stakeholder involvement is not only relevant for transport infrastructure projects, but also for supporting the long-term transition of transport towards a resilient, disturbance-free and sustainable future.

The focus of the conference is on how transport and communications research can support the different roles stakeholders take in transport planning. Cluster 3 (Logistics & Freight) invites papers discussing the following specific topics of interest from a stakeholder perspective:

- Advancements in the context of stakeholder involvement, equity and environmental justice in freight transport;
- E-commerce and construction logistics planning and their spatiotemporal sustainability impacts (environmental, economic, societal);
- Quantitative and qualitative methods to assess the impact of (multi-modal) transport on various stakeholders and population segments;
- Transition in achieving zero-emission logistics;
- Digitalization in city distribution and the urban built environment;
- Autonomous delivery systems, such as robot(ics) and drones, in last mile logistics;
- Developments in the field of regulatory approaches and policies with regards to long-haul and last mile freight flows;

- Novel approaches to stakeholder engagement and public elicitation, including among community and worker groups;
- Stakeholder involvement in planning for a resilient freight transport system.

Deadline for abstract submission
January 31, 2024. Abstracts (max. 500 words) should be submitted electronically, using the form available on the conference website and following the instructions found there: https://mobilise.research.vub.be/nectar-conference-2024-general-call-for-papers

A copy of the abstract should also be sent to Nicolas Brusselaers (nicolas.brusselaers@liu.se).

Criteria for acceptance
Criteria for acceptance are scope, scientific quality, NECTAR membership and the possibility to fit the presentation in a coherent conference session. The number of participants of this thematic session will be limited to 8.

Venue
The NECTAR conference will be organized by the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and hosted on its campus.

Participation and NECTAR membership
Registration, meals, and accommodation for one night will be offered to NECTAR members, for only one author per paper. One night of hotel accommodation will be offered to participants who have confirmed their participation before April 30, 2024. One night of hotel accommodation might be charged in case of late cancellations. All practical details will be communicated through the conference website. In order to participate in the conference, a consecutive and current two-year NECTAR membership is necessary (2023-2024). Non-members can find details of how to join the association on the "Membership" page of NECTAR's website: www.nectar-eu.eu/membership.

Important dates:
Abstract submission: Jan 31, 2024
Notification of acceptance: Feb 29, 2024
Confirmation of attendance: April 30, 2024

Looking forward to meeting you in Brussels!

NECTAR Cluster 3 Co-chairs:
Nicolas Brusselaers, Linköping Universitet, Sweden
Travis Fried, University of Washington, USA
Jonas Flodén, Göteborgs Universitet, Sweden
Sandra Melo, Instituto Superior Técnico de Lisboa, Portugal

NECTAR is a European-based scientific association. The primary objective is to foster research collaboration and exchange of information between experts in the field of transport, communication and mobility from all European countries and the rest of the world. It is a multidisciplinary social science network bringing together a wide variety of perspectives on transport and communication problems and their impacts on society from an international perspective. For further information on NECTAR, use the link: http://www.nectar-eu.eu.