

## WCTRS NEWSLETTER

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*Issue: August 2025*

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## WCTR 2026 Paper Submission Deadline Extended

The Scientific Committee of the World Conference on Transport Research (WCTR) is pleased to announce that the paper submission deadline for the upcoming 17th WCTR, to be held in Toulouse, France, from July 6–10, 2026, has been extended. The new deadline is **September 30, 2025, at 23:59 (CET)**.

This extension provides an excellent opportunity for more researchers, professionals, and academics worldwide to share their work and participate in this global forum for transport research.

For detailed guidelines on preparing and submitting your paper, please visit the official conference website: **[www.wctr2026.fr](http://www.wctr2026.fr)**.

The transport research community should take advantage of this extended window to submit papers, connect with peers, and contribute to the future of transport research. We look forward to your contribution and participation in the next World Conference on Transport Research in Toulouse, France, 2026.

# Call for Papers: WCTRS Young Researchers' Initiative (WCTRS-Y) “Young Conference”, 5 July 2026, Toulouse, France

The Young Researchers' Initiative of the World Conference on Transport Research Society (WCTRS-Y) provides opportunities for young members to gain experience in academic activities, develop their professional profiles and skills, network with established transport academics and practitioners, and become familiar with the workings of the Society.

Young members include:

- Researchers under 35 years of age on the first day of the next WCTR (5 July 2026)
- Early career researchers who completed their PhD less than four years before that date.

WCTRS-Y is pleased to announce a **call for papers for the Young Conference**, which will take place on the first day of the **17<sup>th</sup> WCTR** in Toulouse. Participation in this full-day event is **free of charge**, but attendees must be registered for the WCTR. This conference features a separate submission and review process and is dedicated to **promising young transport researchers**. The theme is **'Transportation planning and policymaking under deep uncertainty: addressing unpredictable factors like technological development, climate change, conflicts, and economic shifts to ensure resilient and sustainable mobility for all'**. Papers from all topic areas of the WCTRS.

Authors are invited to submit their full papers to the following **topic areas** of the WCTRS (see the nine topics [here](#)) will be considered. We offer a peer review of each paper to assess its potential for presentation. Best papers can also be submitted for consideration for the **WCTRS Prizes**.

Papers should be sent to [\*\*wctrs-y2026@outlook.com\*\*](mailto:wctrs-y2026@outlook.com)

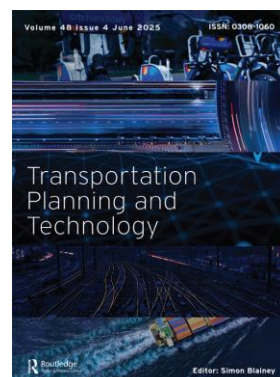
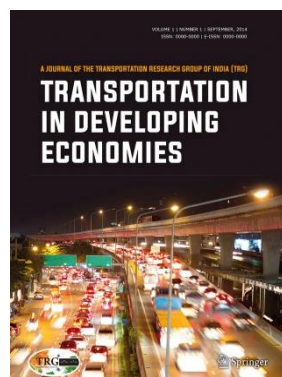
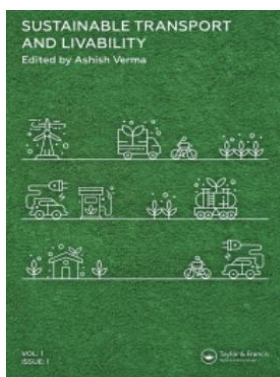
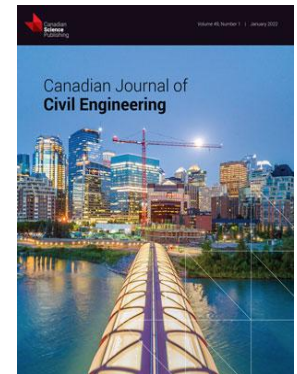
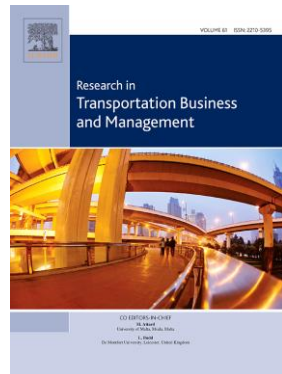
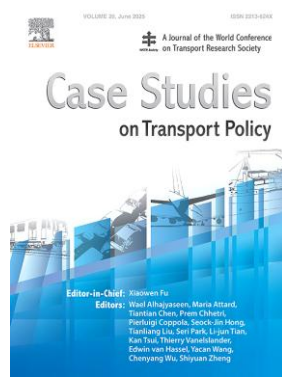
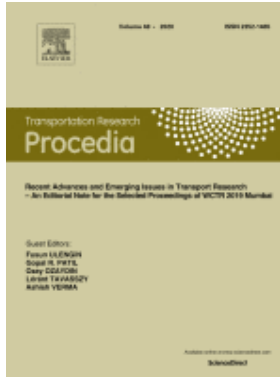
Important Dates:

- Abstract Submission Deadline: **15 October 2025**
- Notification of Abstract Acceptance: **15 November 2025**
- Full Paper Submission Deadline: **February 2026**
- Notification of Paper Acceptance: **March 2026**
- Final Paper Submission Deadline: **30 April 2026**

For further information on the Young Conference, on the WCTR, on Prizes, and on potential applications for travel grants, etc., please contact [\*\*wctrs-y2026@outlook.com\*\*](mailto:wctrs-y2026@outlook.com).

# WCTR 2026 Publication Opportunities: WCTR Proceedings and Partner Journals

WCTR Scientific Committee partners with many high-quality journals to publish special issues of selected papers that are submitted to WCTR conferences. The past conferences in Montreal (2023) and Mumbai (2019) have each resulted in 20 special issues. Similarly, the Toulouse (2026) conference will include multiple special issues.



# WCTR 2026 Bursary Awards

The World Conference on Transport Research Society (WCTRS) and Toulouse School of Economics (TSE) plan to support a few researchers from lower-middle and low-income economies in attending the 17th WCTR at Toulouse Capitole University, France, through a Bursary award. These bursaries are designed to encourage wider participation from talented researchers around the globe.

## Successful applicants usually receive:

- A registration waiver (or refund) for the conference.
- Support for lodging costs, up to a maximum of about €800.
- An official bursary certificate during the closing ceremony.

All papers awarded bursaries will also be eligible for consideration in partner journals or Procedia (Elsevier), subject to standard review and revision procedures.

For more details on country eligibility, refer to the **World Bank country classification**.

A formal announcement of the bursary awards will be made after the paper review process, towards the end of 2025.

Further updates will be available at **<https://www.wctr2026.fr/submission>**. Kindly check the website for the latest information.

We look forward to welcoming outstanding researchers from across the world to Toulouse in July 2026.



## SIG B3 Online Seminar – Data and Digitalization for Multimodal Transport Chains

The Special Interest Group B3 (**SIG B3**) is pleased to announce an upcoming online seminar, hosted by colleagues from MIT, scheduled for **November 6, 2025**. The session, titled “**Data and Digitalization for Multimodal Transport Chains**,” will explore how freight transportation data can be used for better planning on a macroeconomic level.

## Featured Speakers:

- **Dr. Allison Fischman**, U.S. Department of Transportation  
Sharing insights on the *US Freight Logistics Optimization Works (FLOW)*
- **Dr. Ralf Bammerlin**, German Federal Ministry of Transportation  
Offering a *German and European perspective on freight digitalization*
- **Prof. Lori Tavasszy**, TU Delft, and Scientific Committee Chair of WCTRS  
Presenting a *scientific perspective*

The seminar will conclude with a panel discussion. For further information, please contact Eva Hartmann at: [hartmann@log.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:hartmann@log.tu-darmstadt.de).

## Prof. Zong Tian Presents at ATSPM Monthly Meeting on Leveraging Connected Vehicle Data

**Prof. Zong Tian, Topic Area C Manager of WCTRS**, delivered a presentation at the **ATSPM (Automated Traffic Signal Performance Measures)** monthly meeting hosted by the U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). His talk, titled “**From Performance Evaluation to Signal Timing Optimization: Leveraging Connected Vehicle Data**,” explored how emerging data sources can drive practical improvements in signal operations.

Prof. Tian began with a brief overview of WCTRS and highlighted the upcoming World Conference to be held in Toulouse, France, in July 2026. The presentation demonstrated how connected vehicle data gathered through vehicle telematics can be used to generate vehicle trajectories, enabling precise identification of signal coordination issues. By overlaying these trajectories on time-space diagrams, agencies can diagnose inefficiencies and implement targeted timing adjustments. This performance-driven approach supports both objective evaluations and timely operational enhancements. Nearly 100 participants attended the meeting.

## The 13th European Aviation Conference (EAC 2025)

The 13th European Aviation Conference (EAC 2025) will be held on **November 10–12, 2025**, in Warsaw, Poland. A dedicated **Research Day** will take place on November 10, 2025.

Conference Theme: **Looking East: Aviation Policy, Geopolitics and Business Strategy in Eastern Europe**

EAC 2025 will bring together academic researchers, industry representatives, and regulatory agencies to jointly advance understanding of the management, economic, and policy aspects of the aviation industry.

Key discussions will explore:



- The short- and long-term implications of airspace closures for airlines, airports, and air transport management
- The prospects for continued aviation growth in Central and Eastern Europe, compared with the rest of Europe
- The future of passenger and cargo markets
- The evolving role of regional airports

The conference will feature contributions from leading experts across policy, research, and industry. A complete list of speakers is available [here](#).

**Call for papers:** The European Aviation Conference (EAC) invites academics, aviation practitioners, policymakers, and industry stakeholders to submit their research for EAC Research Day, taking place on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025 in Warsaw, Poland.

**More Information:** For registration details, program updates, and paper submission guidelines, please visit: [www.eaci.science](http://www.eaci.science).

## Boost your Transport Expertise with C-MAT Masterclasses at University of Antwerp and Antwerp Management School

In 2025-2026, the Center for Maritime and Air Transport (C-MAT) at the University of Antwerp and Antwerp Management School will offer three high-level 2-week executive masterclasses, tailored to professionals looking to deepen their strategic and economic understanding of the global transport industry.

The **Masterclass Maritime Economics & Business (December 8 - 19, 2025)**: The maritime industry is facing a multitude of challenges: shifts in environmental regulations, technological developments, security threats, etc. This Master Class equips professionals within the sector with the necessary knowledge and skills to craft strategies that surmount these obstacles.

The **Masterclass Airline Management & Strategy (December 5 - 19, 2025)**: Learn how to formulate and implement an effective airline strategy. This course will both reinforce you as a strategically thinking manager and sharpen your skills to formulate, dissect, and structure your organization's and competitors' strategies.

The **Masterclass Port Economics & Business (January 12 - 23, 2026)**: Seaports are changing rapidly. While they are still dealing with challenges from the past, other external challenges are already popping up, such as sustainability, digitalization, geopolitics, and generational shifts. To adequately address all these challenges, you need to be a highly effective coordinator and manager.

All three masterclasses are taught in English and take place in person at Antwerp Management School.

For more details and registration, visit the official AMS webpages:

- **Maritime Economics & Business**
- **Airline Management and Strategy**
- **Port Economics & Business**

Join us at the AMS Professionals' Open House on September 16, 2025, at Antwerp Management School. This in-person event is the perfect opportunity to meet our faculty and program advisors, explore the campus, and discover how our executive education, such as the C-MAT masterclasses, can support your professional development.

**Register now** and get inspired for your next career step.

## Membership of the WCTRS

The World Conference on Transport Research Society (WCTRS) provides a forum for the interchange of ideas among transport researchers, managers, policymakers, and educators from all over the world from a multi-modal, multi-disciplinary, and multi-sectoral perspective.

Every three years, the Society holds the World Conference, where leading transport professionals from all countries and areas convene to learn from one another. WCTR Montréal was held from 17th-21st July 2023 and the next WCTR will be held in Toulouse, France on July 6-10, 2026.

In addition to our [Special Interest Groups](#), which facilitate research activities and the exchange of ideas in 42 topic areas, the WCTRS has a number of Task Forces that conduct research into emerging issues in transport and aim to bridge gaps between research and policy-making.

All academics, practitioners, students, and interested individuals are invited to apply to become an individual member of the WCTRS. You can apply to join at any time by completing [this online form](#) and paying your membership fees [here](#).

### The benefits of membership include:

- Access to a truly international network of transport academics and practitioners, which is the only such worldwide network, with over 1000 experts interested in transport research from over 80 countries.
- A wide variety of Special Interest Groups (SIGs), each dedicated to a specific academic topic, from mode-specific policy and modelling to solutions for climate change and disaster resilience. The full list can be found on the SIGs webpage.
- A free online subscription to the Society's two Journals: Transport Policy and Case Studies on Transport Policy.
- Online access to the proceedings of past conferences.
- Liaison with some 30 partner journals, which publish the best conference papers.
- Outreach to international organizations such as the International Transport Forum, World Bank, and UNFCCC conferences.

- WCTRS Young Initiatives, including the WCTRS-Y Conference, grants awarded to young researchers, and dedicated newsletters and job information.
- Opportunities to contribute to the planning of a future World Conference through participation in Special Interest Groups and other Society activities.

More details: [Click here](#)

## Useful Information and Links

1. **WCTR 2026 - 17<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Transport Research, Toulouse, France (6–10 July 2026)**  
For details: [Click Here](#)
2. **WCTRS – Young Researchers’ Initiative (WCTRS-Y)**  
Opportunities for academic growth, networking, and professional development for early-career researchers  
For details: [Click Here](#)
3. **Transportation Research Procedia on World Conference on Transport Research - WCTR 2023 Montreal 17-21 July 2023**  
Open Access  
For details: [Click Here](#)
4. **Publications by SIG A4-Handbook on High-Speed Rail and Quality of Life and Frontiers in High-Speed Rail Development**  
Both books are free to download.  
For details: [Click Here](#)
5. **Urban Mobility Research in India Transport: Selected Proceedings from the Research Symposium of the 16th Urban Mobility India Conference & Expo 2023**  
For details: [Click Here](#)
6. **A new Transport Research and Education Network to help ESCAP member States achieve sustainable transport**  
For details: [Click Here](#)

## WCTRS society journals



[Transport Policy](#)



[Case Studies in Transport Policy](#)

**WCTRS book series** - For details, visit: [link](#)



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