

World Conference on Transport Research



World Conference on Transport Research

July, 6-10, 2026
Toulouse, France





At the closing ceremony of WCTR 2023 in Montreal, WCTR Society President Tae Oum presents Conference Director Marc Ivaldi with the keynote speaker and the conference flag.

The World Conference on Transport Research (WCTR) is a global gathering held every three years, uniting specialists from the transportation sector worldwide. Whether they are researchers, engineers, or public and private decision-makers, experts from all corners of the globe converge to engage in discussions on pressing transportation issues.

17th edition of WCTR:

A boost for the future of global transport

Topics for discussion at the World Conference on Transport Research are grouped into 9 distinct themes which include maritime and air transport logistics, infrastructure design, traffic management in urban environments or the emergence of transport in developing countries.

Over the course of 5 days, participants will exchange ideas and solutions to foster innovation and push back the limits of knowledge and technology in the transport sector, thus enabling continuous improvement in this sector.

The first WCTR was held in Rotterdam in 1977 as a forum for researchers and policy-makers, but it was only a few years later that it took on a more international dimension and on a larger scale. Since then, Rio de Janeiro, London, Shanghai, Mumbai, Sydney and, more recently, Montreal have hosted this world-renowned event.

Some 1,500 transport experts are expected to attend the 17th WCTR from 6 to 10 July 2026. The programme includes presentations, conferences, discussions, technical visits, a gala dinner and other surprises. All of this, of course, organised with the aim of sharing knowledge and expertise in the world of transport.

The conference will take place on the campus of the University of Toulouse Capitole, one of the world's oldest universities, founded in 1229. The university is renowned for its scientific excellence and offers some of the top degrees in France and Europe.



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Program

The program is structured around contributions and conferences focusing on the following main themes:

TRANSPORT MODES (AIR, MARITIME TRANSPORT, RAIL AND HIGH-SPEED RAIL)

FREIGHT TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT, OPERATION AND CONTROL

TRANSPORT ACTIVITY AND DEMAND

TRANSPORT ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

TRANSPORT, REGIONAL PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

TRANSPORT PLANNING AND POLICY

TRANSPORT IN DEVELOPING AND EMERGING COUNTRIES

INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGN AND MAINTENANCE

Members of the organizing committee

President of the WCTR Society

▶ **Tae Hoon Oum**, Professor Emeritus, Transport and Logistics, Sauder School of Business, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

Chair of the Scientific Committee

▶ **Lóránt Tavasszy**, Professor, Freight Transport and Logistics, Delft University of Technology, Netherlands)

Scientific Committee Vice-chair conference

▶ **Martin Trépanier**, Transport Planning and Information Systems, Professor Polytechnique Montréal, Canada

Scientific Committee Vice Chair in charge of Special Interest Groups

▶ **Hideki Nakamura**, Professor, Transportation Engineering Science, Nagoya University, Japan

Co-Secretary General of WCTR

▶ **Daniel Sperling**, Professor, Civil Engineering and Environmental Science, University of California Davis, USA

Co-Secretary General of WCTR

▶ **Giovanni Circella**, Professor, Mobility, Ghent University, Belgium, and University of California Davis, USA

Conference Director

▶ **Marc Ivaldi**, Professor, Economics, Toulouse School of Economics, France

Chair of Conference Programme Committee

▶ **Chantal Roucolle**, Professor, Economics, Ecole Nationale de l'Aviation Civile, Toulouse, France

Chair of Communications and Impact Committee

▶ **Sylvain Bourjade**, Professor, Finance and Economics, TBS Business School, France

Chair of the Local Organizing Committee

▶ **Stéphanie Risser**, Event coordinator, Toulouse School of Economics, France

Sponsoring

Whether you are a firm, a public or academic institution, a foundation or a non-profit association, **get involved** with us to:

- ▶ Foster knowledge sharing
- ▶ Promote scientific advancement
- ▶ Stimulate research
- ▶ Shape the future of mobility

**Become a Partner, Contributor,
or Sponsor of WCTR 2026.**



TAILORED SOLUTIONS TO ENHANCE YOUR IMPACT

+ **Leading visibility**

Get global recognition across all conference media.

+ **Strategic collaboration**

Engage with global leaders and economic decision-makers at exclusive events.

+ **Sponsorship for awards and Excellence Scholarships**

Promote research and innovation by rewarding top scientific contributions and sponsoring scholarships for young researchers, especially from developing countries.

+ **Custom event organization**

Enrich the conference with technical visits and complementary workshops.

A Vibrant Hub of Innovation and Culture

Explore Toulouse

Toulouse is a city with many facets that seduces with its dynamism and influence. As the fourth largest city in France and the capital of the Occitanie region, it draws its energy from its 1 million inhabitants, including a thriving community of researchers, engineers, and students who benefit from the numerous renowned academic institutions of the second largest university campus in France.

The Toulouse metropolitan area has the privilege of being home to a major industrial hub, particularly in the aeronautics sector, with companies such as Airbus, Thales Alenia Space, Safran and many others, as well as in the health and agri-food sectors. It is fertile breeding ground for start-ups, and an ideal location for the development of innovative technologies to reduce the carbon footprint of transport.

Situated between the Pyrenees and the Mediterranean, endowed with a cultural and architectural heritage blending Italian and Spanish influences, and a centuries-old history, Toulouse hosts emblematic sites such as the Cité de l'Espace, Aéroscopia, or l'Envol des Pionniers, all of which serve as reminders of the city's role in the transport boom.

Its unique art of living is also reflected in its many original cultural events, such as the Halle de la Machine, its sports, particularly rugby, of which it is the French capital, and its renowned gastronomy, which is based on the quality of local agricultural and wine production. Toulouse embodies industrial, cultural and scientific excellence, and offers an exceptional living environment that is constantly evolving.





Oh Toulouse !





TSE's international impact

Toulouse School of Economics (TSE), with its 42-year history, is today a centre of academic excellence in the world of economic research. Now identifies itself as a center of academic excellence in the global economic research landscape.

Founded by Professor Jean-Jacques Laffont in 1981, it quickly gained international renown. Its building, a true architectural gem in the heart of the "pink city", was honored with the prestigious Pritzker Architecture Prize. Every year, hundreds of researchers from top universities worldwide come to share their expertise. TSE ranks 3rd among European recipients of prestigious European Research Council grants. Simultaneously, it is ranked 19th globally among economics schools according to the 2023 Shanghai ranking and 8th according to REPEC. It annually welcomes over 2000 students from 90 different nationalities, attracted

by the excellence of its teaching programs. In 2023, most of the graduates held senior management positions. TSE embodies primarily a collective adventure where all its members work together to advance economic science. As Jean Tirole, Nobel laureate in economics in 2014 and professor at TSE, expressed, "We owe our reputation to teamwork."

▶ 1 Nobel laureate

▶ 19th in the Shanghai ranking

▶ 40 years of partnership research

▶ 95% of our graduates found employment 3 to 6 months after obtaining their diploma

▶ 90 nationalities

▶ 150 researchers

▶ 2,000 students

▶ 280 visitors per year

▶ More than 100 scientific publications per year



Jean Tirole

TSE Honorary Chairman

"International conferences such as the WCTR provide an excellent platform to advance current topics with significant implications for the future. Researchers and students from TSE, accustomed to academic excellence, will actively contribute to the debates and exchanges during the conference. As a focal point of economic research, TSE will bring a unique and stimulating perspective to discussions on challenges and opportunities in the transportation sector."

Christian Gollier

TSE Executive Director

"At the Toulouse School of Economics, we believe in the power of collaboration and innovation to unlock the complexities of the global economy. Together, as an engaged community, we shape the future of economic research and strive to instill this passion in the next generation of thinkers. Our reputation is built on teamwork, commitment to academic excellence, and a constant willingness to explore new frontiers in the field of social sciences. I would like to thank the President and the Steering Committee of the World Conference on Transport Research Society (WCTRS) who, after considering many major cities, have chosen Toulouse to host the 2026 edition of the WCTR. On behalf of the entire TSE community (researchers, staff, doctoral students, students...), it is an honor and we will all be eager to contribute to the success of this unique event."

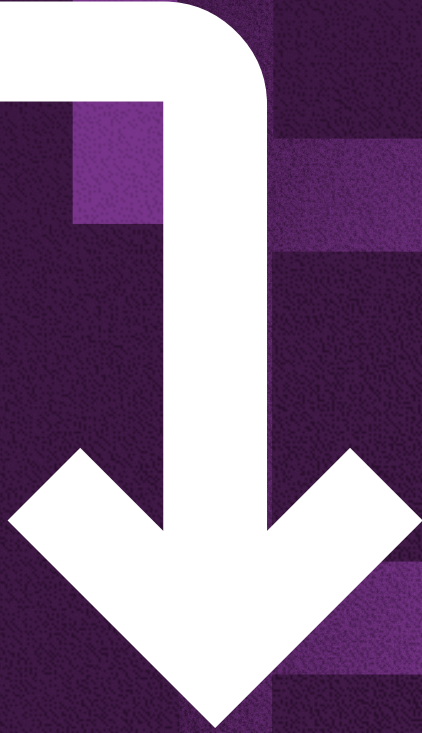




Marc Ivaldi

Director of the World Conference on
Transport Research, Toulouse 2026

"Holding of the World Conference on Transportation Research (WCTR) in Toulouse represents much more than just an international gathering. It is an exceptional opportunity for the Toulouse's keyplayers in Toulouse to showcase their expertise in organizing, promoting, and hosting events of this scale. The city is preparing to mobilize its resources on several fronts, involving not only the Toulouse School of Economics (TSE) as a leading academic hub but also other academic institutions in Toulouse, elsewhere in France, and other local authorities that will play a crucial role in the success of this global event. Beyond logistical aspects, the WCTR in Toulouse represents an opportunity to drive a positive change by bringing together global transport experts. The conference will be fertile ground for innovative discussions and solutions to the challenges facing the transportation world. As the conference director, I thank the WCTRS for this unique opportunity to showcase the influence of Toulouse and French research in the field of transportation."



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CONTACT

Priyanka Talim
Partnerships Manager
priyanka.talim@tse-fr.eu

Stéphanie Risser
Event Coordinator
stephanie.risser@tse-fr.eu
+33 5 67 73 27 67