# POLIS

## CITIES AND REGIONS FOR TRANSPORT INNOVATION

www.polisnetwork.eu

## ABOUT US

### POLIS is the network of European cities and regions working together to deploy innovative solutions for a more sustainable mobility.

POLIS fosters cooperation and partnerships across Europe and with the EU, to make transport research and innovation more accessible to cities and regions. In POLIS, decision makers are also provided with the necessary information and tools for making sustainable mobility policies a reality.

## OUR MISSION

**1** We facilitate peer-to-peer exchange between cities and regions as well as with stakeholders from the private sector on urban transport policy and innovation

**2** We help our members gain access to European initiatives, projects, funding and research

**3** We are the transport voice of cities and regions towards the European Institutions



**"In our role as President of POLIS, Gothenburg is committed to take a lead role in fostering collaboration. Meeting the global goals for sustainable development is not an option, it is an obligation. And here, innovative mobility solutions are crucial."**

**Toni Orsulic**
Chair of the Urban Transport Committee
City of Gothenburg



**"Being a member of the POLIS community brings knowledge, know-how, policy updates, practical experiences and good friends from all over Europe to our city. Networking helps us to find specific local solutions for similar urban mobility problems that Europe's cities face."**

**Kerstin Burggraf**
Advisor Transport Development
City of Dresden

# WELCOME

I am proud to see that, with the help of POLIS, cities and regions have become important interlocutors on transport for the European Institutions. They are a key stakeholder towards the shared goal of reducing the adverse impacts of transport, while stimulating innovation and economic growth, and providing high-quality sustainable mobility services.

Since 1989, POLIS has supported its member cities and regions with achieving their mobility policy objectives.

Polis activities are organised around five thematic pillars:

**Environment & Health in Transport** | **Traffic Efficiency** | **Access** | **Road Safety & Security** | **Governance**

We look back at over 30 years of empowering cities and regions in Europe, and look forward to continuing the dialogue  and supporting European transport policies that meet the needs of our members.

**Karen Vancluysen**
POLIS Secretary General

# POLICY

## THE VOICE OF CITIES AND REGIONS

### POLIS contributes to EU policy and legislative initiatives in the field of transport that may have an impact on the local and regional level.

POLIS briefs members on relevant European policy, develops position and discussion papers on topical issues, puts forward amendments to EU legislative documents and financial perspectives, and organises Brussels-based high-level events on key policy challenges related to urban mobility.



**"Our engagement in POLIS' political group allows us to meet with high-level EU officials, to present our ambition for innovation and our views on e.g. the EU Urban Agenda or the European Mobility Packages. It's also the platform for us to meet elected colleagues in charge of transport from other cities and regions."**

**Marthe Marti**
Elected member of Tisséo Collectivités
& Deputy Mayor of Toulouse



Lunch meeting of the POLIS Political Group and EU officials at the Annual POLIS Conference.

**CO-CREATING EUROPEAN LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE**

POLIS contributes to EU policies by informing legislators about local experiences and project findings. We systematically brief our members about the regulatory processes linked to transport, including clean vehicles, road safety, air quality, automation, MaaS and more. We also engage in the development of European guidance for cities and regions, e.g. on SUMPs, urban vehicle access regulations and clean city logistics.

**DEFINING PRIORITIES FOR RESEARCH FUNDING**

POLIS is a member of the European Road Transport Research Advisory Council (ERTRAC), and leads the platform's Urban Mobility Working Group, which advises the European Commission on urban mobility topics that should be prioritized for EU funding in the research and innovation framework programmes.

## CLEAN TRANSPORT & HEALTHY MOBILITY

This pillar looks at understanding and addressing the impact that urban and regional transport has on the environment and on health. This includes air and noise pollution from transport, cleaner vehicles, electromobility and alternative fuels, climate change, walking and cycling, shared mobility services, and mobility management.



Credits: Daniel Imade/Arup/FREVUE

London aims at zero emission mobility and deliveries by 2025 in the city centre.



Budapest aims to increase the share of walking and cycling with 10%, and reach 30% by 2030.

### TEAMING UP FOR ZERO EMISSION DELIVERIES

**POLIS supports joint actions by local authorities aiming at zero emission urban deliveries of goods and services. Through its involvement in the ASSURED and FREVUE projects, POLIS helps to unveil the demand for clean commercial vehicles. The BuyZET project supports cities in preparing smart procurement plans to purchase emission-free goods and services.**

### HEALTH IN TRANSPORT PLANNING

**POLIS helps cities make a case for considering health alongside the environment when assessing a transport policy or plan. In cooperation with the WHO and UNECE Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme, POLIS promotes the use of health economic appraisal tools among decision makers for more liveable communities through healthier transport and active travel.**

## EFFICIENT MOBILITY

The Traffic Efficiency pillar addresses the broad subject of multimodal network management from both a strategic and technical perspective. There is a particular focus on ITS and its role in helping cities deliver their policy goals. Other key topics include data (open data, data analytics and interoperability), cooperative-ITS, vehicle automation and strategies to optimise road space for all modes.

### WHAT CITY AND REGIONAL TRANSPORT AUTHORITIES REALLY THINK ABOUT AUTOMATION AND MAAS

**While the primary purpose of the Working Group is to provide a meeting space for peer-to-peer discussion among POLIS members, it also delivers tangible outputs, such as the POLIS papers on automated vehicles and on Mobility as a Service (MaaS). The papers bring a much-needed public sector voice to the narrative surrounding automation and MaaS, and highlight the instrumental role of cities and regions for a policy-responsive deployment of such technologies and approaches.**



POLIS Working Group testing fully automated shuttles operating in La Defense, Paris.

### ROADMAP TO C-ITS

**The CIMEC roadmap describes what Cooperative Intelligent Transport Systems (C-ITS) are and how they may benefit cities and regions. It highlights issues that local authorities and the wider industry need to consider for deployment to happen.**



Photo: iStock/CIMEC

Amsterdam joined the debate on C-ITS in cities within the CIMEC City Pool.

## MOBILITY FOR URBAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL COHESION

POLIS members jointly work on how to best address challenges such as parking, pricing, access regulations, infrastructure, and accessibility for all. The development of inclusive transport services, being public or private, is key in this regard. The pillar looks at both economic and social access, including access to transport services for people with reduced mobility, access to jobs, education and other services.



Photo: A. Scuratti/Milan

Milan introduced the Area C, a congestion charge scheme that makes room for active travel and new mobility services.

**SHARING EXPERIENCE ON PARKING POLICIES**

**A joint working group of POLIS members and European Parking Association members, and an annual joint workshop have created a greater understanding between parking operators and urban transport planners.**

**URBAN VEHICLE ACCESS REGULATIONS (UVAR)**

**Cities regulate the access of vehicles to the city to improve air quality and safety, and reduce congestion. POLIS is engaging in a public-private dialogue with key industry players and European Institutions to explain the reasons behind these tailor-made regulations and safeguard the right of cities to implement them, while also listening to the concerns of others.**

# ROAD SAFETY AND SECURITY

## SAFE MOBILITY

This pillar addresses road safety and the security of transport systems and public space in times of hostile vehicle attacks. POLIS activities cover the safety of all road users with a special focus on pedestrians and cyclists. The most important topics include safe system and vision zero approaches, data collection, integrating safety and sustainability, enforcement and campaigns, but also vehicle and truck design, safe infrastructures and technological innovation.



Photo: Mairie de Paris/Bernard Pedretti

Improved truck design can allow drivers to directly see pedestrians and cyclists in their proximity.

**GLOBAL COOPERATION FOR SAFER CITY STREETS**

**POLIS' road safety working group cooperates closely with the International Transport Forum's Safer City Streets initiative. Joint workshops are organised that allow to benchmark crash data from cities around the world.**

**CITIES CALL FOR SAFER TRUCKS**

**To reduce the risk of heavy vehicles, POLIS and its members call upon the European Institutions to mandate safer truck design. London showcased its fleet of trucks with extended direct vision at a Polis Working Group meeting. The city of Helmond spreads its experience with Intelligent Speed Assistance (ISA).**

## REMAPPING THE URBAN MOBILITY POLICY LANDSCAPE

The local and regional level is where disruptive change and transport innovation can flourish and are happening. However, this requires good regulatory approaches which make sure that the current paradigm shift does not undermine sustainable mobility policy goals. In an evolving mobility landscape with increased involvement of private sector stakeholders, new public-private partnerships and business models will be instrumental.

Other governance topics include Smart Cities, Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans, new financing mechanisms and citizens engagement strategies.

### IT STARTS WITH A VISION: SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY PLANS

**SUMPs are a key strategic tool for managing urban mobility. Through its involvement in EU initiatives and projects, Polis plays a key role in the update of the European SUMP guidelines: SUMP 2.0, in the organisation of the EU SUMP Conference and the management of the EU SUMP Award. Many Polis members have adopted and implemented ambitious SUMPs.**



Manchester was a finalist for the 6th European SUMP Award.

### SMALL CITIES, BIG IMPACT

**"Small and medium-sized cities (SMCs) are living laboratories for innovation. Due to their size, SMCs offer an ideal ground for testing and implementing new transport technologies and services that are crucial to solve the most pressing mobility challenges. Within the POLIS SMC platform, SMCs discuss mobility governance issues that are specific to their size and shape."**

**Gert Blom**
City of Helmond



Helmond, "City of Smart Mobility", is a smaller city committed to innovation in transport.

**POLIS GLOBAL PLATFORM**

**The POLIS Global Platform brings together and supports the increasingly global activities of the network and its members. Building on a pool of European competence and excellence, it addresses shared global transport challenges, such as air pollution, congestion, road safety and accessibility.**

Non-European cities can also become engaged in POLIS as associated members. International activities include cooperation with the OECD's International Transport Forum, the World Health Organisation, UNECE, the UNFCCC, SloCaT and SUM4ALL. POLIS also engages in exchange activities with US cities and regions, on the impact of transport innovations on local mobility.



**Photo: ITF/2018**

POLIS organised a side event in cooperation with New York City among others at the International Transport Forum Summit 2018 in Leipzig



**POLIS AS A MEMBER OF SLoCaT**

**POLIS is a member of the *Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT)* - a multi-stakeholder partnership representing UN, multilateral and bilateral development organizations, NGOs and foundations, academia and the business sector. SLoCaT promotes the integration of sustainable transport in global policies on sustainable development and climate change.**



**SUM4ALL**

**POLIS is part of Sustainable Mobility for All™, an international alliance which brings together a diverse and influential group of transport stakeholders, with a commitment to speak with one global voice and act collectively to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) and transform the transport sector. It stands for a mobility of goods and people that is equitable, efficient, safe and green.**

# ANNUAL POLIS CONFERENCE

## The POLIS Conferences are the annual highlights of the leading European network of cities and regions on transport innovation.

The Annual POLIS Conferences provide an opportunity for cities and regions to showcase their local transport achievements to a large audience. The conference tagline is "Innovation in Transport for Sustainable Cities and Regions". It attracts a wide range of public and private transport innovation stakeholders from Europe and beyond. A new edition of the "Thinking Cities" magazine and the "Thinking Cities" Award are presented at the POLIS Conferences every year.



CAR-POOLING FROM PARIS TO DENMARK

**"Attending the Annual POLIS Conference, the city of Aarhus got inspired by Île-de-France's car-pooling experience. Île-de-France introduced us to their business partner and in 2019, Danes can car-pool home-office trips using zify."**
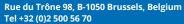
**Gustav Friis**
City of Aarhus

# POLIS
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## BECOME A MEMBER

**Joining POLIS brings you to the centre of the European urban mobility community:**

**1 - Get to know your peers and learn from other cities and regions across Europe**

**2 - Receive support to access and join European initiatives & transport projects**

**3 - Engage in partnerships with industry & research towards the deployment of innovation**

**4 - Make your voice heard in European transport policy**

**www.polisnetwork.eu/become-member**