Call for Abstracts:
Academic Sessions

Abstract topics & submission guidelines

Welcome to the Velo-city 2022 call for abstracts for the academic sessions!

Following Velo-city's proud tradition of interactive and engaging presentations and the successful integration of academic content into the conference over the last years, we invite you to share your latest research results to reflect upon this edition's conference theme and its five subthemes:

Cycling the Change:

- **Rethinking urban space**
- **Focus on citizens, stakeholders and community**
- **Policies for more cycling**
- **Green tourism, green economy**
- **Urban mobility innovation**

The Scientists for Cycling network will have a series of identified academic sessions run by the network and integrated within the conference program of Velo-city.

These guidelines will provide you with all necessary information on expected abstract topics, the programme design, parallel session formats, the selection process, the timeline as well as the submission rules. Make sure you read it carefully before submitting your abstract through our online platform.

Should any questions arise do not hesitate to get in touch with us, we are here for you and look forward to hearing from you!

Your Velo-city 2022 Academic Programme Team

secretariat@velo-city2022.com

1. Theme, subthemes and expected abstract topics

Main theme: Cycling the Change

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way we live and challenged our view of reality. Cycling plays a significant role in driving and maintaining the increase in active mobility beyond the crisis and in achieving our global climate goals. Cycling is the "wind of change" in urban development. It reveals itself in infrastructural redesign, the reallocation of public space and the development of new sharing concepts. It aims at building cities for people and finding innovative approaches to provide services to citizens, to bring people closer together. Cycling improves our quality of life and therefore has to be part of the "new normal".

We invite submissions from any academic discipline or research interest exploring the conference theme and/or its sub-themes from a variety of theoretical and methodological perspectives.

Research topics could include, but are not limited to:

Rethinking urban space

Planning cycling infrastructure or public space is just as important as implementing it. The pandemic brought new ideas, challenges and opportunities for cities. Moreover, it has shed a light on the need to give even more attention to a healthy way of living. Good cycling infrastructure must be implemented in cities, regions and across borders to connect people, to allow them to move around safely and to provide greater accessibility beyond city centres. From urban environment to cross border cycling connectivity, this theme aims to show different approaches and trigger discussions on the challenges of creating accessible, safe, clean, shared and functional spaces for people.

Examples for research topics related to this sub-theme:

- Planning for social inclusion and accessibility to opportunities
- Cycling connectivity beyond city centres, including in rural areas
- Sharing spaces and mediating conflicts

Focus on Citizens, Stakeholders and Community

People's views and responses to new solutions are important. On one hand, aligning the public opinion with expert and political perspectives can be challenging, on the other hand, ideas and suggestions from citizens, stakeholders, community and various interest groups also help decision-makers to find better solutions for all. Involving the citizen contributes to gaining support and acceptance for specific projects and measures.

Examples for research topics related to this sub-theme:

- Perceptions of cycling
- Understanding cyclists and potential cyclists in different contexts
- Study of stakeholder and community engagement processes related to cycling

Policies for More Cycling

The bicycle is a solution to many of the world's woes. It contributes to better health, greater accessibility, greener economies, job creation, social inclusion and a better environment. But often it is not given its deserved place in policies at all levels and their budgets. A better integration of cycling into wider transport, climate, land-use, health, social, economic and other relevant policies enables an increase in the number of cyclists and a decrease in the negative externalities of motorised road transport. The potential of cycling can still be maximized in many countries. Not only an integrated European policy framework, but also adequate funding is needed. Improving cycling with the right policy in the right context is crucial. Knowledge exchange and policy transfer happen when inspiring best practices are shared.

Examples for research topics related to this sub-theme:

- Contribution of sensing cycling activity, big data for cycling, data collection, open data etc. to better cycling policies – opportunities and limitations
- Impacts of cycling (e.g., modal share, emissions reductions, economic activities, health, other) and their communication and use in policy-making
- Contribution of cycling to policy goals, e.g. on climate action
- Evaluation of cycling policies

Green Tourism, Green Economy

In a green economy, growth in employment and income are driven by investment into carbon- and pollution-reducing economic activities that enhance energy and resource efficiency. How does cycling contribute to the economy and job creation? Cycle Tourism is rising again – how can we boost and sustain this trend? Despite the fact that tourism has been affected by the COVID-19 epidemic, the impact of cycle tourism on the economy should not be overlooked. This subtheme intends to position cycling as a key for the transition towards a greener economy and more sustainable tourism.

Examples for research topics related to this sub-theme:

- Contribution of cycling to the economy and job creation – also beyond current definitions of economic growth
- Evaluation and impact of cycle tourism; relation between cycle tourism and daily mobility

Urban Mobility Innovation

When we hear about the latest innovations in urban mobility, automated vehicles, Mobility as a Service, smart cities, zero-emission technologies, and urban air mobility are on everyone's lips. They seem to lead us straight into a high-tech smart and connected urban mobility future.
How does active mobility fit into urban mobility innovation? Can technological innovation and sustainability go hand in hand? How can urban deliveries become more sustainable with cycle logistics? What role does do shared modes and micromobility play? The future of urban mobility and the role of cycling are at the heart of this subtheme.

Examples for research topics related to this sub-theme:

- Integration of cycling with public transport: challenges and solutions
- Cycling, Bike-sharing, and MaaS (Mobility as a Service)
- Sustainable urban logistics
- Relations between technological innovation and sustainability

2. Programme design and session formats

Velo-city 2022 Ljubljana will kick-off its conference programme on Tuesday 14 until Friday 17 June mid-day. Selected abstracts will feed into around 50 parallel sessions, that will take place in different formats. The academic track will comprise around 6 sessions. Parallel sessions will last 60 minutes each.

The academic sessions will be mainly designed in the form of lectures: Lectures feature three to four presentations (12-15 minutes each). The presentations will cover a wide range of topics and are combined with questions and answer sessions.

3. Selection process & timeline

The Velo-city 2022 Ljubljana programme will be designed by a Programme Committee composed of experts from ECF and the City of Ljubljana based on the evaluation of the abstracts performed by the Scientific Committee.

After the review, the Programme Committee will build sessions on the topics around the conference theme and sub-themes. Selected abstracts will be assigned to relevant sessions paying particular attention to geographical and gender balance to represent the diversity of the sector.

Scientific Committee

Rachel Aldred

Professor, Department of Architecture and Cities, Director Active Travel Academy – University of Westminster

Peter Cox

Professor, Department of Social and Political Science – University of Chester

Angela Francke

Professor, Faculty of Civil and Environmental Engineering – University of Kassel

Manfred Neun

Honorary ECF President – Fusion Mobility Institute, Memmingen

John Parkin

Professor, Centre for Transport and Society, Department of Geography and Environmental Management – University of the West of England, Bristol

Aljaž Plevnik

Ph. D. Geography – Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia

Timeline

Opening of the call for abstracts: 11 Oct 2021

~~Abstract submission deadline: 5 Nov 2021~~ The extended abstract submission deadline : 19 November 2021, 23:00 CET.

Abstract evaluation by the Scientific Committee: 29 Nov - 17 Dec 2021 Abstract selection during the Programme Committee meeting: 19 - 21 Jan 2022

Publication of the preliminary programme with session titles: 14 Feb 2022

Notification on abstract status: End of Feb 2021

Deadline for speaker confirmation and registration: 21 March 2022 Programme publication with speakers and sessions: Mid-April 2022

Deadline to submit the final presentation: 30 May 2022

Velo-city 2022 Ljubljana: 14 – 17 June 2022

4. Submission rules

Submissions for the S4C sessions are welcome in the following mode:

- All contributions should be submitted as abstracts (max. 300 words) for oral presentation at the conference.

- These aim at researchers who seek to share recent research findings, on-going research, new theories, and exemplary case studies.

- These will be included in the conference proceedings and website, if allowed by the authors.

- The abstract should explain the problem addressed, its relevance and methods employed. It should make clear how it contributes to the themes identified

Applications for abstracts must comply with the following rules:

1. Please consult the **themes and sub-themes** to ensure the relevance of the abstract and choose the most relevant one applicable to your abstract.

2. Be aware that **only one person per abstract will be able to present** and be granted with the speakers' ticket rate.

3. A selected speaker is not allowed to designate a substitute in case he/she is not available. It is up to the Velo-city Programme Committee to make such a decision if relevant.

4. **Abstract Format:**

    a. The **abstract title** should be limited to 20 words (this will not be included in word count).
    b. References are optional
    c. The maximum word count is **300 words** (including references), written in **English**.
    d. Do not include tables or pictures.
    e. The decision on the session format will be confirmed by the Velo-city Programme Committee who is tasked to design the programme with the submitted abstracts.

5. **Submission:** Abstracts must be submitted through the Velo-city 2022 website.

6. **Acceptance of abstracts** into the conference program will be based on the evaluation by the international Scientific Committee and the Velo-city 2022 Programme Committee.

7. Speakers will receive a notification on the evaluation of their respective abstracts via the email specified during the abstract submission.

8. Speakers of the accepted abstracts will be required to confirm their attendance and finalize their registration by the 21 March 2022 prior to their final inclusion in the conference program.

9. The Velo-city organisers do not cover travel and accommodation costs but speakers do enjoy a premium registration fee of 650 EUR, which is a 25 % price reduction on the regular price.

10. Selected speakers commit to help promoting the Velo-city 2022 Ljubljana edition.

COVID-19

With Velo-city 2022 due to take place in June 2022, the Velo-city Team stays positive and plans ahead for an unforgettable in-person conference. We do want to assure you that all sanitary measures will be in place as requested by the Slovenian Health authorities.