

## Young Researcher of the Year Award

### Introduction

The work of the International Transport Forum is underpinned by economic research, statistics collection and policy analysis. Its evidence-based insights on transport policy issues make the International Transport Forum an important think tank for policy-makers and the global transport community. Our researchers are committed to delivering impartial analysis of the highest quality. Leading academics, regulators and government economists are regularly engaged in debate in the Research Centre's roundtables on critical issues for transport policy. The Research Centre also maintains a range of statistics and indicators on transport, as well as specialised databases.

Continuing a long tradition of research on transport issues to inform the policy-making process, the International Transport Forum's Research Centre also provides high-level research input for the ITF Annual Summit, where Transport Ministers from around the world meet with researchers, industry leaders and representatives of civil society to examine strategic policy issues facing the sector. At the 2015 Summit, to be held in Leipzig, Germany from 27-29 May 2015, the International Transport Forum will again present its Young Researcher of the Year Award (YRA) to recognise a young researcher or researchers, who have undertaken outstanding work in research related to the theme of the Annual Summit. For the 2015 Summit, the theme is "**Transport, Trade and Tourism**".

### Objectives

The principal aims of the Young Researcher of the Year Award are to highlight the importance of research for sound transport policy formulation and implementation, and to foster closer links between transport policy and research.

The award is designed to acknowledge and reward creative reflection and analysis on the part of young researchers who are currently undertaking research relating to transport, a major contributor to the wellbeing and proper functioning of our societies.

### Eligibility Criteria

The Award is open to researchers under 35 years of age who have undertaken their research in an institution, university or consultancy firm located in a member country<sup>1</sup> of the International Transport Forum. The researcher must be the main author of the paper. Co-authorship is possible, in which case the award will be shared among the main authors, all of whom must be under 35 years of age.

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<sup>1</sup> A full list of member and observer countries can be found at:  
<http://www.internationaltransportforum.org/about/members.html>

## Selection Criteria

The research paper may analyse any aspect of the interlinkages between the transport sector and global trade and/or tourism.

For example, the following topics are relevant to the 2015 Summit theme:

- ▶ **Financial resources** for investment in the transport sector to facilitate or enable international trade.
- ▶ The **new geographical configuration of international trade** and its transport implications.
- ▶ Transport needs corresponding to **new tourism routes**.
- ▶ **Aviation - connectivity**, capacity and liberalisation.
- ▶ Transport and trade in **digitalised economies**.
- ▶ The resilience of transport systems and trade routes facing **major climate events**.
- ▶ The incidence of tourism on the public transport systems of **urbanised societies**.
- ▶ **Transport and regional development**: taking trade and tourism beyond urban centres.
- ▶ Transport and **new forms of sustainable tourism**.

In addition to demonstrating clear links with the theme of the 2015 Summit "Transport, Trade and Tourism", the research paper must:

- ▶ extract and develop policy issues from the analysis;
- ▶ propose advances in the current state of knowledge in the domain;
- ▶ be methodologically rigorous;
- ▶ demonstrate economic understanding and analysis, though the analysis may be of an engineering, planning, historical, geographical or sociological nature;
- ▶ be written in such a way that the essence of the analysis and its policy relevance are accessible not only to researchers but also to policy-makers (implying that formal analysis should be accompanied by a clear explanation of its purpose and results);
- ▶ be written in either of the Forum's two official languages (French or English);
- ▶ be recent (working papers as well as articles published or accepted for publication in academic journals in 2013 or 2014 are welcome);
- ▶ not exceed 25 pages (single spacing), excluding references and annexes.

## Application Process

Applications must be submitted using the online form available at <http://2015.internationaltransportforum.org/2015-YRA-application-form> by 18:00 CET Friday 30 January 2015.

Submissions will be examined by an international panel of experts from the transport and transport economics research sectors, including the Secretary-General of the International Transport Forum and the President of the World Conference on Transport Research (WCTR).

**Prize and Award Ceremony**

A prize of EUR 5 000 will be awarded. An official award ceremony, attended by Transport Ministers of Forum Member countries, will be held in Leipzig during the 2015 Summit.

Honorary merit awards may also be presented.

For further information about the 2015 Annual Summit please visit:  
[www.internationaltransportforum.org/2015](http://www.internationaltransportforum.org/2015)

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