

A Delicate Balance: Mobility Rights, Needs, Expectations and Costs

Wednesday, 25 May, 11.15-12.45, Hall 2

SESSION OUTLINE

Mobility is sometimes perceived as a right, but defining a basic level of mobility provision is not easy. Transport demand is guided by people's needs and aspirations, which are diverse and depend on other choices, such as where people live and work. The cost of transport to individuals is an important factor, and this often differs from costs to society. Societal demands for broad access to transport services come at costs that must be accounted for. These issues converge in the policy debate on finding the right balance between mobility rights and the costs of providing safe, reliable and sustainable transport systems.

- What is the balance between the right to minimum personal mobility, quality of service and access, on the one hand, and other rights, such as clean air, or free space in an urban environment on the other?
- What is government's obligation to provide mobility? How much is enough?
- How can passengers' rights be upheld, and who should bear the costs?
- Is it possible to define an appropriate balance between non-motorised and motorised transport, as well as between the modes?

Chair

- José Manuel Viegas, President, Transportes, Inovação e Sistemas, Portugal

Panellists

- John Hanlon, Secretary General, European Low Fares Airline Association
- David Metz, Visiting Professor, University College London, UK
- Manfred Neun, President, European Cyclists' Federation
- Enrique Peñalosa, Director, Institute for Transportation and Development Policy
- Susan Pikrallidas, Secretary General for Automobile Mobility and Tourism, Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile
- Jan Scherp, Principal Administrator, European Commission

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