

# Chaire Logistics City



Source : H. Buldeo Rai, hub P4 Porte de Pantin

## News from the Chair

With 2025 well underway, the Chair would like to share updates about :

- A new funding partner
- Participation in international conferences
- Research visits
- Study days
- Upcoming events
- Research publications

## About us

The Logistics City Chair was created in 2019 and renewed in 2023 for a period of 5 years. It is a social science research team dedicated to urban logistics in several of its dimensions: urban and suburban logistics real estate (theme 1), trends and new consumer practices and their impact on cities and their environment (theme 2) and public policies for sustainable urban logistics (theme 3). The Chair is funded by founding partner Sogaris, the Île-de-France Region, the Métropole du Grand Paris and the Fondation Université Gustave Eiffel.

For more news and up-to-date information, please visit our [website](#) and the E-Commerce Mobility Observatory. You can also follow us on [LinkedIn](#).

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  - Pierre-Henri Besnard, PhD student, pierre-henri.besnard@enpc.fr
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## Gustave Eiffel University Foundation joins the partnership | Conference on Low Emissions Zones and Logistics

On January 1, 2025, the [Fondation Université Gustave Eiffel](#) joined the group of financial partners of the Logistics City Chair. A [seminar](#) was organized on January 16, 2025 to launch this new cooperation. It focused on low-emission zones in Europe and urban logistics, presenting the results of [a study by Lise Phan](#), a Master's student from the Chair, as well as the case of Rotterdam's zero-emission zone (the presentation can be found [here](#)). A round-table discussion with public and private stakeholders rounded off the day.

## Welcome, Tommaso Cigognetti and Mohammed Younes!

Tommaso Cigognetti is on a six-month academic visit to the Logistics City Chaire at LVMT. He is a PhD student in urban planning at the Politecnico di Milano ("Exploring innovative last-mile and city logistics solutions to reduce emissions and improve citizens' quality of life") under the supervision of Ilaria Mariotti. Tommaso is also the deputy mayor in charge of urban planning for the city of Salo.

Since November 2024, Mohammed Younes, an urban planning engineer specializing in spatial analysis, has joined the research team as a research engineer. Mohammed was previously an master's intern with us, working on [e-commerce warehouses in France and their socio-economic impacts](#). He will continue to work on methods for identifying and locating warehouses, the factors influencing decisions concerning their siting, and their socio-economic impacts.



## Research internship with France Logistique and AFILOG on the links between warehouse spatial behavior and goods flows

Intuitively, logistics real estate responds to existing transport demand and is spatially organized according to a logic of gravity center and flow optimization. In reality, transport operators, particularly in urban areas, have to "make do" with imperfect real estate opportunities in terms of location, size, configuration, access, etc. This logic is also spreading to suburban locations, in a context where logistics land is becoming increasingly scarce. A diagnosis/state of the art of quantitative research on the subject of the spatial behavior of warehouses will be drawn up; and the public policy dimension will be studied specifically. This research work, which starts in March 2025, benefits from a partnership with France Logistique and AFILOG, who will share their knowledge and finance the work.

## RFTM session and Urbanités special issue

On the occasion of the [7th edition of the Rencontres Francophones Transport Mobilité](#), to be held from June 18 to 20, 2025 in Dunkirk, we are organizing a session on the urban integration of logistics: “LOGI \_1: Building the logistics city: planning and urban integration of logistics activities in metropolitan areas”.

This session will provide an opportunity to present work on :

- The accessibility of logistics infrastructures in terms of connections to transport networks and ease of use
- Local integration of infrastructures from both architectural and morphological standpoints
- The social acceptability of logistics facilities, the associated economic and social models, and the issues of participatory democracy this raises
- The environmental impact of urban logistics development
- Public policies related to urban logistics (planning, programming, regulations)
- Urban governance of logistics

Following the conference, authors will be invited to submit an article for a special issue of Urbanités journal.

## Research Day Décrypter la planification territoriale (Deciphering regional planning)

On January 28, 2025, Marion Albertelli organized a study day on social science methodologies for analyzing spatial planning policies, in partnership with the Géographie-cités and ThéMa laboratories. The event provided an opportunity to discuss possible methodological approaches for analyzing planning policies at different scales, using a variety of reading frameworks applied to different types of planning documents.

In the morning, a round-table discussion brought together four researchers, who shared their methodologies for analyzing planning documents, such as local urban plans, mobility plans, regional economic development, and regional master plans on a variety of themes: urban logistics (Dr. Laetitia Dablanc), mobility (Dr. Thomas Buhler; Dr. Jean Debrie), and industry strategies (Thibaud Bages). The afternoon was devoted to two training sessions on TXM (for textual document analysis) and Yolo (for image analysis), led by Dr. Thomas Buhler and Nicolas Lépy from the ThéMa laboratory.



**Décrypter la Planification Territoriale**  
Échelles, Méthodes et Enjeux

Journée d'Étude

10h-12h  
Table-ronde

14h-15h30  
Initiation à TXM

16h-17h30  
Initiation à Yolo

Mardi 28 janvier 2025  
Campus Condorcet, Aubervilliers





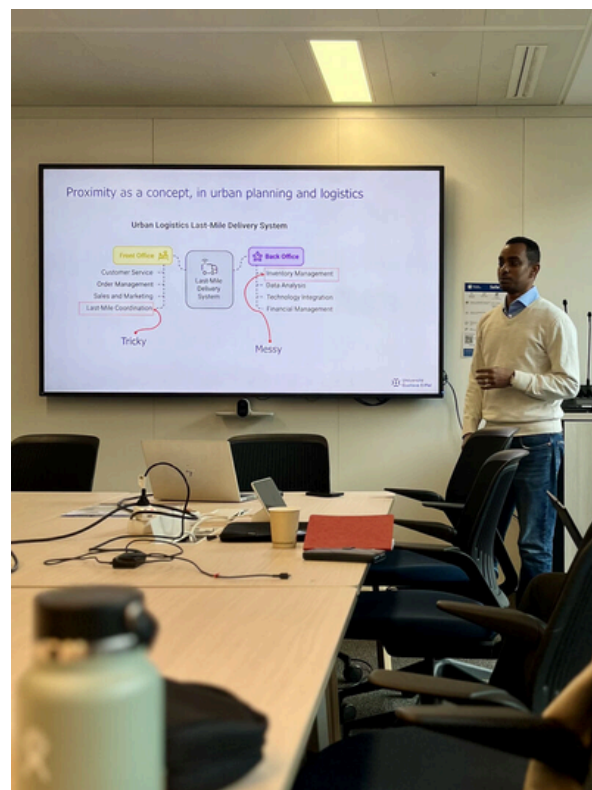
A report as well as materials from the day will be shared on [this page](#).

## FRESH seminar: Logistics in the 15-Minute City

The FRESH (FREight-SHopping nexus in urban outskirts and beyond) project, financed by the European DUT (Driving Urban Transition Partnership) program and national partners (ANR in France), organized a two-day project meeting at the headquarters of the Metropole du Grand Paris (thanks to the MGP for its welcome and participation), then at several Parisian urban logistics sites. Project partners came from Dortmund, Germany, Paris, France, Zurich, Switzerland, and Trondheim, Norway. Our partners at the Metropole du Grand Paris took part in the work, which aimed to define concrete strategies for the intersection between purchasing-related mobility behavior and urban logistics. A comparative analysis of travel surveys in France, Germany, Norway and Switzerland was also carried out.

### Day 1: Introductions and collaborative dialogues

Presentation of the concept of local logistics within the framework of the fifteen-minute city concept, followed by an analysis of the demand for shopping-related trips based on national mobility surveys from the four partner countries. We also conducted a participatory exercise to assess participants' perspectives on last-mile logistics solutions. The afternoon was devoted to internal discussions between the FRESH partners and the project's scientific committee.



### Day 2: visits to e-commerce last-mile logistics hubs

The morning began with a visit to the P4 logistics hub of Sogaris at the Porte de Pantin (under the main ring-road of Paris), followed by a visit to the Transpack and Urban Green hub, two Amazon service providers, on the Les Amarres site on the Quai d'Austerlitz, where participants were able to watch the preparation of the cargo bike routes. We would like to thank the companies that welcomed us and explained the architectural, urban planning and operational aspects of the two cycle logistics hubs.

The seminar emphasized the importance of integrating logistics into urban planning and highlighted the potential (and difficulties) of proximity-based strategies to improve freight efficiency and shopping mobility.



Photo sources: H. Buldeo Rai (left, hub P4 Porte de Pantin) and A. K. Reda (right, hub Les Amarres next to the Seine river)

## SIMI Conference Round Tables 2024

The Chair took part in two round tables on innovative urban warehouses at SIMI (the main French commercial real estate trade show) in Paris on December 10 and 11, 2024. This is also an opportunity to congratulate Sogaris for [the Grand Prize received](#) at SIMI for the construction of the Ardoines logistics hotel, which the Chair was able to visit in early 2024 and which, since that visit, has served as an exemplary logistics hotel in our teaching and work.

## POLIS Conference in Karlsruhe, Germany (November 2024)

On November 27 and 28, 2024, Laetitia Dablanc took part in the POLIS meetings of European cities in charge of transport. She led a session on urban logistics spaces (presentations available [here](#)), including a presentation by Amazon on their organization in very dense areas (use of public transport company, RATP, bus depots and road space in Paris). The POLIS conference ended with a round-table discussion of European elected representatives ([here](#)) which highlighted the concern of local elected representatives about the “withdrawal” of some national governments (e.g. the Netherlands, Croatia) from sustainable mobility. The fear of setbacks on LEZs and zero-emission zones in particular was expressed very specifically in the Netherlands.

## Attendance at urban logistics events

- On January 28, 2025, the new [Atlas of warehouses and logistics areas in France](#) was presented. It provides an inventory of warehouses in mainland France with a surface area of more than 10,000 square meters as of December 31, 2023. There are approximately 3,700 facilities totaling 89 million sqm, with a high concentration along the Lille-Paris-Lyon-Marseille axis. This atlas no longer takes into account warehouses of 5,000 to 10,000 sqm of outdoor storage spaces. It highlights the rise of XXL warehouses (+40,000 sqm), which, accounting for 13% of the total number, concentrate 32% of the surface area.
- The [third national seminar on the observation of logistics](#) took place on January 13, 2025. It was an opportunity to discuss the impacts of ZAN on rental prices, France's place in the global geography in terms of the efficiency of logistics companies, as well as the data sources that enable the various local authorities to observe logistics. All the materials can be found at this [link](#).
- On November 21, 2024, the annual meeting [of France Logistique](#) took place. It is worth noting the importance emphasized of the impact of the geopolitical context on the sector, but also the anticipation of a reduction in the scope of new French legislation on net zero land take policies by many stakeholders.
- The freight forum of the sustainable urban logistics strategy of the City of Paris met on December 10, 2024, and brought together practitioners from the public and private sectors to discuss the logistics measures implemented by Paris. Topics included financial assistance to professionals for the purchase of less polluting vehicles, the limited traffic zone, the carpool lane on the ring road and the next stage of the metropolitan LEZ.
- On December 7, 2024, the national meeting [of Interlud+](#) was held at the Forum des Images in Paris. The history of urban logistics, round tables detailing the feedback from stakeholders and local governments, digital tools, the implementation of low-emissions zones, land and logistics real estate were discussed, and workshops were organized on digital tools and cyclo-logistics.
- On November 26, 2024, the partners of the Pact for Metropolitan Logistics met. Several debates focused on the model of government likely to govern logistics in the city. While some stakeholders, such as former Prime Minister of France and current head of public transport enterprise Jean Castex, wish to promote an organizing authority for urban logistics based on the model for passenger transport, others prefer a model of regulatory authority in line with current experiments.
- A webinar on the Strasbourg Cargo-tram provided an opportunity to learn more about the results (Sept-Oct 2024) from the experiment conducted by the Eurométropole of Strasbourg with the CTS, Alstom and La Poste. Coexistence with travelers went well despite slight delays during unloading. New rolling stock and postal workers' equipment will need to be redesigned to allow for this dual use.

## On the productive city: Workshop Restitution

On January 17, 2025, a group of students from the Ecole d'urbanisme de Paris, Master of city and regional planning, presented their restitution workshop to the Institut Paris Région, under the supervision of Reece Fisher and Dr. Philippe Poinot. The group's mission was to carry out a territorial diagnosis of diffuse productive activities in the urban fabric, specific to the EPT Boucle Nord de Seine, a suburban planning agency south of Paris.

Given the growing interest in the reindustrialization of the Paris region and the ambiguity of the definition of productive activities, the students proposed a robust method for qualifying, identifying and analyzing these activities. Their report for the Ecole d'Urbanisme de Paris will soon be available [here](#), and their full report will soon be available on the Institut Paris Région website.

## Logistics discussed at the LVMT seminar

On January 17, 2025, Pierre-Henri Besnard and Reece Fisher spoke at the monthly seminar of the City, Mobility, Transport Laboratory (LVMT) in a session entitled "The controversies surrounding the place of logistics activities in urban centers." Besnard presented the methodology of his thesis on the politicization of urban logistics and the work to be done throughout his research. Fisher presented her method and her survey plan on the social acceptability of logistics facilities, currently underway in Strasbourg. The link to the survey is accessible [here](#). The survey is open to anyone living in Strasbourg and its metropolitan area.

**Information about the survey on  
the acceptability of the logistics in  
Strasbourg is available [here](#).**

## On Platform Delivery Drivers

### TRB 2025: how to understand the incomes of platform delivery workers?

Poster presentation at the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting in Washington DC on January 8, 2025. The research carried out by Benjamin Motte and Laetitia Dabanc focused on the factors explaining the differences in delivery drivers' incomes, highlighting in particular the financial (and environmental) advantages and disadvantages of using motorized two-wheelers.

### Platform delivery surveys 2025

Following on from the Paris surveys of 2016, 2018, 2020, 2021 and 2022, in 2025 we will carry out a survey as part of the ERROLI research project led by Céline Vernet of UMRESTTE/Gustave Eiffel University. This project is funded by the French Road Safety Administration and will allow a particular focus on the road safety of delivery drivers (bicycles and mopeds) in order to better understand the high accident rates of this new population of delivery workers in the public space of cities.

### Gig Delivery Academic Seminar

On May 12 and 13, 2025, an international seminar on research related to platform delivery workers will be organized in Paris in-person and in the form of two webinars at times adapted to non-European continents. It will bring together and allow for comparison of the results of quantitative research on the gig delivery work in large cities (including cases in China, Latin America and Africa). More information to come.

### Hearing of the chair by the Paris Council's Information and Evaluation Mission on the Gig Economy

Mission on "Gig economy in the city: state of play, challenges, proposals" ([Available here](#)). The survey work on platform delivery people in Paris was presented to the mission on December 5, 2024, at the Paris City Hall.

## I-NUF Conference 2025

The Chair will be present at the I-NUF 2025: Reimagining the Future of Urban Freight conference in Los Angeles, California, USA in April 2025.

- Laetitia Dablanc will give a presentation on "Emerging issues in public policies regarding logistics real estate" and present the results of Mohammed Younes' work on e-commerce warehouses in France.
- Reece Fisher will present a case study entitled "Integrating logistics into urban projects: A new approach to dimension needs for logistics infrastructure in the Paris region".
- Abel Kebede Reda will present "E-commerce last-mile delivery within the 15-minute city" and a case study on "Banning trucks from cities: Costs and alternatives".

## Publications and communications: Fall/Winter 2024/2025

### Communications

Albertelli, M. (2025) Introduction à la Journée d'Études "Décrypter la Planification Territoriale", Campus Condorcet, Aubervilliers, 28 janvier 2025

Motte, B., Dablanc, L. (2025) The key role of motorized two-wheelers in boosting earnings of on-demand delivery workers. Transportation Research Board's Annual Meeting, Washington DC, January 4-8.

Dablanc, L. (2024) Freight, logistics and urbanism. Keynote speech. 2024 Urbanism Next Europe Conference, Amsterdam, the Netherlands October 9-11.

### Articles

Dablanc, L., Adoue, F. (2024) New ways of collecting urban freight traffic data and applications for urban freight policies and research? Case Studies on Transport Policy, 19, 101315.

### Book Chapters

Dablanc, L. (2025) The role of freight transportation in smart cities for advancing the clean energy transition. Chapter 10 in Barichella, A., Yada, J., Wood, G. (Dir.) The Palgrave Handbook of Cybersecurity, Technologies and Energy Transitions. Palgrave Studies in Energy Transitions (PSET), Palgrave.

Dablanc, L. (2025) Transport policy at an impasse. Chapter 8 in Perl, A., Ray, R., Reardon, L. (Dir.) Handbook of Transportation and Public Policy. Edward Elgar.

Dablanc, L. (2025) La logistique urbaine. Techniques de l'Ingénieur. Article de référence AG8045.

Dablanc, L. (2025) Les plateformes numériques de livraison. Ch VIII in Daugareilh, I. (Dir.) La plateformes du travail - 1re édition. Bruylant. <https://www.larcier-intersentia.com/fr/plateformisation-travail-9782390134015.html>

Dablanc, L., Heitz, A. (2024) Spatial patterns and investments in warehouses. Ch. 2 in Tavasszy, L., Piecyk, M., Browne, M. (Dir.) Freight transport planning. Collection Advances in Transport Policy and Planning, Elsevier.