



European Conference of Transport Research Institutes

Vision, Mission and Strategy



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The European Conference of Transport Research Institutes – ECTRI – was founded in early 2003. It is the first attempt to unite the forces of the foremost multimodal transport research centres across Europe and to thereby promote the excellence of European transport research.

ECTRI has the following vision and mission*.

Vision

The vision of ECTRI is an efficient, integral European transport system that provides completely safe, secure and sustainable mobility for people and goods.



*Soria Moria castle, by T. Kittelsen.
Travelling towards a far away vision.*

Mission

ECTRI is committed to provide the scientifically based competence, knowledge and advice necessary to move towards its vision.

To this purpose, ECTRI

- Endeavours to provide practically applicable answers to questions of policy formulation.
- Brings together the foremost, policy relevant, interdisciplinary scientific competence in most Europe capable of carrying out state-of-the-art primary and applied research in transport.
- Strives to continually improve the quality and overall efficiency of European transport research.
- Continually looks for innovative solutions to the present and future challenges in the field of transport.

Moreover, ECTRI

- Endeavours to provide European transport research institutes with the conditions necessary for the development, maintenance and exploitation of their scientific excellence.

* This document updates and clarifies the document "Definition and scope of ECTRI's long-term strategy: the ECTRI vision of a sustainable multimodal transport system in the Europe of the future" published in October 2003 [Report ECTRI 2003-01].

In accordance with this mission ECTRI has formulated the following core values, goals and instruments.

Core values

- **Intellectual independence:** conclusions and recommendations follow from the analysis, not from the vested interests of clients or stakeholders.
- **Transparency:** methods, assumptions and results are accounted for and made public.
- **Scientific excellence:** ECTRI is committed to the highest standards of scientific practice, methodology and theoretical foundation.

Goals

ECTRI has therefore set itself the following goals:

1. To be a closely knit and institutionalised network of competence centres within European transport planning and research.
2. To be the foremost representative of European transport research institutes and an important platform for a cross-cutting, mode-neutral outlook on transport planning and policy.
3. To include among its members the foremost centres of excellence in multimodal transport research within their respective European countries.
4. To be a preferred scientific partner of dialogue to the European Commission in matters related to transport planning and policy.
5. To develop and support leading and widely recognised channels of dissemination of transport research results (as the European Transport Research Review - ETRR).
6. To support and assist its members in becoming, within their respective countries, the most active and successful contributors to the European Union's framework programmes of research.
7. To be perceived globally, in view of the achievement of the above, as a legitimate and respected representative of the European transport research community.

Instruments

Instruments are the means, processes or measures used to achieve the goals or move towards the vision. ECTRI

1. Promotes the implementation of innovative solutions in European transport.
2. Endeavours to transfer knowledge and experience between European countries, with particular attention to new and candidate members of the European Union.
3. Contributes to the monitoring and evaluation of policy guidelines within the European transport sector.
4. Endeavours to provide practical answers to the challenges facing European policy makers and stakeholders.
5. Works to reinforce the position of its member institutes as primary transport research bodies and centres of excellence in their respective countries.
6. Facilitates the mobility and exchange of researchers between European research institutions.
7. Organises a Young Researchers' Seminar every two years, in which young professionals are tutored and stimulated to develop their competence and interest in transport research.
8. Encourages its researchers to publish in ECTRI's European Transport Research Review: An Open Access Journal.
9. Creates a framework for its members in forming consortia and facilitating joint proposals for research towards the European Commission's Framework Programmes and other supranational sources of funding.
10. Organises a number of Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) on strategic issues, in which professionals belonging to ECTRI member institutes and associated organisations are able to exchange ideas and experience and move towards the creation of highly competent consortia for transport research tasks.
11. Facilitates the flow of information on current policies, practices and research between transport research institutions and national and international governing bodies.
12. Promotes the organisation of a major annual (or bi-annual) European Conference on transport research and policy.
13. Maintains close relations of cooperation with other European research organisations, especially FEHRL and FERSI.
14. Further develops its established relations with US TRB and other major international organisations.

Organisation

The organisation of ECTRI is regulated in its statutes.

The Assembly is the highest decision body. It consists of all member institutes, each with one vote. The Assembly meets twice a year. It elects the President and the Board.

The Board is the organisation's executive body and is chaired by the President. The Board reports to the Assembly.

The Secretariat is responsible for the daily operations of ECTRI. The Secretariat is led by an appointed Director who reports to the Board, as represented by the President. The Secretariat consists of salaried staff, seconded by personnel made available by the members ("in-kind contributions").

ECTRI establishes its office in Brussels to facilitate the flow of information between ECTRI, the European Commission and various other transport research organisations.

ECTRI implements its most important activities through a three-year Joint Programme of Activities (JPA). The JPA is revised once a year.



CDV - Czech Republic
<http://www.cdv.cz>



POLITO - Italy
<http://www.polito.it>



CEDEX - Spain
<http://www.cedex.es>



TNO - The Netherlands
<http://www.tno.nl>



DLR - Germany
<http://www.dlr.de>



TØI - Norway
<http://www.toi.no>



DVS - The Netherlands
<http://www.rws-avv.nl>



TRL - United Kingdom
<http://www.trl.co.uk>



DTU-Transport - Denmark
<http://www.dtf.dtu.dk>



TTEF - Serbia
<http://www.sf.bg.ac.yu>



Verbund
Verkehr

FHG-FVV - Germany
<http://www-fvv.iml.fhg.de>



UPM - Spain
<http://www.upm.es>



HIT - Greece
<http://www.hit.certh.gr>



VGTU-TMI - Lithuania
<http://www.tmi.vgtu.lt>



INRETS - France
<http://www.inrets.fr>



VTI - Sweden
<http://www.vti.se>



ITS and CNTK - Poland
<http://www.its.home.pl>
<http://www.cntk.pl>



VTT - Finland
<http://www.vtt.fi>



KTI - Hungary
<http://www.kti.hu>



VÚD - Slovakia
<http://www.vud.sk>

ECTRI
 c/o INRETS - Case 24
 25, avenue François Mitterrand
 69675 Bron cedex
info@ectri.org

<http://www.ectri.org>

