



4-7 JUNE

BARCELONA 2023

GLOBAL PUBLIC
TRANSPORT SUMMIT

UITP Press Office

PRESS RELEASE

The Road to Barcelona is complete: As the UITP Global Public Transport Summit 2023 concludes with a look to the future



**Brussels/Barcelona,
13 June 2023**

The UITP Global Public Transport Summit 2023 has concluded its first edition in four years as we deliver our biggest and boldest gathering yet.

The world of urban mobility came together from 110 countries to make Barcelona the public transport capital of the world across four days of activity (4-7 June 2023).

Hosting the first UITP Global Summit since the 2019 edition in Stockholm, UITP and our three local partners, FGC, TMB and Renfe, brought public transport together under the 2023 theme 'Bright Light of the City'.

The 64th edition was the world's gathering place for showcasing the latest innovations, the newest technologies, good practice cases, and forward-thinking projects.

With a world-renowned Exhibition, sector-leading Congress, technical visits, study tours, e-Poster sessions, press tours, Power Sessions, networking, and social events, the UITP Global Summit hosted 10 days of activity...

So, with all of that and more, what are the 2023 standouts facts and figures?



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SESSIONS & SPEAKERS

87 sessions with 423 speakers

EXHIBITORS

337 exhibitors from 41 countries

ATTENDEES

2700 Congress attendees

VISITS

17300 Exhibition visits

PRESS & MEDIA

251 press delegates from 40 countries

COUNTRIES

110 countries represented

With the main message of the Summit showing the importance of public transport to the fabric of urban life, [the UITP team began their journey to Barcelona from Brussels by train.](#)

Under our approach to #StayontheGround, more than 50 colleagues from our HQ office travelled together across three countries to arrive in Barcelona in style!

Arriving full of energy, the opening day of the Summit saw our General Assembly held, [where the new UITP President, General Manager of OC TRANSPO in Ottawa, Renée Amilcar, was voted into office.](#)

As our first female President in the association's 138-year history, Renée's inauguration saw the conclusion of the term of departing President Khalid Alhogail, CEO and Managing Director of SAPTCO, Saudi Arabia. *Congratulations Madam President and thank you Mr. President!*

Following the General Assembly, our Opening Ceremony heard from one of the world's most influential and innovative thinkers, [Professor, Author and Economist Mariana Mazzucato.](#) Her inspiring speech motivated the audience to get ready for passionate debate, and innovative thinking.

The Summit is *the* location for new players to present themselves; for long-term players to reinvent themselves, and for the world of public transport to define the future of the sector under our Congress pillars and tracks: Cities and People.

Interested to know our stand-out moments and key highlights? [Read our recaps!](#)

"As we conclude our 64th edition, I am always reminded that the Summit is about people. It is about collaborating with one another, learning from each other, and sharing ideas and moments. And enjoying the fun and social aspects of the Summit too! Every single person who participates, no matter what their role, hopes to contribute towards the future of public transport. I can tell you all that your objective was achieved! You have helped to safeguard the sense of the purpose of our industry and contributed to taking public transport to the next level. I am immensely proud of the entire UITP team of colleagues - they have shown once again that with their imagination and dedication, the Summit is always in safe hands. Now, we begin our journey to Hamburg!"

Mohamed Mezghani, UITP Secretary General



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During the 2023 edition, we saw many major moments that will define the direction of the public transport sector in the years to come.

We are proud to have brought together numerous CEOs from the sector to demonstrate their unwavering commitment to public transport.

During our Executive Forum, these influential figures engaged in high-level discussions on the sector's key challenges, and **unanimously endorsed the UITP Barcelona Declaration**, underscoring their belief in the crucial role of public transport in society.

Also looking to the future, the UITP Summit in Barcelona was the occasion to introduce not one, but two host cities for the next three editions!

During our Closing Ceremony, the audience witnessed the official flag handover from Barcelona to Hamburg, **as the 2025 and 2027 Summit editions** will be held in the iconic German city.

We were also able to unveil the host city for the 2026 edition: Dubai! UITP signed the official agreement with RTA Dubai during this year's Summit, which will see the world's largest event dedicated to urban mobility return to the UAE for the first time since 2011. *Congratulations to our next local partners in Hamburg and Dubai!*

And with a look to the future, the road to Barcelona is complete!

A huge thank you to everyone who made the 64th edition a record-breaking success... ***see you in Hamburg!***

[Join the journey from the beginning on our dedicated Summit website...](#)
[as we conclude the Road to Barcelona, and set out on the path to Hamburg!](#)

FOR EDITORS

(UITP) The International Association of Public Transport works to enhance quality of life and economic well-being by supporting and promoting sustainable transport in urban areas worldwide. As a passionate champion of sustainable urban mobility, UITP is internationally recognised for its work to advance the development of this critical policy agenda. With more than **1900 members** in **100 countries**, UITP has a long history to its name, and is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes. Visit the **newsroom** and follow us on **Twitter**.

Questions? Quotes? Interview requests? Contact Scott Shepherd
Head of Corporate Communications and Press Relations

scott.shepherd@uitp.org

0032-2-663-66-73 / [@UITPpress](https://twitter.com/UITPpress)