

Barrier-Free Public Transport (BFPT) Summer School 2025 - Vienna



Input, self-awareness and also social activities:

Join us in Vienna for an immersive learning experience focused on creating a **barrier-free, accessible, cross-border, inclusive public transport system**.

[Impressions](#) of the summer school 2024

Venue and date

Date:

- The virtual part will take place on 01 July and 22 July 2025
- The **physical part** will take place from **7 July to 11 July 2025** in Vienna (Vienna University of Economics and Business, Welthandelsplatz 1, 1020 Wien)
 - with Fieldtrip to Slovakia

Short introduction

Embrace the Future of barrier-free, accessible, cross-border, inclusive public transport system: Join us for a week of an immersive learning experience focused on creating an inclusive, accessible and barrier-free cross-border public transport system.

In an increasingly interconnected European landscape, cross-border mobility remains a challenge, particularly for individuals with disabilities. Public transportation systems and schedules often lack the necessary coordination to facilitate seamless and efficient travel experiences.

The EPTS Summer School aims to address these challenges by bringing together experts, individuals with disabilities, and students to explore the essential components of a barrier-free, accessible, and inclusive cross-border public transport system. Through a blend of lectures, workshops, and field trips, we will delve into the intricacies of creating a truly inclusive transportation network that caters to the diverse needs of all travellers.

About the summer school

Explore. Experience. Excel.

Join us this summer in an intense summer school program dedicated to fostering barrier-free, accessible, and inclusive cross-border public transport in Europe.

Our Goal: Seamless Mobility for Everyone, Everywhere

In a time where Europe is getting more connected, having smooth and easy-to-use public transport should be a norm, not luxury. The development of an integrated and accessible transportation system for all citizens regardless of their disability or mobility challenges is crucial to ensure regionally balanced development and growth. Access to seamless mobility is of utmost importance for social inclusion and quality of life of marginalized groups, especially persons with disabilities.

The EPTS Summer School provides a dynamic platform for students to engage in this subject, to better understand issues faced by passengers with impairments and to redesign mobility services for seamless travel for all. Your involvement could influence the way we think about mobility in urban spaces, making it more inclusive and accessible.

The program offers a unique opportunity to gain insights from Europe's pioneering initiatives, where accessible transport solutions have been successfully integrated, catering to the needs of the elderly and disabled. Based on demonstrated best practice models, the focus at hand will be on how to support and assist disabled with public transport system.

Join us at the EPTS Summer School, where you'll be exploring and designing mobility services, infrastructure and information accessible to various groups of passengers with different requirements. Think beyond getting from point A to B, but about creating inclusive, accessible pathways for the entire community.

Who Should Attend?

This program is ideal for students of all academic levels - whether you're pursuing a Bachelor's, Master's, or Doctoral degree. If you're passionate about creating inclusive societies and interested in the intersection of public transport, accessibility, and European integration, this is the place for you.

Objectives:

1. **Discover the World of Seamless Travel:** understand how public transport can be smooth and easy for everyone, especially in Europe, where countries are closely connected.
2. **Understand Barrier-Free Transport:** explore the complexities of what makes public transport truly accessible, from infrastructure to information systems.
3. **Inclusive Design:** understand design principles that cater to a diverse range of needs, including those of people with disabilities.
4. **Cross-Border Collaboration:** Learn about the importance of cross-border coordination in public transport and how it contributes to European integration.
5. **Hands-On Experience:** Engage in practical sessions, including hands-on experiences and interactions with experts and individuals with disabilities.
6. **Try Out Real-World mobility services:** Experiment with actual transport methods that have worked for disabled in different parts of Europe.
7. **Team Up to Tackle Challenges:** Work with new friends and use your brainpower to figure out the best solutions for making transport work for everyone.

Join Us in Rethinking Mobility for an Inclusive Europe!

Experience:

- **Dynamic Learning Sessions:** take part in interactive sessions that bring your knowledge into the real world, tackling the real challenges of creating accessible transport.
- **Community Building:** Meet and connect with like-minded students and industry experts who are just as passionate about making transportation accessible for everyone. Build a community that supports and inspires your future projects.
- **Exploratory Field Trips:** Get out in the field to see and analyse how current public transport systems (in)accessible to all.

- **Hands-On Project Experience:** Throughout the program, you will be developing a unique solution applying everything you learn to create your own vision of a barrier-free public transport system.

Don't miss the opportunity to gain first-hand experience on accessible public transportation and learn how your creative solutions can drive significant improvements, enhancing the mobility experience for disabled travellers. Make a real impact by contributing to more engaging and inclusive journeys for everyone.

The lectures will be given **in English**.

3 ECTS Points

The Summer School is entitled to award **3 ECTS** points for participation.

ECTS points will be awarded to participants compliant with the following requirements:

- Attendance in the virtual pre-event (will be announced by e-mail). Alternatively, participants will be able to access the recorded session.
- Pre-reading of suggested materials.
- Active participation in all lectures.

Each participant will obtain a certificate of participation with 3 ECTS credits, which you may get recognised at your home university.

Costs

Your costs: Some costs are covered by the organiser. There is no tuition fee for the courses – lectures and workshops. All materials, excursions and coffee breaks will be provided by the organizer of the summer school. **Participants are expected to bring their own laptops.** More details regarding costs that will be covered will follow in January 2025.

Organised by

- Institute for Transport and Logistics Management - Vienna University of Economics and Business
- Austrian Association in Support of the Blind and Visually Impaired
- European Platform of Transport Sciences EPTS

Register now!

Registration deadline: Application deadline: **28 February 2025**

You can apply for the summer school [here](#).

The number of **participants is limited to 30.**

Notification of acceptance: **7 days after application deadline.**

Program

The physical event will be preceded by a virtual session and complemented by a pre-reading of suggested materials. The program will also include various social events. Detailed information will be given at a later stage. Changes to the program may occur (Keep updated)

		Tue	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Tue		
		1.7.2025	6.7.2025	7.7.2025	8.7.2025	9.7.2025	10.7.2025	11.7.2025	12.7.2024	22.7.2024		
07:00	07:30	Introduction (online)	Arrival of participants	Breakfast	Breakfast	Field trip to Slovakia	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Impressions / reflections (online)		
07:30	08:00											
08:00	08:30											
08:30	09:00											
09:00	09:30			Lectures 1	Group work		Group work	Group work	Group work		Group work	Departure of participants
09:30	10:00											
10:00	10:30											
10:30	11:00											
11:00	11:30											
11:30	12:00											
12:00	12:30											
12:30	13:00			Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch				
13:00	13:30											
13:30	14:00											
14:00	14:30	Lectures 2	Group work	Group work	Group work	Presentation closing ceremony						
14:30	15:00											
15:00	15:30											
15:30	16:00											
16:00	16:30											
16:30	17:00											
17:00	17:30											
17:30	18:00											
18:00	18:30	Free time	Free time	Free time	Free time	Farewell party						
18:30	19:00											
19:00	19:30											
19:30	20:00											
20:00	20:30	Free time	Free time	Free time	Free time							
20:30	21:00											
21:00	21:30											
21:30	22:00											