

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2017

FUTURE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY – STEP INTO THE FUTURE

The Annual International Conference "Research and Technology – Step into the Future" will take place at Transport and Telecommunication Institute on 21 April 2017.

The RaT-SiF conference is an annual event that provides a unique forum for young people to present their researches and collaborate with their peers. All young academics involved in technical, economic and social research are invited to present a scientific talk describing their work. During the Conference, each participant has an opportunity to find associates, strengthen lasting personal and professional relationships, develop and improve their communication skills and gain valuable experience in the environment of a scientific conference.



Scientific agenda of the Conference includes plenary presentations both of Latvian and foreign researchers as well as presentations of young participants within the framework of sessions.

The Conference takes place twice a year.

The official languages of the Conference are Latvian, Russian and English.

Conference date:

21 April 2017

Main topics:

- Electronics and Computer Science
- Economics and Management Science
- Transport and Logistics
- Pedagogy and Psychology.

Conference organisers

- Transport and Telecommunication Institute (Latvia)
- Latvian Association of Transport and Education Development
- Academic Park (Latvia)
- Latvian Association of Private Universities

Deadlines and requirements:

Registration starts: 01 February 2017

Submission of abstracts: 13 March 2017

Acceptance of abstracts: 27 March 2017

Conference fee (for participants out of TTI)

Payment for participation: EUR 40.00.

Payment for students: EUR 20.00.

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More information on the Conference website:

<http://www.tsi.lv/en/content/tsi-research-and-academic-conference-research-and-technology-step-future-0>

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ACTUAL PROBLEM OF EDUCATION (MIP-2017) – INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Annual International Conference MIP-2017 will be hosted by Transport and Telecommunication Institute in Riga, the capital of the Republic of Latvia, on 01-02 June 2017.

The goal of the MIP-2017 conference is to provide an international forum for scientists and professionals in academia, industry, and government to address recent research results and present and discuss their ideas, theories, technologies, systems, tools, applications, work in progress and experiences on all theoretical and practical issues arising in modern education based on information and communication technologies. The Conference is organised in conjunction with ERASMUS+ Project ISEC SET dissemination conference.



Conference dates:

01-02 June 2017

Main discussion topics:

- Topical issues of modern theory and methods of teaching in higher education institutions;
- Professional training of future specialists and ways of its perfection;
- Modern business education: major trends, problems and methods of their solution;
- The role of a teacher in the modern educational process;
- Assessment of learning outcomes; forms and methods of control;
- Contemporary educational psychology;
- The role of science in the development of academic programmes. Innovative project-research and experimental activities in educational institutions;
- Monitoring of student satisfaction with the quality of educational services;
- Theoretical and methodical foundations of continuity of education (school-university);
- Information technologies in education;

- Distance learning experience: problems, prospects;
- Using Moodle as a teaching tool;
- Administrative and legal aspects of planning and implementation of the teaching process in a higher education institution;
- Globalisation of higher education and international recognition of higher education institutions and their study programmes (mobility, joint programmes, massive open online courses, international accreditation and ratings);
- Problems of continuity: vocational education – higher education – industry.

Conference fee:

EUR 45.00

The official languages of the Conference are Latvian, Russian and English.

Contact person:

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More information on the Conference website: http://www.tsi.lv/en/MIP-2017_EN

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE RELIABILITY AND STATISTICS IN TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION (RELSTAT-2017)

18-21 October 2017



The 17th International Multidisciplinary Conference of Reliability and Statistics in Transportation and Communication (RelStat-17) will be hosted by Transport and Telecommunication Institute in Riga, the capital of the Republic of Latvia, on 18-21 October 2017.

The goal of the RelStat-2017 conference is to provide an international forum for scientists and professionals in academia, industry, and government to address recent research results and present and discuss their ideas, theories, technologies, systems, tools, applications, work in progress and experiences on all theoretical and practical issues arising in transport, information and communication technologies.

- Smart Solutions in Transportation Systems
- Networking and Telecommunications
- Reliability, Risk and Safety Applications
- Mathematics, Statistics, Modelling and Applications Thereof
- Information Systems and Information Technologies
- Business and Economics Applications
- Mobile and Distance Education

Main topics:

The official language of the Conference is English.

Important dates:

- Abstract submission: 05 May 2017
- Special session proposals: 05 May 2017
- Notification of abstract acceptance: 26 May 2017
- Full paper submission: 01 July 2017
- Notification of paper acceptance: 22 August 2017
- Early registration and payment: 28 August 2017
- Final manuscript submission: 01 September 2017

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More information on the Conference website: <http://relstat2017.tsi.lv/>



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INFORMATION ABOUT RUNNING PROJECTS

Smart Logistics and Freight Villages Initiative (SmartLog)

Acronym of the Project:

SmartLog

Head of the Project from TSI: Prof. Igors Kabaškis

Period: 01 September 2016 —31 August 2019.

Short description:

The SmartLog project was started on 01 September 2016. This Project focuses on the improvement of transport corridors and reduction of time in the transportation of goods by planning and investing into an ICT solution.

The Project develops an IoT-solution within the logistics sector and tests it on logistics companies across two corridors (ScanMed and North Sea-Baltic). The new solution would optimise all aspects of their integrated services (transportation, warehousing, cross-docking, inventory management, packaging, and freight forwarding) by eliminating the need for routine human interaction with computer systems and giving access to the vast amounts of anonymised data outside an organisation. That results in the reduction of the companies' operational costs as well as shorter time of goods delivery. The new IT-solution is developed and then tested by logistics companies in optimising four procedures along two transport corridors, i.e. ScanMed and North Sea-Baltic.

Project objectives:

1. Generation of the metrics framework
2. Software and hardware development, prototype creation
3. Testing the prototype in two transport corridors and reducing the time of goods delivery

Six partners from four countries, i.e. Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Sweden, are involved in this Project.

Partners:

1. Kouvola Innovation (KINNO), FI
2. Region Örebro county (Örebro), SE
3. Transport and Telecommunication Institute (TTI), LV
4. Valga County Development Agency (Valga), EE
5. Sensei LCC (Sensei), EE
6. Tallinn University of Technology (TUT), EE

Funding:

Total funding: **EUR 2,194,868.33**

Financed by the EU: **EUR 1,709,884.75**



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COST ACTION 15221: Advancing effective institutional models towards cohesive teaching, learning research and writing development

About COST ACTION 15221

This Action addresses the challenge of creating synergy among the increasingly more specialised and centralised supports for four key higher education activities, i.e. research, writing, teaching and learning, which frequently fail to capitalise on their shared territories and common ground. In many institutions, central support for these four areas continues to grow repeatedly in a reactive rather than a strategic manner in the form of sometimes overlapping programmes or activities, centres, institutes and other units. This responsive growth often influenced by the external forces may result in the goals, structures and services of these central supports being less than optimal. Equally, what contributes to success, productivity and quality of outcomes, across research, writing, teaching and learning, can remain tacit, ill-defined or invisible indeed.

The Action will address the identified challenge by:

- classifying, as “frontier taxonomies”, the common ground in terms of shared purposes, processes, knowledge, values and skills among centralised institutional supports for research, writing, teaching and learning in order to capitalise on their synergies;
- offering the most advantageous models and practices for supporting these four areas that are mindful of the availability of new technologies and assessments and that prompt a reworking of current institutional supports which will be valuable and far-reaching.

The member of the Management Committee of COST 15221 is Dr.sc.admin. **Jūlija Stukalina**

Period: 24 October 2016-23 October 2020

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Enhancing excellence and innovation capacity in sustainable transport interchanges (ALLIANCE)



EUROPEAN UNION
European Regional
Development Fund



Acronym of the Project:
ALLIANCE

Head of the Project: Prof., Dr.sc.ing. Irina Yatskiv (Jackiva)

Period: 01 January 2016-31 December 2018.

Short description:

ALLIANCE is a three-year project supported by the EU HORIZON 2020 Programme aimed at the development of an advanced research and higher education institution in the field of transport in Latvia by linking Transport and Telecommunication Institute with two internationally recognised research entities, i.e. University of Thessaly, Greece and Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation, Germany.

The ALLIANCE project is oriented to *intermodal passenger and freight transportation systems* taking into account legal and organisational issues, interaction with other domains, such as spatial planning and economic development, identifying smart and sustainable solutions for achieving smooth and seamless transportation, and exploiting decision-making strategies, methodologies and techniques for the assessment and evaluation of the impact of these solutions on the transportation domain, as well as the economy and society.

Scope of the Project:

- Link Transport and Telecommunication Institute (TTI) with University of Thessaly (UTH) and Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation (Fraunhofer)
- Provide knowledge to TTI research staff in the field of smart interconnecting sustainable transport networks
- Facilitate stakeholder collaboration and develop strong linkage among education, research and industry
- Create a doctoral programme in Transport Economics and Management at TTI

Expected impacts

- New bases in knowledge transfer procedures, education and interdepartmental collaboration amongst research institutes
- Innovative organisational framework with tangible and well-estimated progress results
- Integrated framework addressing knowledge transfer techniques and upgrading of the educational system through networking, staff exchange and webinars.

Funding:

Total funding: EUR 989,331.25

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The first year of the ALLIANCE project was completed. **During the first period, a lot of achievements and activities related to ALLIANCE's scope were implemented:**

- Kick-off meeting, Riga, Latvia, 26-27 January 2016.
- Training school within UTH's Graduate Programme during the 3rd Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility, Volos, Greece, 24-25 May 2016.
- Preparing the 1st version of ALLIANCE course materials on smart solutions for the interconnection of transportation networks.
- "Train-the-Trainers" Seminar and "Young Researchers" Seminar, Riga, Latvia 19-21 October 2016.
- Many dissemination activities incl. presentation at the TRB meeting (Washington, 08-15 January 2017).

The main activities of the ALLIANCE project this year are as follows:

- The International Logistics Doctoral Student Workshop organised by Fraunhofer, Magdeburg, Germany, 20 June 2017
- ALLIANCE 1st Summer School, entitled "Sustainable Transport Interchange Programme – STIP", Riga, Latvia, 17-23 July 2017
- ALLIANCE Special Session during the 17th International Conference on Reliability and Statistics in Transportation and Communication, Riga, Latvia, 18-22 October 2017

For further information about the Project, please visit the website: www.alliance-project.eu

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NEWS AND EVENTS

For the first time in Latvia, Assembly of Members of the European Conference of Transport Research Institute (ECTRI) took place at Transport and Telecommunication Institute.

The 2016 Autumn Assembly of Members was held on 24-25 November 2016 and hosted by ECTRI member Transport and Telecommunication Institute (TSI) in Riga, Latvia. ECTRI is a European research association for sustainable and multimodal mobility. The Association was founded in April 2003, and today its members are 28 transport research institutes and universities from 21 European countries. Together they account for more than 4,000 European scientists in the field of transport. Transport and Telecommunication Institute (TSI) has been the member of ECTRI since 2006.



During the two-day meeting, the Members followed-up on the implementation plan and discussed the status of activities and management of the Association. The second day was dedicated to the election of new Board for 2017-2018 and a workshop on “Sustainable Transport Interchanges”. At the Assembly, the President, Vice President and new members of the Board of ECTRI were also elected. It was the first time when **Professor Irina Yatskiv (Jackiva), TTI Vice-Rector, was elected in the Board of this European organisation.**

As a result of TTI activities in ECTRI:

1. the cooperation agreement between the famous research institute CDV (Brno, Czech Republic) and TTI was signed.
2. the member of ECTRI and successful implementer of the EU projects Greek research institute CERT invited TTI to participate in two EU Framework programmes for research and innovation – HORIZON2020 applications. The following two applications were submitted by 27 January:
 1. **SUMMIT** (Leader “Terraspatium” and CERT) “Sustaining the adaptability in Multimodal Mobility under expected and unexpected extreme conditions through an Intelligent Big Data system”. *H2020 MG 7.1 under the topic: Resilience to extreme (natural and man-made) events.*
 2. **ASPIRE** (Leader - CERT) Port modernisation and smart port-city development. *H2020 MG 7.3 under the topic: The port of the future.*

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PAY ATTENTION

Dear colleagues,

We would like to pay your attention to the announced new calls under the programmes as follows:

1. Erasmus+ strategic partnerships for innovations

Strategic Partnerships support a wide and flexible range of activities in order to implement innovative practices, promote development and modernisation of organisations, and support policy developments at the European, national and regional level.

The programme supports projects for producing innovative results in higher education.

ACTIVITIES:

- curricula, courses, joint study programmes, common modules (including e-modules), integration of a greater variety of learning modes (distance, part-time, modular learning);
- learning, teaching, training, youth work materials and methods, pedagogical approaches and tools;
- project-based collaboration, peer-learning, workshops, virtual laboratories, virtual collaboration spaces;
- capacity building and networking activities;
- elaboration and implementation of strategic cooperation plans;
- information, guidance, coaching and counselling activities;
- surveys, comparative analyses, evidence-gathering, studies of real life cases;
- definition of qualitative standards and competence-based/occupational profiles;
- improvement of qualifications frameworks, credit transfer, quality assurance, recognition and validation;
- training, teaching and learning activities (Please see paragraph 2 below).

The total funding for higher education institutions in 2017 – **EUR 569,062.00**

Intensity of support – 100%, and advance payments.

For 2-year projects the amount of the grant is EUR 300,000.00

Call for proposals – 29 March 2017; the Project starts in September 2017

For further information, please visit the following website:

http://viaa.gov.lv/lat/ek_izgl_programmas_iniciativas/erasmusplus/er_plus_str_partn/erasmus_plus_strat_partn/?tl_id=21448&tls_id=35490

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2. Programme 1.2.1.2. – Support for the technology transfer systems and innovative vouchers for small and medium enterprises (ERAF)

Vouchers (grants) for small and medium enterprises for a technical and economic feasibility study for new products/technologies, industrial researches, experimental development, development of industrial product design, registration of industrial property rights and certification.

Opportunities for research institutions – research services; customer – small and medium enterprises.
Total programme funding – EUR 3.7 million

Intensity of support: 60% (without VAT)

Grant support for one project: Max EUR 25,000.00; max cost of service EUR 41,666.00 + VAT

Terms for proposal submission: from 06 February 2017

For further information, please visit the following website:

<http://www.liaa.gov.lv/lv/fondi/2014-2020/inovaciju-vauceru-atbalsta-pakalpojumi>

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3. Programme 1.2.1.1. – Support for the development of new projects and technologies in competence centres (ERAF)

Support for competence centres in Smart specialisation fields. Support for new products and technologies, experimental development (including prototyping) and industrial researches in competence centres.

The total programme funding – EUR 65.1 million

Opportunities for research institutions – research works; customer – small, medium, large enterprises.
New competence centres were approved in September 2016.

For further information, please visit the following website:

<http://cfla.gov.lv/lv/es-fondi-2014-2020/projektu-istenosana/1-2-1-1-atbalsts-jaunu-produktu-un-tehnologiju-izstradei-kompetences-centru-ietvaros-2-karta>

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If you have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to contact TTI Research Department:

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