

2nd COST Workshop on the Relationship between Air Transport and Regional Development

University of West London, 17 November & Cranfield University, 18 November

Call for Presentations – Hubs and Connectivity

The need to study the relationship between air transport and regional development with a focus on Europe has led to the recent launch of COST Action TU1408 (http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/tud/Actions/TU1408). This Workshop – which is the second of a series to be held in the next four years – aims to (a) open the discussion on the methodologies to be used for analyzing that relationship and (b) start identifying interesting case studies to be carried out in relation to the objectives of the Action.

The issue of economic benefits of aviation in the core regions of Europe has been recently receiving renewed attention from scholars and policy-makers. A well-connected airport can be an important asset to the community, but air traffic also brings noise, pollution, and congestion with it. The recent elaborations of the UK Airports Commission demonstrate that new airport capacity is both costly and difficult to agree upon; whereas numerous cases of airports losing their hub status over the last two decades show that costly airport infrastructure investment can also fail to pay off.

Understanding and measuring benefits and costs of air travel, as well as balancing positive and negative effects of air traffic are therefore very timely, important, and policy-relevant issues. We seek to discuss these and other topics related to European core regions (a similar COST workshop on remote regions will be held on 30-31 March 2016 in Azores, Portugal). Specifically, the Management Committee of the Action is looking for presentations (of a maximum of 20 minutes each) on the following topics (with the understanding that the list below is not exhaustive):

- Impact of air travel on the economy
- Understanding and measuring connectivity
- Measuring negative externalities of aviation
- Causes and effects of airport congestion
- Airport infrastructure investment
- Hub airports: are they different from others?
- Airports' strategies to boost connectivity

Researchers and practitioners interested in contributing presentations on these topics at the Workshop are hereby invited to submit an abstract (title, authors, affiliations, text of up to 250 words) to Hans-Martin.Niemeier@hs-bremen.de. The deadline for submission is October 10, 2015. The decision about the acceptance of abstracts will be communicated by Oct. 13 2015. Early submission is encouraged and you will be notified within three days.

Attendance of the workshop is free of charge. Limited travel funding is available.

Please, note also that the workshop on Nov. 17 is at the University of West London in Ealing and that the workshop on Nov. 18 is at Cranfield in cooperation with the German Aviation Research Society. You are also invited to the **Fourth European Aviation Conference 'The End of Liberalisation?'** Cranfield University, UK 19-20 November 2015 for which discount is available. <http://www.cranfield.ac.uk/about/events/listings/events-2015/european-aviation-conference.html>