

Conference on Postal and Delivery Economics and Policy

6–8 May 2026 | Cologne, Germany

34th

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Towards a Future-Ready Postal and Delivery Ecosystem

The Centre for a Digital Society at the European University Institute (EUI), together with the Universal Postal Union (UPU), invites the academic, business, and regulatory community engaged in the postal, delivery, and digital services sectors to submit proposals for the 34th Conference on Postal and Delivery Economics and Policy.

Important Dates



Abstracts and
Proposals due:

3 November 2025

Notification
of acceptance:

15 December 2025

Final
submission due:

1 April 2026

This year's conference features new conference topics,
thematic tracks and session formats.

Conference Tracks

Academic Track

All social sciences are welcome; focus on law and economics preferred.

Policy Track

Policy and regulatory focused contributions.

Business Track

Case studies, managerial insights and practitioner experience. Presentations should aim to contribute to the broader conference themes and generate discussion, not serve as marketing showcases.

Submission Formats

Academic Paper

Traditional research (~6,000–8,000 words)

Position Paper

~1,500 – 3500 words

Session Proposal

Panel format (title, 500-word rationale, speakers). To ensure diversity of perspectives, proposed sessions must include speakers from at least two different institutions, companies, or sectors (e.g., a mix of academia, regulators, businesses, and civil society). Panels composed solely of representatives from a single organization or firm will not be considered.

Prioritised: While diverse contributions are welcome, submissions of empirical studies, theoretical analyses, and methodologically rigorous academic research papers will be prioritized in the selection process to uphold the conference's established academic excellence.

Priority Conference Topics

(Illustrative, Not Exhaustive; Open to All Tracks)

Market Design & Universal Service

- Redefining USO in a digital, platform, and gig economy
- Policy and regulatory innovations and cross-sector perspectives
- Competitive dynamics in parcels, letters, and e-commerce delivery

Postal Financial Services, Inclusive Banking, and Digital Transformation

- Postal banks and public fintech strategies
- Financial inclusion, welfare delivery, digital ID, digital public infrastructure (DPI)
- Risks, partnerships, and regulatory frameworks

Trade, Geopolitics & Supply Chain Resilience

- Postal supply chains and geopolitical risk and trade pressures
- Regulatory shifts in customs and flows

Business Models: Redeployment & Diversification

- Asset redeployment and modularity for diversification
- Collaboration with startups and tech firms
- Digital government, public and social value

Digital & Data Innovation

- The impact of AI, blockchain and IoT on postal operations
- Cybersecurity challenges in postal services

Green & Circular Transition

- Green logistics, reverse logistics, circular economy
- Decarbonisation strategies and carbon disclosure
- Synergies of the digital-green twin transition

Workforce, Inclusion, & Resilience

- Postal resilience in crises (health, climate, political)
- Social and labour implications of new delivery models

Special Innovation Challenge Track (organized by the UPU)

A hands-on Innovation Challenge, including 3-4 challenges will run alongside the conference. Separate guidelines will follow.

AUTHORS AND COAUTHORS FEES

Full time academics	€ 200
Public sector authorities	€ 800
Private sector	€ 1200

**Fees exclude catering, travel and accommodation.*

Submission and Enquiries

Submit abstracts and proposals here



Scientific Programme

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Logistics and Administration

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We look forward to your contributions and to welcoming you in Cologne for a stimulating conference!

Publication Opportunity

Authors who submit an academic paper and are interested in publication may submit their work for consideration in an annual edited volume featuring selected contributions from the conference.

All submissions will be subject to peer review process.

[You can view previous volumes here.](#)