



CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Session(s): Energy Transition: Ports and Cities & Territories

Theme of the Session

Ports are critical nodes in the global energy system and critical enablers in the transition from fossil fuel to alternative fuel and energy regimes. Located at the interface of maritime systems, urban environments, and regional economies, port transitions generate complex environmental, spatial, and socio-economic challenges for related port-city and territorial systems. As a result, ports, cities and territories can act as collaborative, intercultural, and political laboratories of energy transition processes. The complexity of the ongoing transition requires more than technocratic solutions—it also demands for interdisciplinary, participatory, and place-based approaches.

The scope of the special session(s) is twofold. First, to explore how ports are evolving in the current energy transition in terms of innovation, economics and role across multiple spatial scales, i.e., from local urban environments to global supply chains. Second, to advance the understanding of the spatial, environmental, and socio-cultural dynamics of ports, cities and territories in transitions, exploring issues related to the rethinking of port–city relationships through governance innovation and systemic integration, the development of collaborative and interdisciplinary solutions involving academia, industry, and society, the equitable participation of communities, stakeholders, and policymakers, methodologies, and best practices across regions. The target is to advance knowledge co-production, alternative governance models, and sustainable transformation pathways in ports, cities and territories across Europe and beyond.

Publication Potential

Following the presentation and peer review, papers presented at the special session(s) may be published in the scholarly journal [Ports and Cities & Territories](#).



Organisers

Prof. Carola Hein (UNESCO Chair Water, Ports and Historic Cities, Delft University, The Netherlands)
Prof. Thanos Pallis (Jean Monnet Chair European Port Policy, University of Piraeus, Greece)
Prof. Gordon Wilmsmeier (Kühne Logistics University (KLU), Germany / School of Management, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia)

Submission Guidelines

- Deadline for submissions (Full papers or Extended Abstracts): **June 15th, 2026**
- Authors are invited to submit: Extended abstracts or full papers (according to ECONSHIP guidelines)
- Submissions need to indicate: “Special Session: European Policies for Shipping, Ports, and related Maritime Supply Chains”

Supported by:

	
Port City Territories in Action (PACT) COST Action	POTENT (Ports as Energy Transition Hubs) Project