



Training Course & Workshop

Energy Transition in Ports and Cities & Territories

20–22 September 2026
Chios, Greece

Organised by:

**Shipping & Ports
Laboratory**

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UNIVERSITY OF PIRAEUS
DEPT. OF MARITIME STUDIES



Funded by
the European Union

COST Action CA23138 –
Port City Territories in Action:
A Collaborative Laboratory
for Inclusive Energy Transition
(PACT)

PROGRAMME

1ST DAY



20 September
08:30 – 17:00

SUNDAY

TRAINING COURSE AND WORKSHOP REGISTRATION **08:30–09:00**

INTRODUCTION **09:00–09:15**

PORTS AND THE ENERGY TRANSITION: A MULTIDIMENSIONAL CONSTRUCT (L) **09:15–10:30**

Dr. Thanos Pallis



COFFEE BREAK **10:30–11:00**

SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE AND ENERGY TRANSITION IN PORT CITIES (L) **11:00–12:30**

Dr. Maria Lekakou



LUNCH BREAK **12:30–14:00**

CHARACTERISTIC OF PORT-CITY BUFFER ZONE AND CURRENT CHALLENGES OF CREATING JUST PORT-CITY URBAN RELATIONS (L) **14:00–15:30**



SCENARIO-THINKING DEVELOPMENT OF PORT-CITY BUFFER ZONES (CS)

Dr. Justyna Bres



BREAK **15:30–15:45**

THE LAND-WATER THRESHOLD IN PORT CITIES: SPATIAL METHODS AND TOOLS FOR ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION (W) **15:45–17:00**

Drs. Hadi El Hage



NETWORKING DINNER **20:30**

(L): LECTURE

(CS): CASE STUDY

(W): WORKSHOP

PROGRAMME

2ND AND 3RD DAY



30
YEARS

OF MARITIME STUDIES EXCELLENCE

21 September
09:00 – 17:00

MONDAY

THE ROLE OF MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE FOR PORT ENERGY TRANSITION (L)

09:00–10:30

Dr. Anastasia Christodoulou



COFFEE BREAK

10:30–11:00

PORT ENERGY TRANSITION AND STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT (L)

11:00 –12:30

Dr. Anas Alamoush



LUNCH BREAK

12:30–14:00

BUILDING AN ENERGY POLICY BY TERMINAL TYPE – GROUPS PRESENTATIONS (W)

14:00–15:30

Dr. Anas Alamoush



BREAK

15:30–15:45

BUILDING AN ENERGY POLICY BY TERMINAL TYPE (CONT.) – GROUPS PRESENTATIONS (W)

15:45–17:00

Dr. Anas Alamoush



22 September
09:00 – 16:00

TUESDAY

LEARNING FROM THE FIELD: ENERGY TRANSITION PROJECTS IN GREEK PORTS (CS)

09:00–10:30

Dr. George Vaggelas



COFFEE BREAK

10:30–11:00

SPECIAL SESSION: PORTS, CITIES & RELATED TERRITORIES IN TRANSITION: ONGOING RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

11:00–12:30



LUNCH BREAK

12:30–14:00

RECAP OF ACTIVITIES – CONCLUDING DISCUSSION

14:00–16:00

(L): LECTURE

(CS): CASE STUDY

(W): WORKSHOP

PORTS AND THE ENERGY TRANSITION: A MULTIDIMENSIONAL CONSTRUCT

DR. THANOS PALLIS, PROFESSOR, JEAN MONNET CHAIR IN EUROPEAN PORT POLICY, DEPARTMENT OF MARITIME STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF PIRAEUS, GREECE

The opening part of the PACT training course will discuss the multiple dimensions of the energy transition, emphasising how each of them presents opportunities and challenges for sustainable ports and maritime supply chains. As global energy demand keeps rising and the world edges, unevenly, toward a lower-carbon mix, ports find themselves at the centre of that transition: strategically important locations for collecting, storing, transforming, and distributing energy. We will explore the ways that an industry historically built around fossil fuels is asked to function as energy transport, transformation, and generation platforms, a role being reshaped by decarbonization pressures. That reshaping plays out across multiple, interlocking dimensions: operational efficiency gains, the electrification of port equipment, industries and ship-shore power supply, the build-out of microgrids drawing on solar, wind, hydrogen and other sources, offshore wind development, and the integration of port-level energy systems, all constrained by local grid capacity, land use, funding and technical uncertainty. The central claim is that no single template exists for the port energy transition, only a multidimensional mix of strategies, actors, and infrastructure that each port must assemble according to its own profile – setting the scene for the two-day discussions.

SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE AND ENERGY TRANSITION IN PORT CITIES

DR. MARIA LEKAKOU, PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF SHIPPING, TRADE AND TRANSPORT, UNIVERSITY OF THE AEGEAN, GREECE

The lecture highlights local social acceptability as a key prerequisite for an effective and inclusive energy transition in port cities and territories. The transition is approached not merely as a technological or economic process, but as a broader social transformation in which citizens should actively participate in the related decision-making. Through a participatory case study of the port city of Piraeus, Greece, combining qualitative and quantitative methods, it presents information on emerging energy solutions and recorded perceptions of residents and local government representatives about the impacts of the green transition. The discussions emphasise building trust, fostering an experiential understanding of maritime and port activities, and enabling the shift from the passive “user” to the active citizen. Finally, we will explore the development of a Local Social Acceptability Indicator, allowing the social dimension to be integrated on equal footing with technical readiness and financial viability in planning and evaluating energy-transition investments.



CHARACTERISTIC OF PORT-CITY BUFFER ZONE AND CURRENT CHALLENGES OF CREATING JUST PORT-CITY URBAN RELATIONS

DR. JUSTYNA BRES, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF SPATIAL PLANNING, GDAŃSK UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE, POLAND

This session examines the port-city buffer zone as a complex spatial interface between port activities, urban areas, and the wider land-sea system. It begins by introducing the key interfaces of port cities—including the land-water edge, the port-city edge, and connections to the port foreland and hinterland—and discusses current scientific debates on defining and delimiting port-city buffer zones. The presentation also addresses contemporary challenges of creating more sustainable and just port-city relations in the European context, illustrated through European port cities examples.

THE ROLE OF MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE FOR PORT ENERGY TRANSITION

DR. ANASTASIA CHRISTODOULOU, ASS. PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF MARITIME STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF PIRAEUS, GREECE

This session examines port decarbonisation and the energy transition as multilevel governance challenges, exploring how international commitments—including the UN Paris Agreement, IMO 2050 climate ambitions, and the EU Fit for 55 package—are translated into action across interconnected global, national, regional, and local policy arenas. Its scope encompasses ports' four principal spheres of influence: their own operational footprint, the decarbonisation of visiting vessels, inland and hinterland transport as well as regional energy production and distribution. Drawing on multilevel governance theory, the lecture underlines the need for coordinated regulatory, financial, technological and institutional action across scales, as no individual governmental tier or port actor can independently address emissions and promote energy transition. Through the California case, participants will assess how federal, state, regional and local governance layers interact to support zero-emission port technologies and advance energy transition, while identifying transferable lessons for other jurisdictions. By the end of the lecture, participants should be able to map the distribution of jurisdiction and responsibility across governance levels, critically evaluate the effectiveness of regulatory and policy instruments and explain how port authorities operationalise wider climate mandates through strategic plans, investment decisions and concession contracts.

PORT ENERGY TRANSITION AND STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT

DR. ANAS ALAMOUS, POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY (WMU), SWEDEN

The session introduces the main energy transition technologies for ports, their specifications and abatement potential, and pathways to implementation. It then addresses the stakeholder management life cycle: identification, prioritisation, visualisation, engagement and review. Participants leave able to assess which technologies suit a given port context and map the stakeholders needed to deliver them.

SCENARIO-THINKING DEVELOPMENT OF PORT-CITY BUFFER ZONES IN GDAŃSK, POLAND

DR. JUSTYNA BRES, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF SPATIAL PLANNING, GDAŃSK UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE, POLAND

This session uses Gdańsk as a case study, presenting a collaboration between Gdańsk University of Technology and the Port Authorities to explore future development scenarios for port-city buffer zones. The presentation introduces the methodology of Urban Design studios, international workshops, and summer-school activities, followed by selected results from student work in three Gdańsk districts: Nowy Port, Górkki Zachodnie, and Stogi. The presentation concludes by identifying the main spatial challenges emerging from port-city relations in Gdańsk and summarising key findings and possible development scenarios for the three districts. A short Q&A session will provide an opportunity to discuss the presented approaches and their transferability to other port-city contexts.

LEARNING FROM THE FIELD: ENERGY TRANSITION PROJECTS IN GREEK PORTS

DR. GEORGE VAGGELAS, ASS. PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF MARITIME STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF PIRAEUS, GREECE

As the energy transition reshapes port strategies, the lecture focuses on related projects in the Greek port industry. Different port sizes, port markets, and governance schemes, along with access to financing tools, create an interesting port setup where the energy transition faces significant challenges. By reviewing the most recent port Master and Business Plans, students will become familiar with the Greek port system, the major energy transition projects in Greek ports, and how the energy transition is embedded in port strategy. The lecture will also examine case studies of port-city reactions to energy projects, giving students the opportunity to comment on and interact with real cases.

THE LAND-WATER THRESHOLD IN PORT CITIES: SPATIAL METHODS AND TOOLS FOR ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

DRS. HADI EL HAGE, PHD RESEARCHER, DELFT UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, NETHERLANDS

The workshop explores spatial methods and tools for analyzing and interpreting the land-water threshold in port cities, using mapping, drawing, sketching, and visualization as instruments of inquiry. Participants will identify and map existing conditions, flows, opportunities, conflicts, and spatial relationships at the land-water edge, before translating these findings into spatial strategies and scenarios that reimagine the port-city threshold in the context of the energy transition. Working in groups, participants will develop a spatial scenario responding to the central question: What does the land-water edge need to become for the energy transition to be spatially achievable? Groups will intervene through sketches and diagrams, supported by the workshop facilitator. The exercise will consider: What changes? Where does change occur? Who and what is involved? What new relationships between land and water emerge? The workshop concludes with a collective discussion comparing the different scenarios and identifying recurring spatial strategies, conflicts, opportunities, and emerging conditions across the groups. These shared findings will help articulate how the land-water threshold can be understood not simply as an edge, but as an active spatial system supporting the energy transition.

BUILDING AN ENERGY POLICY BY TERMINAL TYPE

DR. ANAS ALAMOUSH, POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY (WMU), SWEDEN

Participants will work in four to five groups, each take a different terminal scenario (container, liquid bulk, dry bulk, general cargo, RORO or cruise) and build an energy policy using the energy policy canvas, supported by a guideline document for each case. Groups transfer the canvas to a flipchart and present in the following session, with time for questions. The exercise is framed within the PDCA cycle of ISO 50001. Participants leave understanding how an energy policy is structured across terminal types and how to position the relevant technologies and stakeholders.

PORTS, CITIES & RELATED TERRITORIES IN TRANSITION: ONGOING RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

This special session gives participants the opportunity to present and discuss their ongoing work in a collaborative, interactive setting. Contributions reflect the diverse backgrounds and expertise of participants, spanning a broad range of topics including port ecosystems and spatial urban development, energy transition strategies in port cities, territorial governance and coordinated development and applied solutions and innovative case studies. The session aims to foster meaningful knowledge exchange and open dialogue among all attendees, while providing a platform for constructive feedback from peers and leading experts in the field. By bringing together diverse perspectives, it seeks to strengthen collaboration and generate new insights for future research and practice.

1. MARITIME ENERGY TRANSITION GOVERNANCE: THE CASE OF ANTWERP-BRUGES PORT

Dr. Sedat Baştuğ, Bandırma Onyedi Eylül University, Maritime Faculty, Advisor: Prof.Dr. Thierry Vanelander, University of Antwerp, Department of Transport and Regional Economics

2. FROM ROOFTOPS TO NUCLEAR SMRS: RETHINKING ENERGY TRANSITION IN PORT CITIES AND HISTORICAL FABRICS

Amira Ghennaï, Faculty of Technology, University of Skikda, Algeria & PortCityFuturs, LDE, international team, The Netherlands, PUViT Laboratory, University of Sétif 1

3. RETHINKING PORT-CITY RELATIONSHIPS IN EUROPE: A REVIEW OF SPATIAL AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES

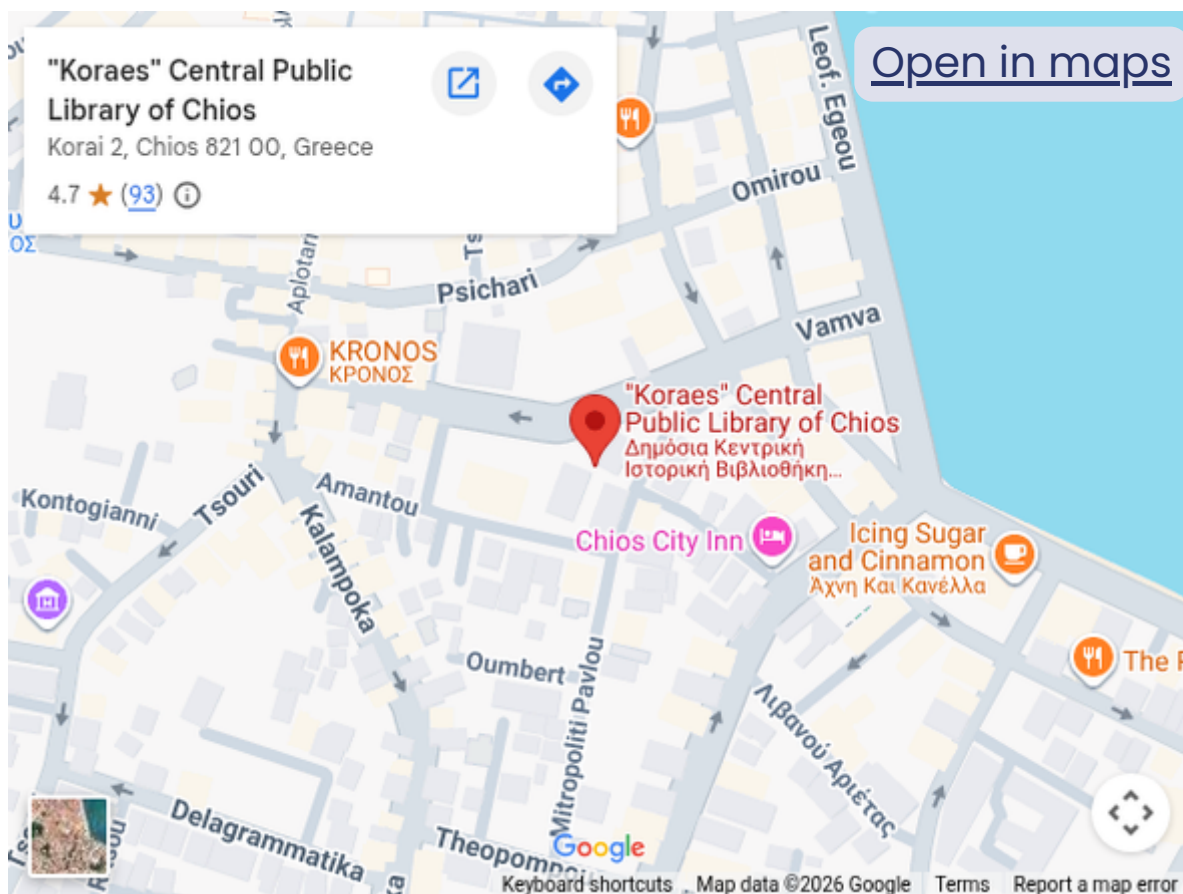
Doukeni Kesisoglou, Dimitra Chondrogianni, Department of Environment, University of Aegean, Mytilini, Greece

4. DIGITALIZATION AS AN ENABLER OF ENERGY TRANSITION: A THEMATIC ANALYSIS OF THE LITERATURE USING MAXQDA

Bükrâ Doganer, Department of Logistics Management, Faculty of Applied Sciences, Ankara University

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

VENUE



USEFUL INFORMATION

- 📞 European Emergency Number: 112
- 🚖 Radio Taxi Chios +30 22710 41111
- 🚌 Chios City Buses +30 22710 22079
- 🚏 Intercity/KTEL Buses +30 22710 27507

For emergency matters kindly call Course Organiser

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