

# RAILLIVE!

29 November - 1 December 2022 | FYCMA Málaga



## SPEAKER INTERVIEW

**Evelyn De Wachter**  
Researcher at  
**Transport & Mobility Leuven**



@RailLive\_Malaga



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## **Can you share more about your role within Transport & Mobility Leuven and your current priorities and research focuses?**

I am a researcher at Transport & Mobility Leuven. Here is a list of some of my current focuses:

- Supporting and evaluating the impact of the mobility measures from the Belgian federal climate policy on transport and mobility.
- Supporting the evaluation and the implementation of sustainable mobility measures in Antwerp, Madrid, and Turku, in the European SCALE-UP project
- Contributing to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) – for the discipline ‘mobility’ – of the eastern part of the Brussels Ring R0
- Conducting mobility impact study of a new construction project in Hasselt

## **In your eyes, how have users’ expectations of mobility and MaaS changed over the past few years, particularly as we emerge post-covid?**

Absolutely, there has been a change in mobility behaviour post-covid:

- Positively: More cyclists and micro-mobility users in cities during the covid and post-covid period thanks to (temporary) changes in urban spaces in favour of active modes.
- Negatively: Fear to take public transport and more car commuters.

In terms of expectations of users: In cities, we expect to be able to use different modes in a flexible way, with one click on our phone. However, MaaS is in many places not up-to-date yet, or at least the ticketing isn’t.

## **What should we prioritize in order to make mobility, particularly active mobility, an attractive and more widespread option for users?**

The priorities should be more and safer infrastructure for active modes. This should be combined with measures to reduce car use (road pricing, car parking policy, secured parking for cyclists,...).

**Can you elaborate on the role of cooperation in facilitating mobility, particularly cooperation between actors at different levels (mobility providers, public transport authorities, governments, etc.)?**

In so few words, it's very important to the success of mobility; governance and collaboration between stakeholders. The different partners should have or define the same objectives and strive for a common goal (safe and clean mobility, and liveability in urban areas), work as a team, instead of each stakeholder/partner only defending its own goals.

**At Rail Live, you are presenting Transport & Mobility Leuven's research into active travel and how this can pair with rail for sustainable first and last-mile options. Can you briefly expand on this topic?**

We will present the results of the European BiTiBi project on how to combine bike and rail travel, presenting first and last-mile solutions, based on case studies in different European cities.

**What does the future of mobility look like? Where do you see the industry heading in the next 5 years?**

I think there will be a strong focus on multi-modality, shared mobility, MaaS platforms, adapted car parks for electric vehicles, and a general huge focus on technology.



Evelyn De Wachter is taking to the Rail Live stage on the 29th of November to discuss:

***"How to capture the full potential of sustainable rail use thanks to active modes of travel."***

[See who will be joining Evelyn at Rail Live >>](#)

[Visit our website here.](#)



# ABOUT

# RAILLIVE!

Rail Live! brings together the global railway industry to explore technology, innovation and investment for the entire rail supply chain.

The conference has three overarching themes - Digitisation, Liberalisation and Sustainability - and covers topics such as Digital & IOT, Mega Projects, Intelligent Infrastructure, Smart Train Control, Metro, Integrated Mobility, Smart Stations, Freight, Power & Sustainability, Light Rail and more.

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