



THE CIVITAS INITIATIVE
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Graz to host major European transport conference in 2019

The Austrian city of Graz has been selected to host the next CIVITAS Forum Conference, one of Europe's most illustrious events in the areas of transport and mobility. The CIVITAS Forum 2019 is set to take place from 2 - 4 October 2019.

The announcement was made on Friday 21 September in Umeå, Sweden, where the CIVITAS Forum 2018 was held. The choice of Graz as the Forum's location for 2019 marks something of a homecoming - the first one took place there in 2003.

Focusing on sustainable urban mobility, each CIVITAS Forum gathers the brightest and best minds in the field from Europe and beyond. This makes it the ideal platform for city- and EU-level politicians and thematic experts to exchange on pressing mobility issues and set out clear pathways for driving the shift towards sustainable urban transport.

Graz has a long and distinguished track record both as a member of CIVITAS and for embedding sustainable ideas into its urban development strategies and transport systems.

Alongside having one of Europe's largest pedestrian zones, the city has rolled out its own intermodal hub system and launched an urban mobility lab in 2017. In recent years, Graz was involved in the CIVITAS projects SMARTSET (2013-2016) and NOVELOG (2015-2018).

On hearing the news that Graz had been chosen to organise the CIVITAS Forum Conference 2019, Siegfried Nagl, Mayor of Graz, remarked: *"As one of the initial members of the CIVITAS Initiative, Graz had the honour of hosting the very first CIVITAS Forum Conference in 2003. Not least because of CIVITAS-funded activities, Graz has developed into a hub for sustainable mobility in Austria."*

Mr Nagl continued *"I am very confident that hosting the CIVITAS Forum 2019 will help us to acquire many innovative ideas connected to sustainable urban mobility, whilst also inspiring other towns and cities from across Europe that they too can make cleaner, better transport a reality for their citizens. I am very much looking forward to hosting the 2019 CIVITAS Forum Conference in Graz next year."*

Supported by the European Union, CIVITAS is a network of cities dedicated to fostering sustainable urban mobility. Over 800 innovative urban transport measures and solutions have been tested and evaluated in over 80 Living Lab cities across Europe since 2002.

To see Graz's welcome message for the CIVITAS Forum 2019, [click here](#).



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NOTES TO EDITOR

About the CIVITAS Initiative

CIVITAS is a network of over 320 cities committed to cleaner, better transport in Europe and beyond. Having started in 2002, CIVITAS is now in its fifth phase.

It is currently supporting three "living labs" projects where a range of sustainable mobility solutions are being implemented and 13 research projects under the European Commission's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. Find out more here: civitas.eu

About the CIVITAS Forum conference

The annual CIVITAS Forum Conference is the flagship event of the CIVITAS Initiative, which has supported EU cities since 2002 in implementing sustainable urban mobility measures. This has been to the benefit of their citizens and the production of re-applicable learning which other cities can use. To read about the CIVITAS Forum 2018, [click here](#).