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Newsletter n°8 – April 2023

The **Logistics City Chair** is dedicated to research on urban logistics, on **urban and suburban logistics real estate**, on **trends and new consumption practices** and their impact on cities and their environment, and on **public policies for sustainable urban logistics**. Here is an overview of our recent activities.

### **New research interns**

Since February 2023, the Chair has welcomed a new team of interns: Louis Deschemps (Univ. Poitiers) is working with Laetitia Dablanc on gig workers and instant deliveries; Aliénor Vézinet (Univ. Paris Cité) is working with Matthieu Schorung on intermediary logistics and the recycling of urban spaces for urban logistics; and Elsa Dillon (Univ. Paris Cité) is working with Matthieu Schorung on the conditions for developing urban logistics real estate

### **Arrival of Camille Horvath (postdoc fellow)**

Camille Horvath, a PhD in economics since March 2023, joins the Chair as a new postdoctoral fellow. Her thesis (defended in the AME-SPLOTT laboratory, Univ. Gustave Eiffel) is about "Short food circuits in France: what adequacy between supply and demand in periurban areas." Camille will work within the Chair on e-commerce mobilities (theme 2 of the scientific program).

In April 2023, she published an [article](#) in the journal RERU (Revue d'Economie Rurale et Urbaine) on the spatial determinants of food to table supply chains.

### **‘Quick commerce’ and ‘dark stores’**

The team has continued its research on ‘quick commerce’, the instant deliveries of grocery items via digital platforms.

The Chair was auditioned by the National Assembly's Economic Affairs Commission's Information Mission on Quick Commerce by Members of Parliament Maud Gatel and Anaïs Sabatini on November 14, 2022. A note of information and answers was also provided to the Mission.

Laetitia Dablanc spoke at an international [round table](#) organized on "Quick Cities" at the initiative of the City of Paris, on February 10, 2023. Matthieu Schorung [presented](#) the preliminary results of his research at the monthly seminar of the SPLOTT laboratory (Univ.Eiffel) on February 14, 2023. Matthieu Schorung has just published a [research report](#) on ‘quick commerce,’ analyzing the logistics organization, the economic model and the regulatory issues of quick commerce, based on three case studies (Paris, London, New York). This research report also includes fieldwork conducted in 2022 by the Junior Enterprise of the Paris School of Urban Planning for the Chair, with Heleen Buldeo Rai and Laetitia Dablanc.

## The geography of warehouses

The Chair continues developing its database on logistic sprawl in large cities around the world, in collaboration with Renata de Oliveira. We focused on price differentials between central and suburban areas with a research from Coriolan Gout (Master's graduate, former intern of the Chair in 2022) on Japan (Tokyo). Coriolan Gout conducted a research visit to Japan at the end of 2022 with Takanori Sakai (Associate Professor, Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology) where they worked together on logistics warehouses in Japan and on a new methodology for representing the price differential and accessibility of warehouses. The research results will be disseminated before the summer of 2023.

The Chair will present its research results on logistics warehouses (theme 1) at several upcoming international conferences: City Logistics International Conference (June 2023) in Bordeaux, France; WCTR Annual Conference (July 2023) in Montreal, Canada.

The Chair hosted [Elia Silvestro](#) (PhD student at the Università degli Studi di Torino/Politecnico di Torino) for a month as an academic visit to work on the spatial distribution of warehouses in Northern Italy and on the methods of cartographic representation of logistic sprawl.

## Urban warehouses, local impacts of e-commerce and urban planning

Matthieu Schorung published in March 2023 an [article/portfolio](#) in the online journal *Urbanités* "Le e-commerce à New York: Quelle empreinte sur l'espace public ?" This article highlights his research fieldwork in New York City in February 2022.

Caroline Adamy, a Master's student intern with Sogaris and the Chair, co-supervised by Juliette Berthon (Sogaris) and Adeline Heitz (CNAM), finalized her Master's Thesis in March 2023 on logistics development programming (Challenges and keys to operationalizing logistics functions in urban projects). The thesis is available via this [link](#).

## The environmental impact of e-commerce

Laetitia Dablanc is now a member of the *AFNOR SPEC E-commerce: consumer information* working group and presented a summary of studies on the environmental impact of delivery choices on March 21, 2023. Her presentation is available through this [link](#) (in French).

A new tax on companies delivering e-commerce packages in Barcelona is discussed by Laetitia Dablanc in the following [note](#).

## Gig workers

What's today's situation of delivery platforms workers? The Chair provides an update on various issues concerning them through this [briefing](#).

## International seminar on urban logistics and e-commerce mobilities

On November 9, 2022, the Chair organized an international research seminar presenting recent research results on urban logistics and e-commerce mobilities. The event was held on the Paris campus of the EIVP/University Gustave Eiffel and included presentations in English by colleagues from the University of Washington, USA, the University of Lancaster in the UK, and the University of Roma Tre in Italy. The Logistics City Chair presented its work. The presentation materials can be found on this [page](#).

## 2022 students' work published on the Chair's website

As every year, the Chair welcomed and co-supervised a team of Master's students for research internships on urban logistics. We would like to congratulate [Joséphine Marquivoi](#) who is now doing her PhD at the Vrije Universiteit Brussels (VUB, Brussels, Belgium) on sustainable urban logistics, within the Mobilise research group, supervised by Heleen Buldeo Rai.

## Urban logistics policies and new data collection methods

François Adoue and Laetitia Dablanc published a [research report](#) on the management of delivery areas in Barcelona and the contribution of data for urban logistics that this management brings to the municipality and to research. The preliminary results of this research had been [presented](#) and discussed during the ATEC Urban Logistics Working Group meeting in November 2022 (in French).

Laetitia Dablanc participated in a conference about the new urban logistics strategy of the city of Barcelona on February 21, 2023. Her presentation is available through this [link](#).

The European consortium of the S+LOADZ/EIT research-action project on the instrumentation of on-street delivery areas, in which the Logistics City Chair participates, has published several reports, including a *Smart and Sustainable Loading and Delivery Zones Implementation Handbook*, available through this [link](#). Laetitia Dablanc participated in the consortium and worked on the evaluation of the Paris case study. The evaluation report on Paris will be published soon. It highlights the difficulties in setting up a smartphone application for delivery drivers, based on the SPRO app already operating in Barcelona.

Laetitia Dablanc spoke on March 13, 2023 to the POLIS network on regional planning of urban logistics in a seminar on *Regional aspects of land use planning and settlement structures for sustainable mobility patterns*. Her presentation is available [here](#).

The Chair contributed to the Terra Nova (think-tank) report on territorial logistics (<https://tnova.fr/economie-social/territoires-metropoles/les-metamorphoses-de-la-logistique-territoriale/>).

## Publications

Buldeo Rai, H., Kang, S., Sakai, T., Tejada, C., Conway, A., Dablanc, L. (2022) 'Proximity logistics': characterizing the development of logistics facilities in dense, mixed-use urban areas around the world. *Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice*. 166, 41-61.

Buldeo Rai, H., Touami, S., Dablanc, L. (2022) Not All E-commerce Emits Equally: Systematic Quantitative Review of Online and Store Purchases' Carbon Footprint. *Environmental Science and Technology*. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.2c00299>

Dablanc, L. (2023) Land use planning for a more sustainable urban freight. Chapter 3.1 in Marcucci, E., Gatta, V., Le Pira, M. *Handbook on City Logistics and Urban Freight*. Edward Elgar Publisher.

Dablanc, L. (Dir.), Gorge, S., Pech, T., Coulot, A., Doussaint, A., Le Rouzic, F., Savy, M. (2022) "Les métamorphoses de la logistique territoriale". Rapport pour Terra Nova. <https://tnova.fr/economie-social/territoires-metropoles/les-metamorphoses-de-la-logistique-territoriale/>

Horvath, C., Raton, G. & Koning, M. (2023). Déterminants spatiaux de la vente en circuit court : effets contrastés de l'accessibilité et localisation privilégiée dans les espaces à faible dominante agricole. *Revue d'Économie Régionale & Urbaine*. 303-336. <https://doi.org/10.3917/reru.232.0303>

Krier, C., Dablanc, L., Aguiléra, A., Louvet, N. (2022) Sharing within the gig economy: the use of shared e-bikes by on-demand platform-based instant meal delivery workers in Paris. *Case Studies on Transport Policy*, 10(4).

Schorung, M. (2023) Portfolio : Le e-commerce à New York : quelle empreinte sur l'espace public ? *Urbanités*, Vu, mars 2023, en ligne. <https://www.revue-urbanites.fr/vu-schorung/>

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