



General Assembly of City Delegates

12-04-2024, 13:15 – 15:15 CEST

Venue: Palacio de Cibeles, Madrid, Room “Begué”

Minutes

Participants	
Lola Ortiz Sanchez	IMPACTS President – Representing City of Madrid
Rupert Wimmer	IMPACTS Treasurer – Representing City of Zurich
Willem van Heijningen	Representing City of Amsterdam
Adrià Gomila	Representing City of Barcelona
Angel Lopez	Representing City of Barcelona
Imke Steinmeyer	Representing City of Berlin
Brendan O’Brien	Representing City of Dublin
Mikael Ivari	Representing City of Gothenburg
Mattias Junemo	Representing City of Gothenburg
Tina Wagner	Representing City of Hamburg
Pedro Fernandez	Representing City of Madrid
Orest Oleskiv	Representing City of Lviv
Oleh Zabarylo	Representing City of Lviv
Michèle-Angélique Nicol	Representing City of Paris
Cécile Honoré	Representing City of Paris
Anna Donati	Representing City of Rome
Fabio Nussio	Representing City of Rome
Gregor Stratil-Sauer	Representing City of Vienna
Simone Rangosch	Representing City of Zurich
Burkhard Horn	IMPACTS Secretary
Sarah White	Assistant of IMPACTS Secretary

1) Welcome by President and Secretary

Burkhard Horn welcomed everyone to the General Assembly. Enough cities are represented to make formal decisions. Due to other obligations, no representatives from the City of Tallinn could take part apologizing for their absence.

2) Approval of Draft Agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendments.

3) Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the last regular GA on June 16th, 2023 were approved.

4) Activities since last GA

a) Tomorrow Mobility World Congress in Barcelona, 5-7 November 2023

In November 2023, IMPACTS for a second time co-hosted a side event to the Tomorrow Mobility World Congress (TMWC) in Barcelona (together with FIRA Barcelona and City of Barcelona) dealing with parking strategies and curb management. The number of participants at the event was again rather low, the goal to establish an exchange with cities that are not members of IMPACTS has not yet been achieved. After a lively discussion the GA agreed that another IMPACTS event at the TMWC in November 2024 only makes sense if

- the event is an integrated part of the TMWC and not only a side event,
- there is a direct contact between cities and private sector possible (to let the private sector know about the needs of the cities),
- IMPACTS can set the theme and the main messages of the event,
- FIRA continues to take care of the main organizational aspects and to cover the costs of the speakers for travel and accommodation.

Adrià Gomila will check with FIRA if they agree to these terms.

5) Financial Issues

a) Report of the General Situation (bank account, budget)

Rupert Wimmer gave a short report on the current financial situation of IMPACTS. The situation continues to be stable with a balance of about 63,000 EUR at the end of 2023.

b) Approval of the account 2023, approval of the budget 2024

Both the account for 2023 and the budget plan for 2024 (based on a membership fee of 3,000 EUR per city) are approved unanimously. The cities of Amsterdam and Barcelona still have to pay their membership fee for 2023. There is a small difference of about 280 EUR between the arithmetically correct balance and the sum actually available on the bank account due to reasons in previous years which cannot be clarified completely anymore. The GA agreed to write off this small sum.

c) Membership Fee

It was decided unanimously that the membership fee for 2025 will also be EUR 3,000.

d) Other issues

Rupert is asked to check the possibilities to create some interests on the bank account over the year. This includes the option to open a new bank account for IMPACTS in Switzerland instead of the existing one in Brussels. However, this is not easy as the Association is officially registered in France.

6) Election of a new president

Looking forward to have the annual conference 2025 in Rome, Eugenio Patanè, Deputy Mayor for Mobility in Rome, is unanimously elected as new IMPACTS President (in absence). Fabio Nussio will be in charge of all administrative aspects regarding the presidency.

The GA thanked Lola Ortiz Sanchez for her work as IMPACTS president.

7) Election of executive committee

The following representatives were (re-)elected unanimously to the IMPACTS executive committee (also called executive management board):

- Fabio Nussio from Rome (responsible for the IMPACTS presidency of Rome)
- Rupert Wimmer from Zurich (as IMPACTS Treasurer)
- Willem van Heijningen from Amsterdam, Adrià Gomila from Barcelona, Brendan O'Brien from Dublin, Mikael Ivari from Gothenburg and Tristan Guilloux from Paris (in absence, also acting as Secretary general)

8) Report of the secretary

a) Yearly Conference in Madrid

Burkhard thanked the organizers and hosts from Madrid (especially Lola and Pedro) and shortly summarized his impressions from the conference. Again, it has been a very interesting and fruitful conference, including the inspiring site visits and the perfect side events. Similar to earlier conferences, time for discussion could have been more in some sessions. The "pecha kucha" format of the third session worked quite well from Burkhard's point of view. Still, more interactive formats could be helpful. Participation from the political level was once again rather low.

There were no comments from other participants of the GA.

b) Membership News

Burkhard informed the participants about the following developments:

- In Tallinn, there have been changes on the political and the technical level in the past two years. A new contact could be established, but a participation at the conference in Madrid was not yet possible. Hopefully, this will change next year.

c) Expanding the network in Europe

There is still the wish to extend IMPACTS up to 15 or 16 member cities. However, there have been no successful contacts to possibly interested cities since the last GA. Of special interest for IMPACTS could be contacts to Helsinki, Copenhagen, Oslo, Manchester, Brussels, Antwerp, Chisinau, Istanbul, Athens and Milan. It is agreed that London would be very welcome to rejoin IMPACTS if the necessary preconditions exist. Official invitations could be signed by Eugenio Patanè as Deputy Mayor and current IMPACTS president.

d) IMPACTS website

The IMPACTS website has to be updated during the next months. Burkhard will inform the member cities in case he needs any information.

9) Future activities in 2024/2025

a) Tomorrow Mobility World Congress in Barcelona 2024

See agenda item No. 4

b) Annual Conference in Rome 2025

The colleagues from Rome are looking forward to host next year's annual IMPACTS conference. Regarding weather and other frame conditions Fabio suggested to meet earlier in the year like already for the conference in Madrid. The following dates could eventually be possible:

- 2-4 April
- 9-11 April
- 7-9 May

Fabio will check the details in Rome and inform Burkhard about the final decision of the host city.

c) Other activities

Regarding the IMPACTS conference in 2026, there are no candidates yet. Cities interested in hosting the conference are asked to inform Burkhard.

10) IMPACTS principles and proceedings – do we need a thorough update after 25 years? (open discussion)

Burkhard shortly introduced to this topic which is meant only to start a discussion about the future of IMPACTS to be deepened by the EMB and possibly the next GA. There are no decisions necessary. Burkhard pointed out that this year’s conference has again proved the benefit of IMPACTS for its members and especially the participants of the conferences. Being a small group, meeting in a non-public setting with the possibility of open and frank discussions and the continuity of the participation of some members from the technical level make IMPACTS special. Still, the idea of the founders of IMPACTS that the conferences are also a forum for the responsible politicians from the member cities doesn’t seem to work anymore.

From the intense discussion, the following points can be stated as a summary:

- Everybody emphasized the benefit of IMPACTS for his/her own work. The network has its own value compared to other city networks even if the political level is not represented at the conferences. The conferences are an excellent format as they offer more strategic analysis than other network conferences, giving the possibility to learn. Also, the site visits are considered as very important. Actually, there already has been a substantial improvement in the last years.
- However, everyone also agreed that it would enhance the benefit significantly if more Deputy Mayors (or other participants from the political level) would join the conferences. The point of view from the politicians is very important for the discussions – and of course the direct and trustful exchange between the Deputy Mayors has its own value.
- Right now, some Deputy Mayors don’t take part for very different reasons. To encourage more participation, the following measures might make sense:
 - Adding a special “Deputy Mayor’s Meeting” to the event
 - Reduction of the participation of the political level to, for example, 24 hours, including “Deputy Mayor’s meeting”, conference dinner and panel discussion
 - Establishing a possibility for the Deputy Mayors to take part online (for example for the panel discussion)
 - Special invitation for the Deputy Mayors sent out by the Deputy Mayor of the host city

Some of these ideas can possibly already be implemented for the next conference in Rome. Eugenio Patanè is willing to sign such specific invitations for the Deputy Mayors, also for possible new guest cities.

This discussion will be continued at the next EMB meeting.

11) Any Other Business

No other issues were raised.

Burkhard thanked all participants of the GA for the discussion and closed the meeting.

Eugenio Patanè, IMPACTS President