

CALL FOR PAPERS

1st «Supply Chains and Purchasing in Transition» Conference: What are the supply chain and purchasing transitions in a changing world ?

April 3, 2025 | Location: CNAM au 2, rue Conté - 75003 Paris

Co-organized by: CNAM - EPF - GIP CEI



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With the support of the IFALP «Compétences et Métiers d'Avenir France 2030 programme»



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BACKGROUND

Today, the organization of logistics is affected by digital, energy and environmental transitions. Adapting to climate change is an absolute necessity, calling on the logistics sector to decarbonise distribution and transport and interweave its supply chains in a circular economy. The new geopolitical situation, characterised by the rise of power rivalries between states, is making the idea of international cooperation to meet these challenges more remote every day.

This highly uncertain world explains the return to favour of industry in Western countries, while East Asia, dominated by China, is now emerging as the world's manufacturing powerhouse. Industry is synonymous with wealth, but also with security of supply and control of value chains. The political will exists, both in Europe and the United States, to reindustrialise at high speed in this highly internationalised and competitive world, marked by continued growth - albeit more chaotic since 2008 - in international trade.

The health crisis has highlighted the importance of logistics and purchasing strategies for the quality and security of supplies. Securing flows, from upstream to downstream, from purchasing from suppliers to distribution to end customers, businesses and consumers, is an essential element in the resilience and performance of supply chains, which relies as much on organisational innovations as on technological and digital innovations. Logistics and purchasing are key factors in the resilience of society in times of crisis. Supporting the industrial sector, mass retailing and e-commerce, logistics is a key sector for the competitiveness of companies, a major factor in local development, particularly in terms of employment, and is becoming a priority for regional planning policies.

The transitions underway, coupled with the desire for reindustrialization in Western countries, reflected nationally in the France 2030 plan, offer opportunities for industrial repositioning: some activities are declining or disappearing, others are emerging, and still others are undergoing metamorphosis.

This systematically involves productive recombinations relating to site location, flow management methods, the origin and nature of purchases and supplies, the nature of the products manufactured and distribution methods. The symposium provides an opportunity to explore these recompositions and recombinations and to show how logistics plays a part in them. In this highly demanding context of acceleration and instability, described by the Anglo-Saxon academic concept of «hypercompetition», purchasing strategies deserve all the attention they can get, given that they involve the security of companies and the sovereignty of states. Rethinking them requires a vision that is ecosystemic, secure and sustainable.

Jobs and work in the logistics sector are or will inevitably be impacted by the transitions underway. The objectives of the various logistics professions may not change fundamentally: management of external resources (suppliers and shippers), management of upstream logistics operations (collection, sorting, grouping, etc.), management of production, management of the distribution of goods using the various modes of transport. But digital technology and automation, particularly in warehouses, are changing the way people work and the jobs in the sector. At the same time, the strong immediate demand for skilled and unskilled workers in this sector reflects real recruitment difficulties for companies and a need to understand the reshaping of labour pools in local areas. Ensuring that we have the skills and manpower we need today and in the future to support the transition of logistics chains is another major challenge facing companies and governments alike.

Taking logistics into account in regional policies is becoming increasingly important. Procurement, particularly public procurement, is a lever for economic relocation and development, creating wealth and jobs. At the same time, local authorities need to develop the resources that are essential for setting up and organising logistics operations, for example in terms of labour recruitment, land availability and the creation of business clusters. But this dynamic is not without its difficulties, or even a dilemma, for local areas. Logistics are competing with other functions in the region, such as residential and tourism activities. Because of their diversity and complexity, metropolitan areas are particularly exposed to these planning challenges, which involve both the inbound logistics of major international and national flows and urban logistics. The environmental impact of logistics, both in terms of air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, and in terms of its spatial footprint (sprawl, land artificialisation, energy consumption) means that we need to rethink how it is integrated into the fabric of these metropolitan areas and how it relates to other urban functions in order to arbitrate between the different uses of urban spaces. In this sense, logistics is a lever for ecological and urban transition.

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This first conference on «Supply Chain and Purchasing in Transition» aims to bring together and federate the entire community of researchers working on logistics and purchasing issues, beyond their disciplinary affiliation. This is why it directly involves several scientific partners, in addition to the organisers.

It is interdisciplinary and international. It welcomes researchers and experts in management, economics, geography and planning, sociology, law, engineering sciences, and more.

The articles proposed, in French or English, will be evaluated by the members of the scientific committee. The best papers will be submitted for publication in the following journals: *Revue Logistique et Management*, *Cahiers scientifiques du transport*, *International Journal of applied Logistics*, *Achetons Publics*, *Excellence Achats*.

Contributions are expected on the following aspects (non-exhaustive):

- Managing logistics chains and controlling chains of players from supply to distribution;
- Public procurement as a lever for economic and regional development;
- Purchasing, logistics outsourcing models and collaborative supply chain strategies;
- Investment, changes in supply chains, logistics flows and locations;
- Responsible commerce/marketing;
- Production management in industrial strategies;
- The contribution of new information technologies to logistics, purchasing and production systems;
- Knowledge development and innovation in the supply chain and purchasing;
- New logistics ecosystems;
- Developments in operational research;
- Management of distribution channels;
- The skills and human resources required in the logistics and procurement sectors, and more generally, the issue of work and employment in logistics and procurement in the face of transitions;
- The circular economy, reverse logistics and sustainable logistics;
- Decarbonisation of industries (e.g. electrification of the automotive industry) and its repercussions on logistics and purchasing organisations;
- Changes in international, maritime and air logistics chains;
- The role of port and airport hubs in logistics chains, and the role of the various international players in the changes underway;
- The rise of e-commerce and logistics organisations;
- Urban logistics, its links with inbound logistics, logistics urban planning;
- Regional logistics planning: land issues and the spatial integration of logistics activities, political approaches to logistics issues;
- Transformations and recompositions of jobs and work in the logistics sector
- Human resources in logistics and purchasing;
- Changes in local and international logistics chains: a North/South approach

Suggested bibliography:

Cuny C. (Dir.) (2020). *We are not robots. Workers in logistics*. Creaphis Eds. Fornasiero, R. (Dir.) (2021). *Next Generation Supply Chains A Roadmap for Research and Innovation* (Rosanna. Fornasiero, Saskia. Sardesai, A. Cristina. Barros, & Aristides. Matopoulos, Eds.; 1st ed. 2021.). Springer Nature. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-63505-3>

Grzybowska, K et al. (2020). *Sustainable Logistics and Production in Industry 4.0: New Opportunities and Challenges* (1st ed. 2020.). Springer International Publishing.

Kalaytzi D. et al. (2021). *Megatrends and Trends Shaping Supply Chain Innovation*. In *Next Generation Supply Chains, a Roadmap for research and innovation*, Dir. Fornasiero, Springer.

Livolsi L. and Rouquet A. (2021). *La logistique, un impensé de la politique en France? Le Journal de l'école de Paris du management*, 2021/6, n° 152, p. 31-38.

McKinnon A. (2018). *Decarbonising logistics: distributing goods in a low carbon world*. KoganPage, London.

Rouquet, A., & Guenoun, M. (2023). *Logistisons l'État! Proposals to strengthen France's logistics organisation*. *Logistique & Management*, 31(2), 77-92.

Wang Y. and Zhou G. (2021). *Interaction Mechanism Between the Logistics Industry and Manufacturing Industry-Based on the Perspective of Different Linkage Types*. IEEE.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Abstract deadline (1 page maximum, 400 words)
Feedback from the Scientific Committee
Submission of full papers

October 21st, 2024
December 2nd, 2024
February 28, 2025

CONTACT

For questions et informations : colloque2025@gip-cei.com

REGISTRATIONS FEES

This event, financed by the GIP CEI and the CMAIFALP France 2030 plan, will be free of charge for participants.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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