You are kindly invited to attend the public defense of the doctoral dissertation of

Leen De Paepe

Towards a Behavioural Understanding of the Social Acceptance of Shared Transport Services

Friday 22 September 2023 at 17:00 (CEST)
VANDENHOVE - Rozier 1, 9000 Ghent or **https://ap.lc/cvKDc**

After the defense, you are warmly invited to the reception around the corner:
Friday 22 September 2023 at 19:00 (CEST)
Chocolate Bar Mayana - Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 208, 9000 Ghent

Please confirm your attendance (own name and number of people) to the defense and/or reception
before 16 September 2023 via this link: https://forms.office.com/e/FXzGxznUbG
or by e-mail: Leen.DePaepe@UGent.be.

Bicycle parking in Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat (and Rozier)
Closest bus stop Gent Blandijnberg (line 5 or 8)
Car parking Sint-Pietersplein

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

FACULTY OF SCIENCES

GHENT UNIVERSITY

Summary

People's travel behaviour is thought to be quite stable, but at certain points in life this behaviour can change due to transitions in life and mobility. To move from our car-oriented society to a more sustainable one, it is important to better understand past and present travel behaviour and future acceptance of shared transport services. Moreover, some people are more vulnerable to transitions. These changes may improve or worsen the travel behaviour of vulnerable groups to a greater extent, which may lead to transport poverty and social exclusion. This doctoral dissertation investigated the matter by distinguishing 'acceptability' and 'acceptance' of shared transport services and more specifically Mobility as a Service or MaaS and shared autonomous vehicles. Four necessary conditions for social inclusion were added or the 4As: 'availability', 'accessibility', 'affordability', and 'attractability'. The Transport Acceptance Vulnerability model is thereby proposed as an aid for structuring and evaluating literature and data. Geography plays an important role in obtaining a better understanding of the social acceptance of shared transport services. Both qualitative and quantitative methods were used to investigate this.

About the author

Leen De Paepe (°1991, Ghent) is a socio-economic geographer and teacher. She obtained her bachelor's, master's, and teaching degrees in Geography from Ghent University. In 2016, she started working as a teaching assistant and doctoral researcher at the Department of Geography at Ghent University. Leen assisted several courses (e.g. Spatial Analysis I, Spatial Analysis II, Transport Geography) and was also a member of the department's Study Programme Committee and the faculty's Educational Quality Control Committee. For her research, she combined her interest in people and transport and her experience working on various national and international (European) projects. This resulted in peer-reviewed scientific journal articles, book chapters, and research reports. These were all presented at various national and international conferences.

Supervisors

Prof. dr. Frank Witlox - Ghent University
Prof. dr. Veronique Van Acker - Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research

Examination Committee

Prof. dr. Nico Van de Weghe - Ghent University
Prof. dr. Jonathan Beaverstock - University of Bristol
Prof. dr. Giovanni Circella - Ghent University
Prof. dr. Caroline Mullen - University of Leeds
Prof. dr. Yusak Susilo - University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna