

PRESS RELEASE

Katalin Walter, CEO of the Budapest Centre for Transportation, is elected EMTA president for a 2-year term

Paris, 6 November 2023

Katalin Walter becomes president of the association of European Metropolitan Transport Authorities (EMTA). She is the CEO of the Budapest Centre for Transportation (BKK), the transport authority for Budapest and succeeds Dorthe Nøhr Pedersen, CEO of MOVIA, the public transport authority for the Copenhagen region.

Delegates of the transport authorities for the largest European metropolitan areas met in Barcelona on 26 October 2023 for the 50th General Meeting of EMTA and for the election of a new president.

In a keynote speech Katalin Walter said:

I am honoured to have been elected as President of this prestigious organisation! Metropolitan public transport systems play a pivotal role in defining the character and liveability of our cities and are crucial for sustainability. Despite some structural differences, our tasks and challenges across Europe are very similar and we can learn a lot from each other. In addition, our voice can be heard much better if we join forces at the European policy and funding level – something we need badly if we want to cope with the tasks and challenges at hand. I am looking forward to working with the operative team, the Board, all members as well as our partner organizations like Polis and UITP to make EMTA and their members even more impactful!

Alexandre Santacreu, Secretary General of EMTA made the following statement:

I wish Katalin Walter much success and impact in the role of President and trust that BKK will continue to be one of the most active EMTA members. I am grateful to all the delegates who came to attend this general meeting and contributed to the board election that reflects the democratic life of the association. This change in leadership comes at the time when EMTA celebrate its 25th anniversary. I have no doubt Katalin Walter will keep making EMTA more influential, building on the remarkable transformation led by her predecessor Ms Pedersen over the last 4 years.

EMTA brings together 34 authorities from 21 European countries. It is a forum to exchange experience and best practices in the field of planning, integrating, managing and funding public transport services at the metropolitan level.

Together, EMTA members work to improve the daily mobility solutions offered to more than 100 million Europeans. They are responsible for organising safe, smart, sustainable, and healthy mobility options in areas stretching well beyond the borders of the core municipality. By doing so, they reconnect cities with suburban and more remote areas, setting up affordable solutions for all.

Photos of Dr Katalin Walter:

- https://www.emta.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/nys_2497-320x320.jpg
- <https://www.emta.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/EMTA25-KatalinWalter-1280x960.jpg>

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