

Press Office
Press release

9 January 2022

TMB receives a prestigious international award that makes it the global benchmark for diversity, inclusion and gender equality on public transport

The International Transport Union (UITP) has awarded TMB its Diversity, Inclusion and Gender Equality Award for the latter's project to manage human diversity and promote actions that encourage inclusion, the generation of opportunities and non-discrimination, and its measures against harassment and LGBTI-phobia

Transports Metropolitans de Barcelona (TMB) is the international benchmark for diversity, inclusion and gender equality as well as the fight against discrimination and sexual harassment on public transport. This has been recognised by the International Transport Union (UITP), awarding TMB the **UITP Award for Diversity, Inclusion and Gender Equality**, during the **MENA Transport Congress and Exhibition** of the UITP held in Dubai. The award recognises TMB's commitment and work in this field, implemented through its plans against harassment and LGBTI-phobia, as well as various internal actions with TMB staff and users, to promote equal opportunities and non-discrimination.

TMB CEO Gerardo Lertxundi collected the award at a presentation ceremony for the eight internationally prestigious awards of the **Union International Public Transport (UITP)**, the only global association that brings together all the public and sustainable transport players. **TMB chairwoman Laia Bonet** said 'this award encourages us to continue working on more inclusive and integrated public transport, giving visibility to talented women in a very masculinised field'.

Zero tolerance with discrimination and harassment

One of the lines of work highlighted by the jury are the plans for **preventing sex-related harassment and LGBTI-phobia on public transport networks** (metro and buses in Barcelona and 10 other cities in the metropolitan area, in the case of TMB).

The measures include completing the **installation of cameras – currently numbering more than 8,000 (between trains and stations) – with real-time transmission to all trains on the metro network** and checking the lighting in the facilities. In addition, **all buses will have online video surveillance** through a project already underway and set to end in the first quarter of next year.

Another essential measure which will be stepped up is **staff training** to improve customer service for public transport users, as well as to increase awareness of equality and non-discrimination.

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In that regard, **we will shortly be promoting the figure of Agent Violeta**, a person who specialises in and is aware of the need to provide appropriate support in all aspects to victims of any manifestation of gender abuse or violence. The Director of Social Responsibility, Women and Diversity at TMB, **Raquel Díaz**, said this figure will enable us to 'provide the best possible response to people who have suffered some kind of harassment'.

Likewise, we will continue to launch **awareness campaigns** to combat anti-social behaviour that are geared towards empowering victims and warning assailants about the consequences of their actions, as well as generating a general sense of shared responsibility in this area.

Public transport with a gender perspective

All the measures for **tackling sexual and sex-related harassment and against LGBTI-phobia** presented a year ago try to ensure that everyone can travel safely and with peace of mind, generating respectful and welcoming spaces of coexistence. Application of the gender perspective in TMB's actions is also reflected in other lines of action, such as the drawing up of equality plans, the promotion of actions to boost and attract female talent, campaigns to women who do jobs traditionally done by men, or educational workshops to promote the incorporation of a gender perspective in the field of sustainable mobility.

TMB too has a long history of developing technical projects for universal accessibility (an area where it is an international benchmark), with the aim of **making the public transport networks a service for everyone**, regardless of their social and personal circumstances. Accordingly, and with the aim of continuing to contribute to a more cohesive social model, TMB has made a firm commitment to move forward with these types of initiatives, highlighting difference as a source of social and organisational wealth.

Joint work

TMB's ultimate goal with the measures acknowledged by the UITP is to guarantee the right to mobility, understood as a catalyst for many other citizen rights (access to work, studies, leisure, etc.), encouraging **the most satisfactory travel experience possible for all users** and contributing to managing difference from a positive and enriching perspective. In addition to providing initiatives in line with the UN's 2030 Agenda goals, with the clear aim of helping to achieve an increasingly equitable and cohesive society.

TMB has found partners on this road, including Barcelona Provincial Council which, through the Area of Social Cohesion, Citizenship and Well-Being, joined forces to define and launch the first actions in this area. We have also worked with benchmark entities, such as the Catalan Observatory Against Homophobia (OCH), which provided advice on bringing the LGBTI perspective to this project.