



FORUM ACUSTICUM EURONOISE 2025

Hot topic 6. What noise has to do with urban health? - Approaches to epidemiological studies and implementing solutions

Organizers: Laura Estévez-Mauriz and Martin Rössli

Organizers and Key Trainers:



Laura Estévez-Mauriz is Associate Professor at the Universidad de León in Spain. Born in Mexico, she moved to Spain to begin her second year of studies in Architecture. Laura continued her education with a Master's in Acoustical and Vibration Engineering, followed by a Master's in Teacher Training. She began her career as a research assistant in Spain and furthered it through the Marie Curie Programme at the EU-funded SONORUS project at Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden, obtaining a PhD in Applied Acoustics. Currently, Laura works in the Applied Physics area and is a member of the Atmospheric Environment Research Group. Her research focuses on Urban Sound Planning, developing tools to control, communicate and design the sound environment in the early stages of the planning process. Laura also has experience in knowledge transfer activities. She is actively involved in promoting STEM careers and advancing research career development across Europe.



With a background in Environmental Science **Martin Rössli** is full professor for environmental epidemiology at Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute and University of Basel. He is head of the Environmental Exposure and Health Unit. Martin Rössli's research deals with a broad range of public health relevant national and global environmental health issues with a focus on physical hazards including noise, non-



FORUM ACUSTICUM EURONOISE 2025

ionizing ionizing radiation, radon and heat. He is conducting exposure assessment studies, epidemiological research and health risk assessments including systematic reviews in Switzerland and outside Europe. He was principal investigator of the SiRENE study and numerous other studies dealing with various health risks of noise. Currently, he is investigating the health benefits of noise protection measure and is collaborator of the EU funded project MarkoPolo. From 2012 to 2023 he was member of the Federal Noise Abatement Commission, and he is a closely collaborating with the European Environmental Agency. He is lecturing various courses in the field of environmental health and environmental epidemiology at graduate and postgraduate level.



Efstathios Margaritis is a dedicated researcher specializing in quantitative human geography and urban analytics using GIS tools. With a keen focus on the links between urban sound planning and well-being Efstathios investigates innovative ways on soundscape mapping through crowdsourcing and citizen science. With a passion for uncovering the intricacies of our urban landscapes, his research contributes invaluable insights into creating more resilient and sustainable cities.



Benjamin Fenech is the noise and public health programme lead at the United Kingdom Health Security Agency (UKHSA). He is also an honorary associate professor at the Department of Population Health Sciences at the University of Leicester. He received an MSc in Engineering Acoustics from the Technical University of Denmark and a PhD in aero-acoustic measurements from the University of Southampton, UK. He has over 20 years professional experience in the field of acoustics, spanning academia, private sector and public sector. For the past eleven years he has been leading the noise and health programme at the UKHSA, where his main role is to translate the scientific evidence to policy officials working in the areas of health,



FORUM ACUSTICUM EURONOISE 2025

environment, transport, energy and housing. More broadly he works with a wide range of stakeholders to advance and communicate the scientific knowledge in this area. He sits on three technical committees within the UK's national standardisation body and is project leader of a new ISO standard on non-acoustic factors (ISO TC 43/SC 1/WG 68). He is also chair of the Sound, Noise & Health Group within the Institute of Acoustics and chair of Team 9 (policy and economics) within the International Commission on Biological Effects of Noise (ICBEN).