

JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS AND TRADE: SPECIAL ISSUE

Focus: Global Connectivity, Supply Chain Disruption and Inclusive Development

Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) was commissioned in 2013 to help link international logistics hubs, maritime ports, railway terminals, airports, and airlines in facilitating regional trade flows. The goal of the BRI is five fold: (i) policy coordination; (ii) facilitates connectivity; (iii) unimpeded trade; (iv) financial integration; and (v) people-to-people bonds. The Initiative aims to interconnect countries in Asia, Europe, and Africa through an ambitious vision for infrastructure, economic, and political cooperations.

Many developing countries, including Sub-Saharan countries, have been facing mobility and connectivity challenges related to limited transportation networks and being isolated resulting in increased logistics costs and frequent supply chain disruptions. These transportation problems and poor connectivity have limited many African countries, specifically enterprises, from participating effectively in international trade to earn foreign exchange.

BRI has the potential to create new economic and transport corridors (Lee et al., 2022) that can activate and stimulate economic activities and tourism flows for the countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Since 2013, only a few studies have documented the BRI's past, current and likely future influence on the African Continent. This special issue will be dedicated to studies that interrogate the potential of BRI in connecting the African Continent to major world trading corridors and markets, thus facilitating the seamless movement of goods and services at a reasonable cost.

Authors may submit papers relevant to the theme of this Special Issue and fall within the scope of the *Journal of International Logistics and Trade (JILT)*. This Special Issue will publish revised and substantially extended versions of selected papers presented at the **7th Global Research Network - Belt and Road Initiative Conference, 2023, under the theme "Connecting the African Continent through BRI: Status quo, opportunities, and way forward."**

This special issue covers but not limited to the following areas:

1. The BRI and the development of digital and logistics infrastructure
2. Ports, airports and airline development, operations, and management
3. Global supply chain, international trade and regional economic development
4. Supply chain sustainability and resilience
5. The Maritime Silk Road and its impacts on the African Continent

Important Dates:

- Deadline for abstracts: 31st December 2022
- Notification of acceptance of abstracts: 15th January, 2023

- Deadline for submission of full papers: 30th April, 2023
- Notification of acceptance of full papers: 31st July 2023

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About the Journal:

Journal of International Logistics and Trade (JILT) is housed within Jungseok Research Institute (JRI) at Inha university, which is one of the most research-intensive universities of S. Korea. Based on 20 years of international publication history, JILT is currently acting as a global academic platform where international scholars exchange their insights and generate academic inspirations. The ultimate goals of JILT are to improve our understanding on the logistics and trade practices between firms, industries and countries in global economic structure and finally to disseminate new knowledges to international scholars and existing literature.

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Submission of article:

Authors are required to submit their manuscript via the journal website:

<https://www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/journal/jilt>.

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