



Short bio sketch of Prof. Lauri Ojala

Dr. Lauri Ojala (b. 1961). Since year 1997, full Professor and Chair of Logistics at the Turku School of Economics, Finland. His research interest include international logistics and transport markets. M.Sc. in 1986 in Shipping Economics, Åbo Akademi University; D.Sc. in 1995 Turku School of Economics.

Lecturer in shipping economics for Master Mariner classes at Swedish Nautical College in Turku in 1983-1992, and 2010-2012. In 1989-1994 as an (acting) associate professor in international marketing and shipping economics at the TSE and Åbo Akademi. Lecturer of logistics in 1994-1995 at Linköping University, and a visiting professor till 1999, heading a R&D program on transport markets funded by the Swedish Government.

His working experience includes appointments in shipping companies, purser on a passenger vessel, container shipping agencies in the mid-1980s and as a Coast Guard officer at the Finnish Border Guard working as an anti-submarine warfare officer at patrol vessels in 1982.

Since mid-1990s, he has also worked as an expert for several international agencies (The World Bank (WB), Asian Development Bank, Nordic Investment Bank) in development projects in the Baltic States, Albania, all CIS states and in Southern Africa. Initiator and co-author of WB's Logistics Performance Index (www.worldbank.org/lpi), first launched in November 2007, subsequently in 2010 and in May 2012. World Bank's Vice President team Award 2009.

An expert on transport and logistics issues e.g. for OECD (International Transport Forum, ITF), EC (DG TREN & now DG MOVE), APEC and UNIDO on several occasions. Worked as an expert on transport policy issues for Ministries of Transport in e.g. Finland, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia.

Invited by the EC and Finnish Ministry of Transport and Communications to work as an expert in preparing European Commission's Communication on Logistics, an issue raised by Finland during its EU Presidency in 2006. In 2011-2012, a rapporteur of Finland's logistical competitiveness nominated by the Finnish Government. Member of the 13-person High Level Group on Logistics established in summer 2012 by EC Commissioner Siim Kallas, HLG is a standing advisory group for the Commissioner and DG MOVE on logistics policy matters. (<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/12/717&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN>)

Headed the "Finland State of Logistics" surveys in 2006, 2009, 2010 and 2012 with up to 2,750 responses in each. This is the largest database of its kind in the World. (see: www.mintc.fi Publications)

In 2006-2008, he was in charge of two EU part-funded logistics projects in the Baltic Sea Region with a combined volume of 4.2 m€; DaGoB deals with transport of Dangerous Goods (www.dagob.info) and LogOn Baltic deals with logistics and ICT competence (www.logonbaltic.info). In 2009-2012 Project Director of another EU part-funded 3.4 m€ project on safety and security of international road freight transport (C.A.S.H.; <http://www.cash-project.eu/>)

Supervised five doctoral students completing their PhD studies. External examiner or opponent for over 15 dissertations and an evaluator in over 15 professorial nomination processes in the Nordic countries, UK and Germany. DHL Lifetime Award for Most Innovative Senior Scientist in March 2012.

He has published in several international journals in the field, incl.: The Int J of Logistics Management; Maritime Policy and Management; Transportation Research Record; Int J of Integrated Supply Management; System Dynamics Review; Int J of Consumer Studies; Int J of Services and Operation Management; Production Planning & Control; Int J of Technological Learning, Innovation and Development; Strategic Outsourcing: an International Journal; The Int J of Physical Distribution and Logistics Management (IJPDL); Int J of Logistics – Research and Applications; Int Journal of Production Economics; Supply Chain Management: an International Journal. Has been or is a Member of editorial or editorial advisory Board in several such journals, such as IJPDL, Maritime Economics and Logistic (MEL), Logistics Research.

Language skills: Finnish (native); English (fluent); Swedish (fluent); German (good)