

**FACE-TO-FACE WITH:**



**Sergi Alegre Calero**  
*President*  
**Airport Regions Conference**

Sergi Alegre Calero, PhD of Contemporary History (UB), is President of Airport Regions Conference (European organization of cities and regions with an airport in their limits), Vice-Mayor of El Prat where he is in charge of spatial planning, transport and environmental issues. Barcelona-El Prat airport is one of the fastest growing European airports and Mr Alegre Calero has been responsible for accommodating the needs and constraints of a fast growing business. He is councilor of the Metropolitan government of Barcelona and as such is participating in a Metropolis project with Paris, Atlanta and Saul in a project about sustainable airport regions from economic, urban and environmental perspectives.

**Why do you think we need to develop a sustainable airport city and aerotropolis? What are the current challenges?**

We need to develop sustainable airports cities and aerotropolis because we are going to need more and bigger airports and we need to get the maxim profit of them as cities and regions, and even countries. The current challenges are governance, environmental and urban planning aspects.

**What do you feel are the most likely scenarios or changes that the airport city or aerotropolis industry will face in the next 5 years?**

5 years it's really a short time, in this industry even shorter, but I see two: in one hand, more and more links between high speed train and airlines - what will stress the need of good connections and good (big enough and near enough) infrastructures to link both transport systems. In the other, the urban planning of airport cities will include more and more living areas.

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AIRPORT CITIES 2016  
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**What do you think is the role of UBM Airport Cities (ACE) and how does this benefit the industry?**

The role of UBM is to show, in one hand, what's going on around airport cities in the world, so many other airports and regions can learn from their best practices and, why not, their failures and, in the other, what are the challenges to come and how different actors are thinking to deal with.

**What do you hope to see in the future series of UBM Airport Cities (ACE)?**

I hope to attend events where the attendance can go deeply to debate concrete aspects, to be more active events in order to exchange ideas and projects to imagine how to deal with some key aspects of aerotropolis.



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