

The global voice of freight logistics



Young Logistics Professionals Award

2026



Sponsored by the TT Club and FIATA

Annex 1: Note about the Dissertation



1. Aim of the Dissertation

- 1.1. The Dissertation is an opportunity for the candidate to demonstrate a range of skills and qualities that are needed to pursue a successful career in international forwarding and supply chain logistics, as well as enhancing their competences and expertise. The Dissertation may be constructed as follows:
 - 1.1.1. Identifying a problem or business opportunity.
 - 1.1.2. Gathering relevant information on a specific situation.
 - 1.1.3. Identifying possible changes or enhancements for the benefit of the forwarder or the client.
 - 1.1.4. Evaluating the information and drawing one's own conclusions.
 - 1.1.5. Deciding what action should be taken.
 - 1.1.6. Making reasoned and costed recommendations.
- 1.2. Important abilities and qualities to be demonstrated should include innovation and initiative.

2. The Dissertation topic

- 2.1. The Dissertation should include two multimodal freight forwarding cases: one key import commodity/cargo from the candidate's home economy, and one key export commodity/cargo to the candidate's home economy.
- 2.2. Candidates are expected to show initiative over the logistics supply chain of these cargoes.

3. Assessment criteria of the Dissertation

- 3.1. Complexity of issues related to the cargo matter (e.g., bulk cargo, over-sized/overweight project cargo, time sensitive cargo, reefer and/or perishable goods, hazardous goods, but also including factors such as terms of sale, etc.).
- 3.2. Complexity of issues relating to multimodal moves. Unimodal cargoes are not accepted.
- 3.3. Difficulties to be overcome relating to cross-border issues, such as customs/bio security/ quarantine compliance, safety and security, regulatory guarantees, highway ordinances, etc.
- 3.4. Complexity of specific regulatory issues faced during the logistic movement, including but not limited to security provision, pollution, and environmental issues.
- 3.5. Risk management/insurance requirements for example, pilferage of cargo, declaration of General Average, leakage/spillage of cargo.
- 3.6. Structure and reference (including the sources of your information).



- 3.7. Approach to problem solving and methodology employed to overcome identified issues.
- 3.8. Quality of the conclusion.
- 3.9. Overall presentation and construction.
- 3.10. Additional marks will be awarded for the complexity of the problems overcome during this logistic move.
- 3.11. The work should be original and produced by the candidate. The originality of the work may be verified with anti-plagiarism software.

4. Format

- 4.1. Written in simple and concise business English, in the first person (e.g., "I reviewed the procedures").
- 4.2. Between 4,000 and 6,000 words maximum. Abstract, Table of Contents, List of Abbreviations, List of Figures, References, and Appendices are excluded from the word count.
- 4.3. A margin of up to 10% over the maximum word count is permitted. Submissions containing more than the allowed word count may be rejected.
- 4.4. Typed, double spaced, Arial font type size 12.
- 4.5. Submitted as a single unlocked Word document file – ensuring that any attachments are part of this single Word document file.
- 4.6. Using a Chicago or APA 7 referencing system when relying on material created by others, as to give proper credit, avoid plagiarism, and demonstrate appropriate awareness of existing knowledge.
- 4.7. The Dissertation may include graphs, photographs, examples, etc.
- 4.8. The candidate's name must not appear anywhere in the Dissertation.
- 4.9. Page numbers must be included at the bottom of the pages.

5. Dissertation structure and content

- 5.1. Title page comprising of the title of the Dissertation, the name and year of the competition, as well as FIATA and TT Club logos. The Award Administrator will provide the template to the candidates.
- 5.2. Abstract – a short paragraph summarising the Dissertation, between 250-500 words.
- 5.3. Acknowledgements of the people and organizations who have provided support and/or information to complete the Dissertation.
- 5.4. Table of Contents, listing of all headings, subheadings, and appendices, including page

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numbers.

5.5. List of Tables and Figures (if applicable).

5.6. List of Abbreviations used in the Dissertation.

5.7. Introduction – a short outline to inform the reader of the topic and setting out what the Dissertation seeks to address and what it achieves by bringing out the key features. It must be informative and understandable for a person who has not read the dissertation.

5.8. Body of the Dissertation:

5.8.1. Description and evaluation of the situation, discussion of problems, opportunities, faults, relevant issues, benefits, costs, etc.

5.8.2. The Dissertation should demonstrate that the topic has been properly assessed and clearly understood. Candidates should use their knowledge of operations, people, finance and any other skills to bring together different kinds of information. Understanding the practical consequences of making changes and overcoming implementation difficulties should also be shown in the Dissertation.

5.8.3. Photographs or other scanned matter should not be included into the body of the Dissertation and should be put in Appendices.

5.9. Conclusion:

5.9.1. Summary of the situation, findings and the drawing together of the main opportunities which have been examined in order to reach a probable solution to the problem.

5.9.2. This element should flow logically from the analysis and evaluation in the main text and should take into account of any likely effects.

5.10. References – all work (books, articles, papers, legislations, etc.) used in the Dissertation should be listed in the references.

5.10.1. The format to be used should be fully consistent and include all necessary information (Author(s), year, title, publisher, place of publication).

5.10.2. Example: Cook, Thomas A. (2011). *Compliance in today's global supply chain*. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press.

5.10.3. There are various electronic research tools to export citations according to the selected referencing system, such as [WorldCat](#) or [Zotero](#), which may be used by candidates.

5.11. Appendices:

5.11.1. Copies of supporting documents, questionnaires, data, photographs, etc. should, wherever possible, be inserted as JPEG (or some other small electronic file) into the electronic Word file.

5.11.2. Appendices must not exceed 15 pages.



6. Submission of the Dissertation

- 6.1. The Dissertation must be submitted in electronic format only.
- 6.2. The Dissertation must be sent to the Award Administrator by email at yiffa.admin@thomasmiller.com by 1 May 2026.
- 6.3. If the file is greater than 10 megabytes, it should be send using an electronic file transfer tool, such as [WeTransfer](#), Google Drive, or [Dropbox](#).
- 6.4. The Candidate Form, provided by the Award Administrator upon confirmation of participation, must be submitted with the Dissertation.

7. Additional information

- 7.1. In case of questions, please contact the Award Administrator at yiffa.admin@thomasmiller.com or the FIATA Logistics Institute at training@fiata.org.
- 7.2. Examples of previous Dissertations are available on FIATA website: <https://fiata.org/ylpa-dissertations/>