

*Message from the TPC Chairs, 18th edition of COMSNETS.*

Welcome to the 18th edition of COMSNETS, a premier conference dedicated to advances in communication and networking systems. This year's technical program has been carefully curated to reflect contemporary research directions and emerging challenges in these rapidly evolving areas.

We received 213 submissions, all of which were evaluated through a rigorous double-blind peer-review process. Following detailed reviews and deliberations, we accepted 20 papers for full-length presentations (9.4% *acceptance rate*) and 39 papers for short presentations (27.7% *acceptance rate*). The review process was efficiently managed using EDAS, which facilitated effective reviewer-paper matching and streamlined the overall workflow.

We sincerely thank our 137-member Technical Program Committee for their dedicated efforts in ensuring the quality, depth, and timeliness of the reviews. The strength of the technical program is a direct outcome of their commitment, the high quality of submissions from contributing authors, and the continued support of the organizing committee. Together, these efforts have resulted in a contemporary and engaging program that will be of interest to both academic and industrial researchers and practitioners.

The 20 full-length presentations address complex research problems with comprehensive and well-founded solutions. The key thematic areas include *Networking* (4 papers), *Security* (4 papers), *6G and Beyond* (3 papers), *Machine Learning for Communications* (3 papers), *Internet-of-Things (IoT) and Sensors* (3 papers), and *Multimedia* (3 papers). In addition, continuing the successful tradition initiated last year, the conference features short podium presentations that highlight promising early-stage research. The most prominent themes among the short presentations are *Vehicular and Autonomous Networks* and *6G and Beyond*, reflecting current research momentum and emerging technical directions. Other short presentations span *IoT*, *Networking*, *Security*, and *Systems*, addressing emerging problems in traditional areas.

COMSNETS 2026 also features invited speakers from a broad range of geographical regions, including the USA, Japan, the UK, Norway, the Netherlands, and India. The invited talks cover timely and impactful topics such as learning for sensing and communication; network architecture, protocol design, and performance evaluation; security for autonomous vehicles, blockchains, cyber-physical systems, and large language models; agentic and time-series AI models; and software and embedded systems.

We look forward to your participation and hope you enjoy all that COMSNETS 2026 has to offer via its technical program and beyond.