



3rd Technical Committee on Railways

Belgrade, 21/22 November

Draft Action Plan for developing a regional rail strategy in the Western Balkans.

- Activities between two Technical Committees
 - Database of rail legislation, tables of Concordances
 - Level crossing safety improvement
- Regional Steering Committee – Pristina
- New actions – step towards the Rail Action Plan
- Final Rail action Plan should be adopted on the next RSC
- Progress Report on implementation

Draft Rail action plan - content

- Rail market opening
- Passenger rights
- Interoperability
- Governance
- Border crossings agreements
- Modernization of rail infrastructure

1. Rail Market Opening Action (regional partner concerned)	Regional partners concerned + deadline for		Support action - assistance
	Full transposition	Implementation	
Amend national law to remove potential breaches of TCT provisions in regard to opening up the market at national level (phase 1)	MK - Q2020 BIH - Q4 2021	MK – Q4 2020 BIH – Q2 2022	EU DEL to assist in the process TCT to provide inputs
Establish functioning institutions (regulatory body, licensing body, national safety authority, national investigation body, designated body) – including legal, administrative, and budgetary actions	All RPs Q4 2020	All RPs Q4 2022	TCT Secretariat to map on-going and potential TA
Publish Network Statement for railway infrastructure	Albania Q4 2019 BIH - Q4 2019	Albania Q3 2020 BIH - Q3 2021	TCT Secretariat to support and share examples and best practices
Publish Network Statement for service facilities (sea and river ports, terminals)	All RPs Q3 2020	All RPs Q4 2020	
Take legislative and/or regulatory measures to achieve mutual recognition at regional level of: operating licenses, train driver licenses, safety certificates, vehicle authorisation	All RPs Q4 2020	All RPs Q4 2021	TCT Secretariat to map state-of-play WG on Border crossing to help in the implementation
Modernise rules on public procurement in the rail sector, including through transposition and implementation of Regulation 1370/2007 concerning public transport services by rail	All RPs Q1 2021	All RPs Q1 2022	
Transpose EU Regulation 913/2010 (Rail freight Corridors)	BIH – Q4 2021	BIH – Q2 2022	

2. Passenger rights Action (regional partner concerned)	Regional partners concerned + deadline for		Support action - assistance
	Full transposition	Implementation	
Transpose and implement Regulation (EC) No 1371/2007	All RPs – Q3 2020	All RPs – Q4 2021	

3. Governance Action (regional partner concerned)	Regional partners concerned + deadline for		Support action - assistance
	Full transposition	Implementation	
Create a network of EU DEL rail correspondents in the region to assist in the implementation and monitoring of the TCT Rail Action Plan.	All RPS Q4 2019	All RPs Q4 2019	DG NEAR/ TCT Secretariat to set up and maintain the EU DEL network
Organise stakeholder workshop on the streamlining of technical assistance and financing of the reform of the rail sector and rail infrastructure projects in the Western Balkans (ERA, S2R, WB, EIB, EBRD, EU DELs, DG MOVE, DG NEAR, CONNECTA, EU MS...)	All RPS Q4 2019	All RPs Q2 2020	TCT Secretariat to organise the event, in liaison with DG NEAR and DG MOVE

4. Improving rail border-crossing operations	Regional partners concerned + deadline for		Support action - assistance
Action (regional partner concerned)	Signing	Implementation	
Signing/upgrading all bilateral BCAs and their implementation			
Serbia – North Macedonia	Done	Q2 2021	TC Secretariat, Member states
North Macedonia - Kosovo	Q2 2020	Q2 2021	
North Macedonia – Greece	Q4 2020	Q4 2021	
Bosnia and Herzegovina - Croatia	Q2 2020	Q2 2021	
Serbia - Bulgaria	Q4 2020	Q2 2021	
Serbia - Montenegro	Done	Q2 2021	
Serbia - Croatia	Q4 2020	Q4 2021	
Serbia – Kosovo*	Q4 2020	Q4 2021	
Serbia – Hungary	Q4 2020	Q4 2021	
Serbia - Romania	Q4 2020	Q4 2021	
Serbia – Bosnia and Herzegovina	Q4 2021	Q4 2022	

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

5. Interoperability	Regional partners concerned + deadline		Support action - assistance
	Full transposition	Implementation	
Action (regional partner concerned)			
Transpose and implement the Interoperability Directive 2008/57/EC (valid until June 2020) and its new version Directive (EU) 2016/797 (4th railway package)	All RPs Q4 2020	All RPs Q4 2021	TCT Secretariat to establish precise state-of-play Q4 2019
Transpose and implement all EU Technical Specifications for Interoperability	All RPs Q2 2020	All RPs Q4 2021	TCT Secretariat to establish precise state-of-play Q4 2019
Prepare a detailed plan for the review and cleaning up of national rail technical and safety rules in line with the EU rail acquis and the prerogatives of ERA	All RPs Q2 2020	All RPs Q2 2022	ERA IPA TA for the period 2019-2020
Establish an electronic register of vehicles, taking into account the OTIF National Vehicle Registers specifications 'NVR 2015' and the European Centralised Virtual Vehicle Register (ECVVR)	All RPs Q2 2021	All RPs Q2 2021	OTIF ERA
Establish an electronic register and management system of railway infrastructure, taking into account the existence of the European Registers of Infrastructure (RINF)	All RPs Q4 2020	All RPs Q2 2022	DG MOVE ERA

6. Modernisation of rail network infrastructure Action (regional partner concerned)	Regional partners concerned + deadline for		Support action - assistance
	Full transposition	Implementation	
Establishing a regional network of infrastructure managers for regular consultation and coordination at regional level before adoption maintenance plans for railway infrastructure and for the schedule of work, and other relevant activities.	All RPs Q1 2020	All RPs Q3 2020	Consider support / assistance of the association of European Rail Infrastructure Managers 'EIM' and CER
Identification of priority projects of regional interests for the upgrading / reconstruction / construction of specific railway sections;	All RPs Q4 2019	All RPs Permanent task	TCT Secretariat
Level-crossings Safety Improvement (mapping the most critical LCRs within WB region)	All RPs Q4 2020	All RPs Q4 2021	ERA, DG Move, TCT Secretariat
Adoption of five-year Maintenance Plan	All RPs Q3 2020		DG MOVE ERA TCT Secretariat CONNECTA