

# Seminar on the Adriatic ports facilitation and logistics: how to unlock the potential of intermodality in the Western Balkans - Summary -

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# Summary and key points

- First dedicated seminar on the issues of intermodality, port facilitation and logistics- welcomed
- Good potential and clear benefits of the intermodal transport in terms of increased efficiency of transport operations, as well as reduced congestions, environmental impacts and trade costs
- Preconditions:
  - implementation of the transport and transport-related acquis and EU standards- integration within the transport market of the EU
  - paradigm shift- lot of promotion, financial incentives, use of digital and innovative solutions
  - Solid infrastructure
  - investments in knowledge, new technologies and human capital (software)
- Main pillars of an efficient intermodal transport:
  - Well interconnected nodes: maritime/IWW ports-BCPs-terminals, leading to good hinterland connections
  - BCP facilitation and railway liberalization- corresponding action plans, to create legal and institutional framework

# Summary and key points

- Challenges:
  - Small and fragmented market; decrease of cargo volumes and throughputs in ports
  - Infrastructure gaps and lower capacity to attract investments
  
- Possible solutions
  - port cooperation and creation of a network/association of the Ports in the SEE/South Adriatic (similar like NAPA)
  - rational planning, better prioritization without political interference and by better project preparation
  - joint requests for projects could prove to have more chances to secure financing
  
- Further work
  - Follow up by TCTF and Permanent Sec.of Transport Community, as well as RSC
  - Some aspects to be covered in Transport facilitation action plan
  - Future specific topical seminars to be considered

