

## **NEWSLETTER**

January 2022

As of 1 January 2022 the TCT Secretariat returned to the permanent Headquarters location at "Beogradjanka" building, Masarikova 5, 8<sup>th</sup> floor. The year 2022 began with participation of TCT Secretariat at the European Transport Workers' Federation's meeting for Western Balkans, where the work of the Secretariat was presented on shaping the future of regional transport



in a socially sustainable manner. TCT presentation focused on issues such as improving working conditions and equal opportunities for transport workers in the Western Balkans. Social aspect of transport will be observed through several activities in 2022. On International Women's Day, a conference shall be organised dedicated to addressing the gender gap and promoting the rights of women in transport.



promoting the rights of women in transport. The Transport Community Permanent Secretariat initiated a preparatory meeting with partnering financial institutions – EIB and EBRD – for the organisation of Road Summit in 2022. A

meeting with representatives of the International Road Federation on 20 January was an opportunity to discuss plans for this year's Summer School, intended to take place in Bosnia and Herzegovina and gather young professionals from the region for discussions on safe, smart and sustainable roads.



During a visit to Tirana on 26 January, work of TCT was presented at the meeting of EU Member States Ambassadors. In his briefing, Director Zakonjšek focused on rail reforms that will connect Albania better with its neighbours and informed the diplomats about the intention to organise the Road Summit in Tirana.

On 27 Janury in Podgorica, at a briefing for Deputy Heads of Missions, TCT presentation was focused on modernisation of the Port of Bar, upgrade of the Bar – Belgrade railway,

the Blue Highway along the Adriatic coast, as well as policy reforms. TCT stands ready to provide all the necessary support to regional partner Montenegro in moving forward with the EU negotiation talks on Chapters 14 and 21. This message was reiterated also at the meeting with the EU Ambassador to Montenegro Oana Cristina Popa. Strengthening administrative capacities in Western Balkans regional partners is essential for successful implementation of reforms. On 27 January, Director Zakonjšek met with the Minister of Capital Investments Mladen Bojanić to discuss Montenegro's progress on the European Commission's flagship projects in the country —



rehabilitation of the Bar-Belgrade railway, improvements on the road from Podgorica to Sarajevo, rail connections with Albania and the Budva bypass. In the course of January 2022, implementation of one more major project – Transport Observatory Database/Information System (TODIS) was initiated with a kick-off meeting with consultants from IDOM.

