

Transport Community Permanent Secretariat

November 2020 Newsletter No. 1



Action Plan Road Show

On 25 November, our Action Plans Road Show kick-started with a first stop in Tirana! Very productive workshop was held with Minister Balluku, Head of EU Delegation, EC and regional transport partners with the goal of kick starting the implementation of TCT Action Plans.

Following adoption of four Action Plans at the Annual Ministerial Council on 26th October, Transport Community will present these strategic documents at workshops in each of the six regional partners during November and December.



Our four Action Plans for Road, Transport Facilitation, Rail and Road Safety are an instruction manual on all important steps and milestones to deliver on concrete aims: safer roads; reduced waiting time at border crossings; reliable and modern rail; and roads of the future with integrated green and digital elements.

MEETING WITH TRANSPORT MINISTER TOMISLAV MOMIROVIC

On 9 November, Director Zakonjsek met with the newly-appointed Minister of Transport Tomislav Momirovic to reaffirm dedication to joint priorities – Corridor X as key connectivity project, success of Green Lanes during the pandemic, their extension to EU MS as well as road safety in the region.



Next steps:

4 December – Sarajevo, 9 December – Pristina, 10 December – Skopje (online), 14 December – Belgrade, 18 December – Podgorica

Green Lanes Extension:

November 10 Sofia Summit confirmed that there is political will to extend WB Green Lanes to neighboring EU MS.

“Green Lanes extension to the borders between Western Balkans and the EU is an important step towards better managed cross border cooperation. Waiting time at borders needs to decrease significantly. Transport Community and CEFTA will be there to make it happen”, Director Matej Zakonjsek.

The first concrete step towards extending Green Lanes to EU MS was taken on 20 November with the 1st coordination meeting of WB partners and 5 neighboring EU MS, facilitated by Transport Community.

Cooperation with EU MS:

To highlight the key role of EU neighbors, Director Zakonjsek met on 3 November in Zagreb with State Secretary Josip Bilaver to discuss improvements of borders between Croatia and BiH, rail reconstruction of Corridor X (Zagreb-Belgrade) & Croatia’s support to Green Lanes initiative.

Rail in Focus:

During November, numerous rail-themed online events were held:

North Macedonia first online rail Workshop - 4 November

KOS first online rail Workshop - 6 November

Meeting with DG Move regarding EC Work Program for 2021 - 16 November

World Bank Virtual Railway Workshop - 17 November

Online conference “Digital Transport Days” - 18 November

Meeting with EUD Kosovo Representative on rail plans & projects in Kosovo - 19 November

Road Safety in Focus:

Ahead of World Day of Remembrance #WDoR2020, Director Zakonjsek met on 11 November with UN Special Envoy for Road Safety Jean Todt.

The meeting reaffirmed: joint dedication to #VisionZero - no more dead/injured in WB and dedication to establishment of Road Safety observatory for Western Balkans.

Transport Community’s commitment to road safety was reiterated at the meeting of Director Zakonjsek with Interior Minister Agim Veliu in Pristina on 24 November. The two interlocutors noted that there should be no more dead & injured on roads & railway crossings in Western Balkans & that regional cooperation is crucial in establishing joint border controls which will reduce waiting times at borders in the region.

Video: World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims

https://twitter.com/EUWB6_TCT/status/1327948718176428032



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