16th meeting of the TCT Technical Committee on Railways

Update from the Commission

21 June 2023

Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport
Policy developments

1. Capacity management legislative proposal
2. Pilot projects to boost cross-border rail
3. Revision of Technical Specifications for Interoperability (TSIs)
4. Revision of the train driver directive (2007/59/EC)
5. Initiative on Multimodal Digital Mobility Services (ticketing)
6. 1st meeting of the Single European Rail Area Forum (SERAf)
International transport organisations

• Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF)
  > Long Term Strategy

• United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Inland Transport Committee
  > Unified Railway Law initiative

• Western Balkans - Transport Community (TC)
  > Regional Rail Strategy, IPA III
Current EU connectivity policies involving railways

- Indicative TEN-T extended maps
  Extension to neighboring countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, Western Balkans

On-going pre-feasibility study (EIB, EC, May 2023) to assess how to better connect the Ukrainian and Moldovan railway networks with the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T).
Current EU connectivity policies involving railways

• The Global Gateway
  Joint Communication of the Commission and of the High-Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (December 2021)

➢ On-going flagship “Study on Sustainable Transport Connections between Europe and Central Asia” (EBRD, EC, June 2023)

(1) **Identify the most sustainable transport corridors** connecting Central Asian economies with the extended Trans-European Transport Network, following assessment based on **sustainability criteria** and stakeholder consultations.

(2) **Propose key actions for corridor development** including actual infrastructure investments and the necessary enabling environment, including their **prioritization** based on a coherent and sustainable development strategy.
Current EU connectivity policies involving railways

- Action plan for EU-Ukraine Solidarity Lanes to facilitate Ukraine's agricultural export and bilateral trade with the EU (May 2022)

The EU’s Solidarity Lanes

enabled Ukraine to export

32 million tonnes

of grain, oilseeds and related foodstuff
Indicative map of the SL corridors
Policy developments

• **Autonomous Trade Measures (ATMs)**
  - Suspension of import duties, quotas and trade defence measures on **Ukrainian exports to the European Union** are in place for another year (OJ L 144, 5.6.2023, p. 1–6)

• **Safeguards measures**
  - Preventive and temporary measures concerning **four products** originating in Ukraine (Wheat, Maize, Rapeseed, Sunflower seeds)
  - Import only allowed in MS **other than BG, HU, PL, RO or SK** > Extension until 15 September 2023 (OJ L 144I, 5.6.2023, p. 1–4) > Scope reduced from 17 to 6 tariff lines
  - **Transit allowed** (all products) through BG, HU, PL, RO, SK to reach EU markets

• **Infrastructure funding / Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)**
  - Agreements signed on 09 Mai and 06 June associating **Moldova** and **Ukraine** to the CEF programme
Solidarity Lanes Adriatic Corridor

Monitoring BCPs, network and ports activity

Transhipment UA grains UA > HU rail BCPs (metric tons)

Port of Ravenna - UA agri products, volume (metric tons)

Main TCRs foreseen in 2023 on RFC5 SZ-I Slovenia

(update 24/4)
Framework conditions / topical issues

- **Administrative, legal and contractual**
  - Customs regime: application of the Custom Transit Convention
  - Cargo information: point of origin, point of destination + sealing and geo-localisation?
  - Legal contractual regime and transport documentation: COTIF-CIM, SMGS, Consignment Note

- **Technical, commercial and operational**
  - Availability of rolling-stock
  - UA-EU rail BCPs (transshipment capacity, waiting time, customs and SPS procedures)
  - Formation of block trains (commercial / operational considerations)
  - Priority and temporary capacity restrictions on the rail networks concerned
  - Internal (EU-Schengen) rail BCPs along the Corridor
  - Ports operation: storage and handling capacity, other ports services
  - Shipping: trading opportunities (freight forwarders) and availability of maritime services for exports outside the EU or Short Sea Shipping
Thank you