

Eighth Annual Stakeholders' Conference

THE DANUBE REGION TRANSPORT DAYS 2024

Boosting sustainable transport and connectivity

Joint EUSDR PA1b coordinators¹ and UNECE event

Tuesday, 3rd December 2024

Ljubljana / Slovenia

Venue: City Hotel, Dalmatinova 15, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Draft A G E N D A

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8.30 – 9.00 *Registration and Welcome Coffee*

9.00 – 9.05 **Welcome and Introduction**
EUSDR Priority Area Coordinators & UNECE representative

9.05 – 9.30 **Introductory & Keynote Speeches**

- *Mr. Andrej RAJH, State Secretary for Transport, Ministry of Infrastructure, Slovenia*
- *Mr. Aleksandar BANJAC, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure, Serbia (tbc)*
- *Mr. Johan MAGNUSSON, DG REGIO, the European Commission*

9.30 – 10.15 **S1: BETTER CONNECTIVITY FOR ALL MODES OF TRANSPORT**

Session one aims to provide a view on importance of connectivity for improved transport services and particularly to present the current state of transport connectivity in the Danube region and beyond. In addition to the revised TEN-T Regulation, the focus will be on the Western Balkans –Eastern Mediterranean European Transport Corridor and the Middle Corridor, also called Trans-Caspian International Transport Route (TITR).

Presentations:

- *New TEN-T - Contribution for Seamless, Sustainable and Safe Transport Network*
- Mr. Franc ŽEPIČ, Secretary, Ministry of Infrastructure, Slovenia
 - *Western Balkans –Eastern Mediterranean European Transport Corridor (ETC)*
- Mr. Marian-Jean MARINESCU, EU coordinator for WB-EM European Transport Corridor (tbc)
 - *Importance of the Trans-Caspian Corridor for the Danube Region?*
- Mr. Nenad NIKOLIĆ, Regional Advisor, UNECE ITC, Geneva
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10.15 –10.45 *Coffee Break*

10.45 –13.00 **S2: RAIL: New trends in Rail transport in Danube Macro-Region**

9 speakers *Panel 1: **Impact of Innovations and new Technologies on Rail***
Innovation and technology drive the future of railways. New developments and automation of train operations has the potential to improve the efficiency and safety of the network, enabling more goods

¹ Ministry of Infrastructure of the Republic of Slovenia and Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Serbia

to be transported by rail, while further contributing to sustainable transport. This panel will touch upon some important development measures for more competitive and attractive railways.

Speakers:

- Mr. Ian Conlon, Head of System Pillar, Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking, Brussels
- Mr. Peter ŠIŠOLAK, Head of Traffic Management, RNE, Vienna
- Prof. Dr. Bernd KORTSCHAK, University Vienna, Austria
- Mr. Maximilian BAUERNFEIND, EUSPA, Prague
- Mr. Ralf-Charley SCHULTZE, President, UIRR, Brussels (tbc)

Discussion

Panel 2: Passenger hubs – New face/es of urban development

The panel aims to explore the link between long-distance freight and passenger flows and urban hubs relating to the first- and last-mile delivery. In line with sustainable transport policy and especially the greening of transport, the intersections of long-distance transport and urban nodes are faced with many challenges.

Speakers:

- **International Railway Passenger Hubs**
 - Mr. Francesco DIONORI, Chief of Section, UNECE, Geneva
- **New face of Belgrade Railway Station/s**
 - Ms Anita DIMOSKI, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure, Serbia
- **Vienna Central Station**
 - Representative of BMVIT or ÖBB (tbc)
- **Ljubljana railway station reconstruction**
 - Representative of Mol or Slovenian Railways, Slovenia (tbc)
- **Tirana rail link**
 - Ms Eneida ELEZI, Foreign Affairs expert, Albanian Railways

Discussion

13.00–14.30

Lunch Break

14.30–15.00 S3: Macro-regions and their influence on transport and mobility

The EU strategy for Danube region should seek synergies with other macro-regional strategies (the Baltic Sea, the Adriatic-Ionian and the Alpine).

The aim of Session3 is to present activities and work in the field of transport of EUSAIR AG4 (mobility) and EUSALP TSG2 (transport).

Moderator: Johan Magnusson, DG REGIO, the European Commission

Speakers:

- EUSAIR TSG2 - Transport
 - Prof. Pierluigi COPPOLA, Transport Coordinator, Ministry of Infrastructures and Transport, Italy
 - Ms Jasminka KIRKOVA, Transport Coordinator, Ministry of Transport and Communications, North Macedonia
- EUSALP AG4 - Mobility,
 - Mr. Patrick SKONIEZKI, Mobility co-leader, EGTC European Region Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino, Austria

15.00–16.00 S4.1: PROJECTS Relevant for the Danube Region Transport

The aim of Session 4 is to present several projects with added value for the Danube macro-region which are co-financed by one of EU programmes. These projects play a vital role in promoting regional

development, cohesion, and reducing economic disparities. The results, achieved through actions may include the development and implementation of strategies, action plans, policy recommendations, training, pilot actions and related solutions.

Transnational transport and mobility projects that will be presented offer a unique opportunity to learn, exchange views, discuss, network and above all build long lasting connections with project promoters and transport experts!

Presentations:

- Project **“Rail4Regions”**
- Mr. Theo SAUERBORN, Project Lead, Thuringian Ministry for Infrastructure and Agriculture, Germany
- Project **Cross for ITS (X4ITS)**
- Ms. Martin BÖHM, Technical director, AustriaTech, Vienna, Austria
- Project **“Danube Indeet”**
- Mr Filip RUKAVINA, Research Assistant, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, Croatia
- Project **GeoNetSee,**
- Mr. Vladimir RAJOVIĆ, Project Manager, SFEE, Serbia

16.00–16.15

Coffee Break

16.15–17.30 **S4.2: PROJECTS Relevant for the Danube Region Transport**

(Continued!)

Presentations:

- Project **“ACCESSMILE”** (Improving ACCESSibility of last MILE connections of rural and peripheral regions to main TEN-T nodes in Central Europe through ICT)
- Mr. Alberto COZZI, Port of Trieste, Italy
- Projects **“LinkingDanube”** and **“LinkingAlps”**
- Mr. Nicole HAMPEL, AustriaTech, Vienna, Austria
- Project **CityWalk 2.0**
- Mr. Rok VRBAN, Senior Project Manager, SRC Bistra Ptuj, Slovenia
- Alpine space Project **“Green Hydrogen Mobility for Alpine Region Transportation (H2MA)”**
- Mr. Matevž ŠILC, Energy Agency of Savinjska, Saleška and Koroška Region, Slovenia

17.30 *Closure of the Conference*

18.30–21.00

Networking Dinner

Conference language: English. No interpretation available.