

# **Changing the Connectivity Governance in Western Balkans: Implementing the Transport Community**

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# The Transport Community : a game changer for Western Balkans

## *What is the Transport Community about?*

### *Moving from transport cooperation to transport integration*

- Promoting transport policies aligned with the EU ones;
- Supporting the transposition and implementation of EU's transport and transport related legislation in Western Balkans.
- Sharing **the same goals – but also the same values.**
- Opening (under conditions) the EU transport market to Western Balkans countries, before their accession = fostering the accession process.
- In other words, the Transport Community is a **game changer** for the region to fill the transport gap between Western Balkans and EU and prepare WB to the accession.

# TCT Priorities

- **Derive from Commission's Communication of Feb. 2018 « on a credible enlargement strategy »;**
- **Reflect the declarations adopted by the Transport Ministers of Western Balkans in April and December 2018 : regional rail strategy – road safety – transport facilitation.**
- **Supported by the Permanent Secretariat of TCT and...**
- **Implemented by the Regional Partners!**

# Transport Community: 4 principles applied to projects

- *Enabler of projects : sets the conditions for a infrastructure priority to become a successful project.*
- *Supports a transport system at the service of citizens and business, not to help building « cathedrals in the desert ».*
- *TCT promotes the transport of tomorrow not the solutions of the past.*
- *TCT supports long term vision not only short term actions.*

# ***Priority #1 for TCT : Developing a Regional Rail Strategy***

***No fatality in the decline of rail transport in WB!***

- **Sharp decline in both passenger and freight;**
- **Poor quality standards (low speed – low service levels...);**
- **Fragmentation of the markets (small networks – many borders!), market opening still incomplete : no real competition!**
- **Lack of cooperation between railways.**
- **Administrative capacity missing to implement EU standards/legislation;**
- **Against such background what TCT can do?**

## **Priority #2 for TCT : road safety**

- *References : (1) declaration adopted by all WB Ministers of Transport in April 2018 (2) TCT listed legislation.*
- *Permanent Secretariat's role : to monitor the situation – to set realistic objectives for each partners – to provide support – to ensure the coordination of T.A in the region.*
- *Implementing a **Regional Road Safety Action Plan** is the priority for 2020.*
- *The **Action Plan** will comprise a list of priority measures – in addition to the ones already in place – to be set up by each partner and the timing for implementation;*

# **Priority #3 for TCT : transport facilitation**

- *Truck queing at borders = 2 € x minute*
- *Loses for Western Balkans = 250 M€ per year (5 times the amount spent for road maintenance in the region)*
- *Making border crossing more efficient : removing infrastructure and administrative bottlenecks*
- *Action covers rail and road, inside WB and border crossing with MS*



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# **TRANSPORT COMMUNITY PERMANENT SECRETARIAT PREMISES**

*Masarikova Street 5, floor 18  
(entire floor)*

*Beogradjanka Building*





# TCT Secretariat in short

- *1. Mix of Reforms and Infrastructure Development;*
  - *2 - Regional Strategies to complement/strengthen EU or national policies;*
- *3 – Forward thinking : innovation / new technologies / decarbonized solutions.*

***Information on TCT can be found here :***

***[https://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/international-relations/enlargement/transport-community\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/international-relations/enlargement/transport-community_en)***

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