EUROPEAN RAIL MANIFESTO

Reaching EU Climate goals by making rail the first choice for European travel in 2030

29th of June 2022

Quickly making our economy and society climate-friendly is today's biggest challenge to face the **climate emergency.** Transport emissions and effects represent around 25% of the European Union's total greenhouse gas emissions. The **mobility eco-system** thus has a key role to play in order to reach the European Union's Climate objective to become a climate-neutral continent by 2050.

It is therefore high time to progress with a **modal shift** towards cleaner transport modes and sustainable travel patterns. **Rail** is a central part of the solution: as one of the greenest modes of transport – with less than 0.4% of transport-related greenhouse gas emissions and a steadily improved energy efficiency – it plays a key role in terms of sustainable mobility. Yet it is not used at its full potential, especially for **medium and long-distance passenger transport.**

We, European actors of the rail sector, industry, civil society, passengers and workers associations, are working towards a collaborative **rail eco-system** that provides **affordable, inclusive, secure and green mobility** for all European Citizens by 2030. We call upon European Institutions and Member States to support our commitment.

Our 2030 European Rail Vision is based on the following six objectives to be reached by 2030:

1 **Make rail the backbone of sustainable mobility.** By 2030, rail must be in a position to improve territorial cohesion and connect European citizens in urban and rural Europe in a climate-friendly way. Keeping the European transport sector emissions on the 1.5°-track requires a high modal share of rail for medium and long-distance passenger travels.

2 **Ensure inclusiveness, competitiveness and affordability.** Travel prices must internalise each transport mode's climate impact, giving travellers the right to choose the most sustainable options at a fair cost. The rail network must be fully accessible for people to travel, independently of disabilities, gender, social or economic backgrounds. Enabling passengers to book connections with any mobility platform must be possible through fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory data sharing.

3 **Guarantee connectedness, service levels and infrastructure quality.** Operative high-speed, conventional and night train lines must ensure that cities and rural areas are regularly served and connected with appropriate travel times. A mix of open access services and publicly supported connections coordinated on the European level will ensure an efficient expansion of services and the network.

4 **Promote a green, inclusive, attractive, gender-balanced and qualified industry and jobs.** The rail sector must be attractive for workers and operators to increase services quality and frequency. Interoperable, modern and sustainable rolling stock should be available for operators, including through a European leasing pool, to run without any obstacles all around Europe. The sector will provide good jobs for all, women and youth being actively integrated in the professional rail ecosystem.

5 **Ensure good governance, high quality, reliability and security.** A well governed European rail network with efficient coordination at the European level – integrating the expertise of the member states – and a digital European Rail Traffic Management System will increase European cohesion, rail attractiveness and industry competitiveness. Transparent, digital and extended capacity management as well as responsive train path allocation are key for increasing passenger traffic, reliability and security.

6 **Finance and invest in the future of rail.** The European Rail Network must be sustainably financed for maintenance, upgrade and expansion through regional, national and European public budgets, and by operators, through affordable track access charges. Public and private investments in transport must fit the 1.5°C climate track, which requires a significant shift of investments from road and air to rail.

We call on all European Union institutions as well as on Member states to take bold actions now to achieve a climate-friendly transport system by 2030 based on these six objectives.

Supporting organisations

Europe On Rail

Europe on Rail is a European initiative led by Civil Society Organisations to reduce carbon emissions from international mobility by promoting night and day passenger trains between European cities and countries. Through our policy work and by bringing together actors of the railway sector such as business, workers and consumers associations, companies, policy makers and think-tanks, we aim to foster a train revival in Europe.

ALLRAIL

ALLRAIL, the Alliance of Passenger Rail New Entrants in Europe represents independent passenger rail companies. Our members share the belief that faster market opening of passenger rail is the only way for rail transport to become cheaper, more attractive, and hence achieve the modal shift to fulfil the EU's climate ambitions set down in the Green Deal. More information available here: https://www.allrail.eu/

CER

The Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER) brings together around 70 railway undertakings, their national associations as well as infrastructure managers and vehicle leasing companies. The membership is made up of long-established bodies, new entrants and both private and public enterprises, representing 79% of the rail network length, 77% of the rail freight business and about 90% of rail passenger operations in EU, EFTA and EU accession countries. CER represents the interests of its members towards EU policymakers and transport stakeholders, advocating rail as the backbone of a competitive and sustainable transport system in Europe. For more information, visit www.cer.be or follow us on Twitter @CER_railways or LinkedIn.

EIM

EIM, the association of European Rail Infrastructure Managers, was established in 2002 to promote the interests and views of independent infrastructure managers in Europe, following the liberalisation of the EU railway market. It also provides technical expertise to the appropriate European bodies such as the European Railway Agency. EIM's primary goal is promoting growth of rail traffic and the development of an open sustainable, efficient, customer orientated rail network in Europe. For more information, visit www.eimrail.org

European Passengers Federation

The European Passengers' Federation (EPF) links Europe's major passenger organisations. EPF acts as an advocate for passengers' interests at European level. With its end-user focus it is committed to improving standards on public transport and achieving a seamless multimodal travel experience. EPF is interested in putting end-users first and for this, conducts research on passenger needs, citizen engagement activities and EU-wide dissemination. More information: http://www.epf.eu/

eu travel tech

eu travel tech represents the interests of travel technology companies. eu travel tech uses its position at the centre of the travel and tourism sector to promote a consumer-driven, innovative and competitive industry that is transparent and sustainable. Our membership spans Global Distribution Systems (GDSs), Online Travel Agencies (OTA), Travel Management Companies in business travel (TMCs) and metasearch sites. For more information on eu travel tech and policy priorities, visit www.eutraveltech.eu

Global Business Travel Association

GBTA is the world's premier business travel and meetings trade organization headquartered in the Washington, D.C. area with operations on six continents. GBTA's members manage more than $345 billion of global business travel and meetings expenditures annually. GBTA delivers world-class education, events, research, advocacy, and media to a growing global network of more than 28,000 travel professionals and 125,000 active contacts.

Generation Climate Europe (GCE)

Generation Climate Europe (GCE) is the largest coalition of youth-led networks on climate and environmental issues at the European level. GCE unites the largest youth-led networks in Europe bringing together 381 national organisations across 46 countries in Europe. We are guided by the voices of over 20 million young Europeans.

UNIFE

Based in Brussels since 1992, UNIFE is the association representing Europe's rail supply industry at the European Union and international levels. UNIFE's members include more than 100 companies – from SMEs to major industrial champions – active in the design, engineering and manufacture of rolling stock (i.e., trains, metros, trams, freight wagons) as well as rail signalling and infrastructure equipment. UNIFE also brings together the national rail supply industry associations of 11 European countries. For more information, visit www.unife.org