

Ninth Annual Stakeholders' Conference

THE DANUBE REGION TRANSPORT DAYS 2025

“Road & Rail – Working Together for a Better Connected Danube Region”

Tuesday & Wednesday, 9th and 10th December 2025

Ljubljana / Slovenia

Venue: Best Western Premier Hotel Slon, Slovenska cesta 34, 1000 Ljubljana

Draft A G E N D A

WHY THIS CONFERENCE? WHY ROAD & RAIL?

The aim of the two-day event is to explore the challenges and opportunities in modern transport infrastructure and services while highlighting **the crucial, often misunderstood, complementary relationship** between road and rail.

A key challenge in promoting a truly integrated transport system is to go beyond protecting one mode "little garden" and to understand that power is in cooperation and co-action. **To advocate for cooperation over competition is crucial for a successful functioning of transport system.** A well-integrated system is fundamental to fostering sustainable growth, resilience, and cohesion across the Danube Region.

This event provides a platform to exchange knowledge, share best practices, and strengthen partnerships that support the region's long-term transport and development goals.

Ver.: 23-10-2025

TUESDAY, 9th December 2025

Day 1 Building a Balanced and Connected Transport System

10.00 - 12.00 Site visit “Construction of Ljubljana passenger hub”

Aim: Showcase practical infrastructure development; highlight challenges and opportunities in multimodal hubs.

12.00 – 13.00 Buffet lunch**13.00 – 13.30 Registration****13.30 – 14.00 Welcome, Introductory & Keynote Speeches**

Aim: Open the conference, outline objectives, emphasize the importance of cooperation between road and rail.

14.00 – 15.00 Session 1: WHY ROAD AND RAIL MATTER – ENABLING THE TRANSPORT SYSTEM

Aim: Explore the complementary roles of road and rail in moving people and goods; why an integrated transport system is vital for the Danube macro-region.

15.00 – 15.30 Coffee Break**15.30 – 16.30 Session 2: STATE OF PLAY – TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE DANUBE REGION**

Aim: Present current conditions, trends, and gaps for both road and rail infrastructure in the Danube macro-region.

16.30 – 17.30 Session 3: TRANSPORT SERVICES FOR FREIGHT AND PASSENGERS - ROAD AND RAIL IN COACTION

Aim: Examine operational aspects of transport services for both passengers and freight. Showcase successful case studies where road and rail cooperation delivers integrated logistics chains, sustainable urban mobility, and resilient supply systems.

17.30 – 17.45 Closing Remarks & Key Takeaways »From Competition to Cooperation«

A summary of the day's main points and a look ahead to future collaboration and action.

18.30 – 20.30 Networking DINNER

Wednesday, 10th December 2025

DAY 2 From Vision to Action – Synergies, Funding, Projects and Next Steps

8.30 – 9.00 Registration and Welcome Coffee

9.00–10.00 Session 4: INTERMODALITY IN MOTION – COMBINED TRANSPORT IN PRACTICE

Aim: To dive into intermodal logistics. Explore digital platforms, terminal innovations, and multimodal freight solutions that enhance competitiveness, sustainability and reliability of transport.

10.00 – 11.00 Session 5: FUNDING AS A CATALYST FOR DANUBE REGION TRANSPORT INTEGRATION

Aim: Demonstrate how EU funding instruments and IFI support enable integrated transport development.

11.00 –11.30 Coffee Break

11.30 – 12.30 Session 6: PROJECTS THAT DELIVER – TANGIBLE RESULTS

Aim: Present successful EU-funded projects demonstrating road and rail improved connectivity.

12.30 – 13.30 Buffet lunch

13.30 – 14:30 Session 7: ROUNDTABLE – NEXT STEPS FOR THE DANUBE MACRO-REGION

*Aim: Co-create practical recommendations for policymakers, investors, and operators.
Participants: Moderated panel of speakers from sessions 5 & 6.*

14.30 – 15.00 Closing Keynote & Takeaways & Closing Remarks

Aim: To summarise event outcomes and inspire stakeholders to move from vision to action.

15.00 – 16.00 Networking & Farewell Coffee

Note: The draft agenda is subject to possible minor changes!

Conference language: **English.** No interpretation available!
