



## HIGHLIGHTS

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WHAT'S NEW FROM  
BRUSSELS

**Supporting the development of the Zlin Region in Europe: the transregional initiative for the new Baltic Adriatic Corridor**

**Tuesday 06.10.2009  
European Parliament  
18h00 > 20h00**

Special event for the signature of the Common Resolution supporting the realization of a new railway transport corridor in Central Europe, including the Czech Republic.



*With the active support and the co-organisation of the Zlin Region in Brussels.*

## SPECIAL FOCUS ON THE "BALTIC-ADRIATIC CORRIDOR" EVENT

### Editorial

*Mattia Crosetto*

Dear readers,

During the Semester of Czech Presidency to the EU Council, we have been promoter of an important conference on transport infrastructures, held at the Committee of the Regions. Our wish was to highlight the necessity of completing the axes that could connect the Zlin Region to the main EU flows of freight and people. That conference proved to be a good idea, as it brought us the project for the Baltic-Adriatic Corridor, a new railway axe going from the Baltic Sea to north Adriatic, passing through our Region.

We consider that this project is of the highest interest of the Zlin Region and this for two basic reasons.

First of all, because the inclusion of the "Baltic-Adriatic Corridor" in the new schemes of the Trans-European-Networks will provide the opportunity for financing transport infrastructure projects also at the local level. In fact, the local connections to the main European transport axes are eligible to direct funding from the European Commission.

Secondly, the existence of a TEN-T Corridor within Central Moravia could give fresh impulse to other local transport projects.

For example, the realisation and future management of the Regional Airport – with the creation there of a pole for cargo flights – would be supported by the passage in the area of a main European axe. The creation of a multimodal platform for railway-air transport, in line with the political orientations of the European Commission, would be possible and cross-benefits would be real.

For all the above-mentioned reasons, we support this project and we co-organised the presentation of this important project at the European Parliament on October 6<sup>th</sup>, at the occasion of the Open Days 2009. We will keep you informed about the results!

Sincerely,

Mattia Crosetto  
The Head of Office  
Zlin Region in Brussels

## The Baltic-Adriatic Corridor

### A strategic project fostering regional development



**The conference on TEN-T organized by the Zlin Region in Brussels on the 24th of February 2009 in the frame of the CzechReg Days has produced tangible results: the main one is the joint initiative of 19 EU Regions for cooperating to the realisation of a new transport axe.**

The Zlin Region in Brussels has been among the protagonists of the Regional program for the CzechReg Days during the Semester of Czech Presidency to the EU Council.

An important event in that frame was the international conference on the future of Trans-European Networks that the Office organized at the Committee of the Regions in February 2009. It was not simply a "talk-event", but more the starting point of an active lobbying at the EU level.

The first tangible result has been the meeting held in the Styria Office on the 13 of May 2009 when the Zlin Region in Brussels has been active partner of the initiative for a new "**Baltic-Adriatic Corridor**", a railway axe connecting the Baltic Port terminals through Poland, Czech Republic, Austria up to the Adriatic Sea. The axe would pass through Vienna and then would split in two parallel lines (one to Moravia in the Czech Republic, the other one to Bratislava), rejoining again immediately before the Poland border, in the Moravian-Silesia Region.

A Letter of Intent on the "Baltic-Adriatic Corridor" was signed on October 12, 2006 by national Transport ministers of Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria and Italy, aiming at extension of TEN-T PP 23 via Vienna – Graz – Klagenfurt – Villach – Udine to Trieste and Venice – Verona – Bologna. On June 17, 2009, the council of ministers found a political agreement on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning a European rail network for competitive freight. This regulation, which sets out rules for the selection, organization and management of freight corridors includes the Baltic-Adriatic Corridor (Gdynia-Katowice-Ostrava/Zilina-Vienna-Trieste).

A cycle of meetings among interested Regions started in June 2009. Partner Regional Offices in Brussels worked on a Common Resolution to support the project for the new railway axe and create the basis for request of financing to the European Institutions.

The text of the Common Resolution has been prepared, amended and finalized during the summer.

At the mid-September it was ready for finalisation.

The Representative Office of the Zlin Region in Brussels has directly contributed to the preparation of the document by managing the formal inclusion of the section "Ostrava – Prerov (Otrokovice) – Brno", imagining the interconnection of several essential pieces of the regional transport network, including the future regional airport in Prerov-Buchlov and the interconnection with the R49.

The new step will be now the organization of a formal ceremony for the official signature of the Common Resolution and its presentation to the EU Institution. The ceremony is scheduled in Brussels, at the European Parliament, on October 6th at 18h00, on the occasion of the Open Days 2009, the plenary session of the Committee of the Regions and of the European Parliament.

### **Baltic-Adriatic Corridor: the project in pills**

The Baltic-Adriatic Corridor starts at Gdansk as an important intermodal node for the Baltic Sea Region, passes Warszawa - Katowice – Ostrava – Prerov (Otrokovice) - Brno – Wien – Graz – Klagenfurt – Udine – Trieste/Venezia – Bologna / Ravenna (with the branch Katowice – Zilina – Bratislava – Wien) .

The sea ports Venezia, Trieste and Ravenna are the corresponding southern intermodal nodes and gateways in the Mediterranean area for volumes of cargo shipped through the "motorways of the sea" to the booming Asia area via the Suez canal.

Important construction works (e.g. tunnelworks in Austria) along the described Baltic-Adriatic Corridor are in progress; further planning has already been initiated.

In its total length, the Corridor crosses 19 Regions of Central Europe.

## PRESENTATION OF THE BALTIC-ADRIATIC CORRIDOR TO THE EU

European Parliament, Brussels

6 October 2009 – 18h30



### Indicative program of the event

*The event is part of the initiatives organized in the frame of the Open Days 2009*

- 18h00-18h10:** Welcome of regional delegations, guests and participants.  
Moderator will thank the Member of the European Parliament Mrs. Ranner who supported the organization of the event at the European Parliament.  
Short introduction to the event
- 18h10-18h20:** Speech of MEP Mrs. Ranner (Styria, Austria)
- 18h20-18h40:** Presentation of the Baltic-Adriatic Corridor  
- show of a video prepared with the cooperation of OBB  
- a technical expert will resume the main features of the project  
- shorth intervention of the president of the Transport Committee at EP
- 18h40-19h00:** ceremony for the Signature of the common resolution  
Each single representative of the involved Regions will stand up from the speakers' table, join the table with the resolution and sign it.  
Just before signing the resolution, each representative will pronounce a statement to express the motivations of its Region in supporting the project  
(note: statements will be pronounce in mother tongue, and translated into English with help of slides projected on screens in the conference room)
- 19h00-19h15:** Final intervention by the Vice President of the European Commission, Mr. Antonio Tajani, Commissioner responsible for Transport
- 19h15-20h00:** Group photo of the Signature of the Common Resolution  
*Greetings to guests and participants*

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### Participating regions:

Up to now, confirmed Regions coming to the event are the following:

- Friuli Venezia Giulia: confirmed (President of the Region or Regional Minister for Transport)  
Veneto: confirmed (President of the Region or Regional Minister for Budget)  
Emilia Romagna: confirmed (President of the Region or Regional Minister for Transport)  
Styria Region: confirmed (President of the Region)  
Carinthia Region: confirmed (President of the Region)  
Vienna: confirmed (Member of the City Council responsible for transport)  
Lower Austria: confirmed (Member of the Regional Council)  
Bratislava: confirmed (Member of the European Parliament - MEP)  
South Moravia: confirmed (MEP who is also Member of the Regional Council)  
Zlin Region: confirmed (Vice President of the Regional Council)  
Mazowieckie: confirmed (President of the Region)  
Slaskie: confirmed (President of the Region)  
Lodz: confirmed (Member of the Regional Council appointed for the signature)

## **Practical information**

**Address:** *European Parliament  
Rue Wiertz 60  
1047 Bruxelles  
Belgium*

**Contacts:** *Info (32) 2 284.21.11  
Fax (32) 2 284.35.30*

### **Directions:**



*EP is easy accessible  
through the bus  
terminal of Place du  
Luxembourg.*

### **Access:**

*Participation to the ceremony for the Signature of the Common Resolution supporting the Baltic Adriatic Corridor is reserved to invited guests.*

*Registration through our Office is thus needed to enter into EP.*

For more information about this and other activities of the Zlín Region in Europe, please contact:

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