Working groups to implement the transport protocol of the Alpine Convention: experience and some working results

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Carpathian Convention Working Group
18th and 19th October 2012, Košice
Signature and ratification of the transport protocol by the Alpine states and the European Union

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The missing ratification by some Alpine states and the EU is disappointing!

**Breaking news:**
On 17\textsuperscript{th} Oct.2012 the Italian parliament decided the ratification. source: [www.alpenconv.org](http://www.alpenconv.org)
Working group transport, chaired by the French delegation (ministère de l’écologie, du développement durable, des transports et du logement)

Subgroups:
Urban and Interurban Mobility
Sustainable Mobility

Selection of achieved results

Report on the State of the Alps: Transport and Mobility
Studies on transport environment and health

- Excellent overviews to the impacts of transport on environment and health in the member states of the Alpine Convention, including
  - emission data,
  - legislation and
  - measures to reduce negative environmental impacts

- Austrian contribution worked out by the Austrian Environment Agency with an additional focus on positive health impacts of walking and cycling
Sub Working Group on sustainable Mobility

- Focus on sustainable mobility in tourism
- Studies on accessibility of Alpine holiday regions by public transport, especially by rail, compared with accessibility by car
- Studies on Alpine traffic flows
- Successful conferences on sustainable mobility in Bonn in June 2008 and in Bregenz in July 2010,
- Conference in Bonn: focus improvement of rail connections to the Alps from the origin regions of guests, conference recommendations were a contribution for better train connections on the Tauern axis and from Germany to Styria
- Conference 2010: Travel information for the „last mile“ base for the project AlpInfoNet
Project AlpInfonet in the Alpine Space program

• Successful application for funding of the project AlpInfoNet in the EU Alpine Space program for transnational cooperation started on 1st July 2012, improvement of information to sustainable mobility on the last mile in holiday regions. The map below shows the partners:

Workpages of AlpInfoNet
• WP 4: Elaboration of a strategy for handling and dissemination of sustainable mobility information
• WP 5: Technical coordination
• WP 6: Political coordination
• WP 7: Interconnection of a joint transnational sustainable mobility information service
Sub Working Group on Urban and Interurban Mobility

- First report in summer 2011, focused on mobility in cities
- Draft report on urban mobility summer 2012 with more emphasis on traffic between cities and their surrounding regions, Austrian contribution focused on S-Bahn systems („Metro Regional“)
- Planned topics:
  - Sustainable urban freight logistics
  - Public transport in remote regions with low population density
Carpathian Convention: Draft Protocol on Sustainable Transport

- In general the content meets the requirements of an environmentally sustainable development, the compatibility with the transport protocol of the Alpine Convention is high.
- Limits for the construction of new high-ranked roads are not set as strong as in article 11 of the Alpine convention.
- Reason: the density and the quality of the high-ranked road network in the Alpine regions were already very high, when the transport protocol of Alpine convention started.
Suggestions to certain articles
personal opinions, input for discussion

• Article 9 - Transeuropean Networks: ….Parties shall ensure functionality and compatibility with TEN or similar and ecological sustainability of all networks. Moreover, for distributing the advantages of high ranked networks in the regions, regional public transport services and feeder services for freight should ensure good accessibility also on the “last mile”

• Article 10 - Rail Transport: Please mention technological innovations, (e.g. automatic coupling, compatible with conventional coupling of rail-cars, remote steering of shunting locomotives, cost efficient transshipping-technologies)
Suggestions to certain articles 2

• Article 14 Urban and Touristic Accessibility …. bottlenecks - especially in the public transport system and in the cycle and walking network – should be reduced

• Article 15 - Management Systems for Sustainable Transport: Transeuropean Networks: Please add a point: User-friendly IT-based information and ticketing-systems should encourage people to use public transport (best price chip cards, example South Tyrol, pre- and on trip information), but friendly and competent staff is still important for passengers
Suggestions to certain articles for discussion, 3

• Article 16 - Safety Standards: Please add: Moreover, for cycle tourism cycle path networks, which are separated from fast car traffic should improve safety and encourage sustainable mobility in tourism

• Finally I recommend an additional article or sub-point to the coordination of land-use planning and traffic planning under consideration of the accessibility of new built up areas by public transport, especially by rail
Thank you for your attention!

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