



European Parliament Intergroup Tourism

31 May 2006

The role of railways for European Tourism:

What are the Perspectives in the Regional and European Rail Passengers Transport

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« Rail transport and interoperability »





The role of railways for European Tourism

- Introduction
- Legal and Political Context
- Commission initiatives
- Perspectives





The role of railways for European Tourism - Introduction

- Importance tourism as economic sector
- Link between tourism and transport
- Environmental and safety issues





The role of railways for European Tourism – Legal and political context

- Rail transport declined in relative terms since the 70s
- Railway undertakings suffer from obligations and debts accumulated in the past
- Need to restructure the sector: adoption of several packages
- 2001 White Paper aims at modal shift towards from road to rail
- 2006 mid term review aim is to increase efficiency of transport
- Commission proposing framework conditions to revitalise the European railways





The role of railways for European Tourism – Commission initiatives (1)

- Passenger transport hardly addressed under measures adopted so far
- Commission proposal to open market for international passenger transport by rail
- Proposal for a Regulation on passengers' rights
- Proposal for a Regulation on Public Service Contracts: relevance for local, urban and regional transport





The role of railways for European Tourism – Commission initiatives (2)

- Complaints about discontinuation of international services
- Complaints from MEPs and individual citizens about service levels
- Complaints from new railway undertakings





The role of railways for European Tourism - Perspectives

- There is a world to be conquered for the railways
- Rail has the potential to develop in a competitive mode of transport
- Opportunities need to be seized
- Commitment sector required to justify use of public funds





For further information, please consult our website:

Ec.europa.eu

**[http://ec.europa.eu/comm/transport/
rail/index_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/transport/rail/index_en.html)**

**Google: 'Rail Transport
Interoperability'**

