



Alpine Crossings: Challenges for Policy and Research

The ALP-NET Thematic Network

Brussels, October 1st & 2nd, 2001

Programme

Venue:

Centre Borschette
36, rue Froissart
BE-1040 Brussels



**Fifth Framework
Programme**



**The Interdisciplinary Centre
for Comparative Research in
the Social Sciences**



**European Commission
DG Transport & Energy**

Alpine Crossings: Challenges for Policy and Research Brussels, October 1st & 2nd, 2001

Monday, 1st October, 2001

Morning Session

Policy Developments in Alpine Transport and the Decision Making Context

The Agenda

Trans-Alpine transport poses significant challenges for the Common Transport Policy and for national transport policies and raises questions relating to subsidiarity and multi-level governance, including the representation of stakeholder and citizen interests. An integrated, cross-sectoral and co-ordinated approach is called for, yet is difficult to implement, not least because of the conflicting nature of the interests at stake. Trans-Alpine transport is a European multi-lateral problem at the same time that it is a national and regional one. It is a challenge for transport policy but also for environment and the economy.

This session will focus on the recent policy developments in the area, laying particular emphasis on the land transport agreement between Switzerland and the EU, the ongoing negotiations between Austria and the EU and the development of the Common Transport Policy. Some of the main questions will include: What are the relevant changes in the new Common Transport Policy (CTP) and how will they affect the national transport policies in the Member States? How can regional and stakeholder interests be integrated in the development of an Alpine transport policy? What is the relationship between transport policy, environmental policy and economic policy on the European and the national levels? What impact will the Alpine Convention have on the CTP and the national transport policies? When and how will the transport protocol of the Alpine Convention be implemented? What will be the medium and long term effects of the agreement between the EU and Switzerland? What are the likely effects of EU Enlargement on trans-Alpine traffic? What are possible solutions in the dispute between the EU and Austria over the Ecopoint system and its scheduled termination?

- 10:00 - 10:10: **Opening and Welcome**
Alfonso Gonzales-Finat - European Commission, DG-TREN
- 10:10 - 10:20: **Chair's Introduction**
Alain Rathery - ECMT
- 10:20 - 11:00: **First Round of Interventions**
Heinz Hilbrecht - European Commission, DG-TREN
Noël Lebel - Ministère de l'Équipement, des Transports et du Logement, France
- 11:00 - 11:30: **General Discussion**
- 11:30 - 12:00: **Coffee Break**
- 12:00 - 12:40: **Second Round of Interventions**
Andreas Weissen - CIPRA International
Ueli Balmer - Bundesamt für Raumentwicklung, Switzerland
Eugenio Borgia - French-Italian Intergovernmental Commission for Lyon-Torino
- 12:40 - 13:00: **General Discussion**
- 13:00: **Lunch**

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Afternoon Session

Influencing the Modal Split: The Potential of Intermodal and Combined Transport

The Agenda

Intermodal and combined transport represent important alternatives to road transport for the transalpine freight flows. In 1998 accompanied or unaccompanied combined transport amounted to 20% of the freight flows across the Alps. Despite this promising figure, transalpine intermodal and combined transport suffers from shortcomings in quality, which are often due to the lack of interconnectivity and interoperability at border crossings and to the problems associated with capacity constraints, the management of supply chains and regional traffic.

This session will focus on the technical, operational and legal differences between the national transalpine networks, on the issues of management at border crossings terminals, and on new strategies of intermodal operators. In addition, the following more general questions will be posed: What are the adequate conditions for increasing the modal share of combined and intermodal transport? What are the main obstacles in achieving these conditions? What are the short and long-term capacity constraints?

- 14:30 - 14:45: **Introduction**
Antonio Musso - University of Rome „La Sapienza“
- 14:45 - 14:55: **Chair's Introduction**
Christian Reynaud - NESTEAR
- 14:55 - 15:40: **First Round of Interventions**
K. Ebeling - European Intermodal Association, EIA
Erwin Wieland - Bundesamt für Verkehr, Switzerland
Stefan Tostmann - European Commission, DG TREN
- 15:40 - 16:10: **General discussion**
- 16:10 - 16:40: **Coffee break**
- 16:40 - 17:20: **Second Round of Interventions**
Eugenio Muzio - CEMAT
Soren Rasmussen - International Road Union, IRU
Eric Peetermans - International Union of Railways, UIC
- 17:20 - 18:00: **General discussion**
- 18:00: **End of Session**
- 20:00: **Dinner at the Restaurant l'Huitrière** (20 quai aux Briques, 1000 Brussels)

Alpine Crossings: Challenges for Policy and Research Brussels, October 1st & 2nd, 2001

Tuesday, 2nd October, 2001

Morning Session Pricing and Financing of Transport Infrastructure

The Agenda

The pricing schemes in transalpine freight transport are among the main factors for the choice of transport modes and routes as well as for the overall growth. Furthermore, revenues of road taxes can also be used to cross-finance new or improved infrastructure, as the Swiss example, where the mileage related heavy vehicle tax partly finances the New Trans-Alpine Rail Links (NARL), shows.

It is still a long way to go for a harmonised, fair and efficient pricing that takes into account the constraints of infrastructure and the environment. The session will review the state of the art and focus on the needs for further co-ordination and further research in this area: Is there a need for harmonised transport accounts as a basis for pricing? What research and co-ordination efforts are needed to move towards a harmonised alpine pricing scheme? What effects on traffic flows can we expect from planned pricing schemes? What are the potentials and limits of various financing schemes for new infrastructure (in particular "cross-financing-schemes")?

- 9:00 - 9:15: **Introduction**
Felix Walter - ECOPLAN
- 9:15 - 9:25: **Chair's Introduction**
John Hugh Rees - European Commission, DG TREN
- 9:25 - 10:10: **First Round of Interventions**
Tom Howes - European Commission, DG TREN
Esko Niskanen - VATT, Finland
Gianni Carbonaro - European Investment Bank
- 10:10 - 10:40: **General Discussion**
- 10:40 - 11:10: **Coffee Break**
- 11:10 - 12:00: **Second Round of Interventions**
Ueli Balmer - Bundesamt für Raumentwicklung, Switzerland
Henk Kramer - Transport en Logistiek Nederland
Markus Liechti - T&E, Transport and Environment
Maria Papathanassiou - European Commission, DG TREN
- 12:00 - 12:30: **General Discussion**
- 12:30: **Lunch**

Alpine Crossings: Challenges for Policy and Research

Brussels, October 1st & 2nd, 2001

Tuesday, 2nd October, 2001

Afternoon Session

Data, Methods, Modelling and Graphical Information Systems (GIS)

The Agenda

A wide range of actors depend on reliable information on trans-Alpine transport: policy makers at European and national level, transport operators and communities affected by the transport flows over the Alps. In this session the specific data needs for the Alpine area will be reviewed. An overview of existing data sets, methods and models will be presented and the differences, inconsistencies and gaps will be identified and discussed.

The present work of the French/Swiss/Austrian study group on trans-Alpine transport data represents a possible starting point for an increased international co-operation between national administrations, the affected regions and the European institutions. This session is an opportunity to discuss the needs and possibilities for co-operation and to take a step towards a common concept for co-ordinating the efforts on data collection. Finally, the session will look at GIS tools which are used for the visualisation of basic information, and at model results at the territorial and infrastructure levels.

Participants to the round table will be invited to address the following questions: What are the major problems and gaps in data collection and availability? How can we explain the differences in transport demand forecasts? How can international co-operation improve the quality, consistency and availability of data? How to proceed with the establishment of Alpine monitoring systems as requested by the land transport agreement between Switzerland and the EU and by the Alpine convention? What is the future of ETIS (European Transport Information System)? How useful are currently available GIS systems?

- 14:00 - 14:15: **Introduction**
Philippe Tardieu - NEA
- 14:15 - 14:25: **Chair's Introduction**
Carlo Lavalle - European Commission, DG Joint Research Centre
- 14:25 - 15:10: **First Round of Interventions**
Michel Houée - Ministère de l'Équipement, des Transports et du Logement, France
Walter Züst - Federal Office for Spatial Development, Switzerland
Gianpaolo Basoli - Ministero dei Trasporti e della Navigazione, Italy
- 15:10 - 15:40: **General discussion**
- 15:40 - 16:10: **Coffee break**
- 16:10 - 17:10: **Second Round of Interventions**
Thomas Spiegel - Bundesministerium für Verkehr, Innovation und Technologie, Austria
Josefine Oberhausen - EUROSTAT
Andreas Küchel - Bundesministerium für Verkehr, Bau- und Wohnungswesen, Germany
Jan Francke - Dutch Ministry of Transport
- 17:10 - 17:40: **General discussion**
- 17:40: **End of Session**

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Workshops in the ALP-NET Thematic Network

Data, Methods and Modelling - Exploration of Technical Requirements and Capabilities

11-12 March 2002, Innsbruck, Austria

Will review and assess existing work on data, methods and modelling and explore whether and how a monitoring / observatory mechanism can be established with existing technical input.

Alpine Transport Policy: A Regional Problem with European Consequences or a European Problem with Regional Consequences?

27-28 May 2002, Lago Maggiore, Italy

Will examine the policy and political context surrounding trans-Alpine transport by examining the impact of the transport agreements with Switzerland and Austria and of the Alpine Convention, as well as the role of European institutions and economic actors at the interface with regional interests and citizen concerns.

What Role for Intermodality in Alpine Transport?

12-13 September 2002, Annecy, France

Will explore the current role and possible development of intermodality and combined transport in the Alpine regions towards a re-balancing of the transport system and more specifically the modal split and the protection of the environment.

Pricing and Financing of Alpine Transport Infrastructure

23-24 January 2003, Bern, Switzerland

Will focus on the pricing and financing of transport infrastructure in the Alpine regions considering stakeholder interests and public acceptability as well as the feasibility of plans and their practical implementation.

Data, Methods and Modelling - Towards an Integration of Technical Perspectives

15-16 May 2003, Bled, Slovenia

Will advance the discourse on data, methods and modelling considering developments that occur in the course of ALP-NET, specifically with regard to policy, intermodality, pricing and financing

What Future for Alpine Transport?

22-23 September 2003, Brussels, Belgium

Will disseminate and deliberate the results of ALP-NET and seek the establishment of a framework for the continuation of the concertation among relevant actors from science, policy, the economy and society more generally.

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The ALP-NET Website

www.alp-net.org



