



The Union of European Railway Engineer Associations (UEEIV)

is pleased to invite you to the

RAILWAY FORUM 2024 in Sofia, Bulgaria from 8-9 November 2024

main topic:

THE FUTURE OF RAILWAY INTEROPERABILITY: 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AND INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES

with the support of



NATIONAL GUILD – SOCIETY OF RAILWAY TRACK ENGINEERS (NGSRTE)



SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL UNION OF TRANSPORT (WTVV)



FEDERATION OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL UNIONS IN BULGARIA (FSTU)

BULGARIAN ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING COMPANIES ON RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION (BACCRC)



SE NATIONAL RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE COMPANY (SE NRIC)

HOLDING BDZ INC. (BDZ)



under the auspices of the

Minister of Transport and Communications

Venue:

“Asen Zlatarev” hall 4 , Federation of Scientific and Technical Unions (FSTU)
108 Georgi Rakovski Str., Sofia, Bulgaria

Languages: English and Bulgarian with translation

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 8 NOVEMBER, "ASEN ZLATAREV" HALL 4

09.00 - 10.00 Registration

09.30 – 09.40 OPENING CEREMONY

Dipl.-Ing. Olaf Scholtz-Knobloch – UEEIV President
Dipl. Eng. Antoaneta Georgieva – NGS RTE Chairman
Dipl. Eng. Yasen Ishev – STUT Chairman

09.40 – 10.00 WELCOMING

Georgi Gvozdeikov - Minister of Transport and Communications
Dipl. Eng. Olaf Scholtz-Knobloch – UEEIV President
Dipl. Eng. Prof. Ivan Iachev - FSTUB Chairman

10.00 – 12:00 FIRST SESSION

Moderators: *Dipl.-Ing. Olaf Scholtz-Knobloch, UEEIV (D)*
Dipl. Eng. Yasen Ishev, WTVV (BG)

10:00 – 10:20 **TSI from ERA's perspective**
Desislava DIMITROVA
ERA Research Coordinator (F)

10.20 – 10:50 **Railway interoperability – from the past to the present**
Dipl.-Ing. Rudolf KOLLER
Company (A)

10.50 – 11.20 **Railway infrastructure projects – 2030 horizon**
Dipl. Eng. Maria Genova
SE NRIC Director general (BG)

11.20 – 11:50 **Presentation Title tbc**
Michael Walter
ÖBB, Member of ERA working group (A)

11.50 – 12.00 **Q&A Session and podium discussion for sessions 1**

12.00 – 13.00 LUNCH BREAK & NETWORKING

13.00 - 15.10 SECOND SESSION

Moderators: *Ass. Prof. Dr. Eng Mario Galabov, UEEIV (BG)*
Dipl. Eng. Antoaneta Georgieva, NGS RTE (BG)

13.00 – 13.30 **Modernization and restructuring strategy of Holding BDZ as the national railway operator**
Dipl. Eng. Georgi Drumev
HOLDING BDZ INC Managing Director (BG)

13.30 – 14.00 **Strategy for the Introduction of TSI in the Bulgarian Railway System**
Mr. Lyuben Nanov
Director of Executive Agency Railway Administration (BG)

- 14.00 – 14.30 **Railway interoperability - problems, solutions development**
Gergana Karaalanova
General Manager, TINSA (BG)
- 14.30 – 15.00 **New role, new reality**
How the increasing digitalization (Virtual Reality) asks for new roles and rules
Markus Bolli
Suprexa AG (CH)
- 15.00 – 15.10 **Q&A Session and podium discussion for session 2**
- 15.10 – 15.40 COFFEE BREAK & NETWORKING**

15:40 - 17.50 THIRD SESSION

Moderators: Dr. Dipl. Eng. Bernhard Knoll, UEEIV (A)
Dipl. Eng. Ivo Yanakiev, NGS RTE (BG)

- 15.40 – 16.10 **Exchange of best practices as catalyst for interoperability**
Dipl. Eng. Marco Corradini
Specialist in Control and Coordination, SBB (CH)
- 16.10 – 16.40 **Presentation title tbc**
Prof.hc, Prof. Georg Brügger
Freelancer (CH)
- 16.40 - 17.10 **Presentation on night trains**
Speaker tbc
- 17.10 – 17.40 **Maximum track availability despite cost optimization**
Prof. Dr. techn. MSc. Ferdinand Pospischil, Getzner Werkstoffe GmbH (A)
Dipl. Eng. Andreas Wenz, Railway Infrastructure Design Institut – Graz (A)
- 17.40 – 17.50 **Q&A Session and podium discussion for sessions 3**

19.30 DINNER

Restaurant "Central", Sofia, 5 Pirotska Str.

SATURDAY, 9 NOVEMBER

- 09.30 – 12.00 **Technical excursion: Modernization of railway section Elin Pelin-Kostenetz**
- 12.00 – 13.00 **Lunch**
- 13.00 – 14.00 **Travel back to Sofia**

