High-Level Passenger Meeting

19 NOVEMBER 2026

RESOLUTION OF HLPM 2026

1. The participants reaffirm their commitment to improving the cross-European passenger experience through smart digital ticketing and information solutions and increasing the attractiveness of rail as a transport mode. They reaffirm their commitment to achieving seamless cross-border rail ticketing through the implementation of the Open Sales and Distribution Model (OSDM), the expansion of the CIT Agreement on Journey Continuation (AJC), and the roll-out of the other initiatives in the CER Ticketing Roadmap, which were proactively designed and agreed by European passenger rail undertakings and are being delivered in cooperation with CER, UIC and CIT. The participants underline the importance of completing the remaining actions of the Ticketing Roadmap and delivering tangible improvements for passengers through continued cooperation, continuous standardisation works together with European Union Agency for Railways (ERA) and European Committee for Standardization (CEN), and investment by railway undertakings.
2. To further improve international rail ticketing, the participants welcome the objectives of the European Commission's Passenger Package to make international rail journeys easier for passengers. They call on the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission to ensure a suitable, proportionate and stable regulatory framework that builds on existing sector solutions and safeguards the sector's ongoing investments. The participants stress that new requirements must be operationally workable and economically sustainable, with a fair allocation of responsibilities between the different actors involved in the distribution and provision of rail services. In particular, provisions concerning ticket distribution, journey continuation and liability should support the implementation of solutions mechanisms already developed under the CER Ticketing Roadmap.
3. The participants reaffirm their full support for the rollout of a comprehensive and competitive European high-speed rail network. and call for coordinated European action to accelerate the development and interconnection of the existing network, connecting European capitals, major cities and regions. The participants stress the need to ensure optimal maintenance for the existing network, to remove remaining infrastructure bottlenecks, accelerate cross-border interoperability and the deployment of the European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS), facilitate the authorisation of rolling stock and ensure sufficient and well-coordinated infrastructure capacity for international passenger services. These measures are essential to enable railway undertakings to make efficient use of their fleets and develop new and improved international services.
4. The participants underline the need for a long-term and sustainable funding strategy to deliver an interconnected European high-speed rail network. Public investment remains the foundation for the development of the European rail network. They therefore call for sufficient and predictable European and national funding for cross-border rail infrastructure projects, including adequate funding under the next Multiannual Financial Framework and the Connecting Europe Facility. Diverse model of Private Public Partnership and Private financing can complement public investment where projects provide a viable investment case, integrating Carbon Credits. Investment in high-speed rail should go hand in hand with the maintenance and renewal of the existing network, the deployment of ERTMS and the completion of the TEN-T network.
5. The participants support a focused revision of the ERA Regulation that strengthens the European Union Agency for Railways' ability to deliver its core safety and interoperability tasks efficiently. They underline the need for faster, more predictable and cost-efficient vehicle authorisation and safety certification procedures, stable technical specifications and improved processes supporting cross-border operations. The revision should reduce unnecessary administrative burden, costs and delays, avoid duplication and improve the efficiency of existing procedures. Any additional responsibilities entrusted to ERA should be accompanied by adequate resources and should not undermine the Agency's capacity to perform its existing core tasks effectively.

Adopted at the High-Level Passenger Meeting in Rheingau, on November 19th, 2026.