

Press release

Berlin, 19 September 2022



European rail CEOs meet to define sector's priorities for 2023

Today in Berlin, Europe's leading rail CEOs came together, on the occasion of the 70th General Assembly of the Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER), to assess and define the priorities for the association's work in 2023. Dr. Volker Wissing, German Minister of Transport, joined the Association's bi-annual statutory meeting for a fruitful exchange of views on railway policies. Also addressing the Assembly was Mr Oleksandr Kamyshin, CEO of Ukrainian Railways, who spoke of Ukraine's absolute commitment to maintaining a functional rail service in this difficult time and expressed sincere gratitude for the ongoing support of the European railway community.

CER Management Board & Executive Directorship

The mandate of current Executive Director, Dr. Alberto Mazzola, was renewed for a further two-year tenure. The General Assembly also confirmed a new vice-Chair and one new member to the CER Management Committee (MC), which is now composed as follows:

- **Sophie Dutordoir**, (SNCB/NMBS CEO) will now act as Vice-Chair alongside **Jean-Pierre Farandou** (SNCF CEO), **Richard Lutz** (DB CEO) and **Krzysztof Mamiński** (PKP CEO).
- **Zoltán Pafféri** (MAV Chairman-CEO) joins current members of the Management Committee **Vincent Ducrot** (SBB CEO), **Luigi Ferraris** (FSI CEO), of **Ted Söderholm** (ASTOC/ Green Cargo CEO), **Jiří Svoboda** (SZCZ Director General), **Isaías Táboas Suarez** (RENFE President), **Marc Wengler** (CFL Director General) and **Oliver Wolff** (VDV Managing Director).
- **Andreas Matthä**, CEO of Austrian Federal Railways (ÖBB), continues his term of office, which is his second two-year tenure as the Chair of CER.

CER Chair Andreas Matthä said *"It is important that the CER Management Committee has a regional balance, reflects different priorities, and stands for diversity. SNCB CEO Sophie Dutordoir will represent our railway interests as new CER Vice-Chair and will serve as an excellent role model for all women in the rail sector. I am also pleased that the new CEO of MÁV, Zoltán Pafféri, will continue MÁV's European commitment in the CER Management Committee"*.

CER Executive Director Alberto Mazzola said: *"I would like to sincerely thank the CER members and Chair for their continued trust and support. It has been a demanding*

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two years for the sector with the Covid pandemic, war in Ukraine and the current energy crisis providing many challenges. However, rail has and will continue to prove its resilience and its credentials as the backbone of sustainable mobility. We look forward to a successful TEN-T agreement and to crucial investment in railways which will allow rail to meet its full potential and play a key role in meeting the ambitious objectives of the Green Deal.”

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About CER

The Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER) brings together around 70 railway undertakings, their national associations as well as infrastructure managers and vehicle leasing companies. The membership is made up of long-established bodies, new entrants and both private and public enterprises, representing 73% of the rail network length, 76% of the rail freight business and about 92% of rail passenger operations in EU, EFTA and EU accession countries. CER represents the interests of its members towards EU policymakers and transport stakeholders, advocating rail as the backbone of a competitive and sustainable transport system in Europe. For more information, visit www.cer.be or follow us on Twitter [@CER_railways](https://twitter.com/CER_railways) or [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/cer).