Cross-border transport corridors –

history, dynamism and organization

“Multi-modal Trade Corridors”

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Architecture and the Built Environment
Historical development of roads and railroads
Development over time of transport infrastructure - a co-evolutionary approach

Development of transport infrastructure systems

Technology
Economics
Politics and "socio-culture"

Public sector
Private sector
Institutional level and change (Williamson, 2000)

**INFORMAL INSTITUTIONS** – Language, Culture, Customs  
Spontaneous  
100-1000 y  

*Social theory*

**INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT** – Property rights, legal systems  
Get the institutional setting right  
10 - 100 y  

*Economics of property rights/political theory*

**GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE** – Governance, contract  
Get the governance structures right  
1-10 y  

*Transaction cost theory*

**RESOURCE ALLOCATION** – Prices, incentives  
Get the marginal conditions right  
Continuous  

*Neo-classical theory*
Future challenges

• Spatial – *division of responsibility and organization of transport infrastructure networks*

• Functional – *new technology makes former organizations and financing measures obsolete*

• Financing and efficiency – *user charging might be more efficient, private sector actors have stronger incentives for efficiency*
Possible ways ahead...

Government/centralized coordination

EU

Now

Supra-national

Cross border private or mixed organizations

National

National private or mixed organizations

Spontaneous coordination
Current network-plans in EU
How can cross-border perspectives be fostered?

- The institutional environment – regulation, political support
- Culture and communication – language, political/business culture
- Profits and business cases are necessary!
- Competition – diversity is good!
- Financing and risk – government guarantees?
- Knowledge – innovation and research
- Long-term perspectives are necessary
Do we see the necessary preconditions for success with cross-border links and transport?

- How should transport infrastructure be financed?
- What role should the government have?
- Is there political support for cross-border perspectives?
- Is there a business case? Too high risks/uncertainty?
- Is there financing for innovators and entrepreneurs?
- Do we have common technical standards that support cross-border perspectives?