



**UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**UNECE conventions and agreements on transport  
infrastructure networks, road safety, road transport  
contract and transport of dangerous goods**

**Jaromir Cekota  
Transport Division, UNECE, Geneva**

**Workshop ‘Enhancing National Capacity for the Facilitation of Interregional Transport along  
the Euro-Asian Transport Links’  
(17-18 December 2007, Kyiv, Ukraine)**

# Facilitating international transport: the UNECE process

- UNECE facilitates international transport since 1947
- Harmonized regulations, updated by specialized intergovernmental bodies, with participation of NGOs
- Some 6,000 government officials and independent experts attend each year the meetings organized by the UNECE Transport Division in Geneva
- Last year 600 participants in capacity-building workshops for EECCA & SEE experts

## Facilitating international transport: the outcomes

- Results of the UNECE process include 56 transport agreements and conventions
- Governed by well-established UN legal procedures
- Most agreements and conventions open to all UN members
- EECCA countries account for over 20% of accessions over the last 5 years

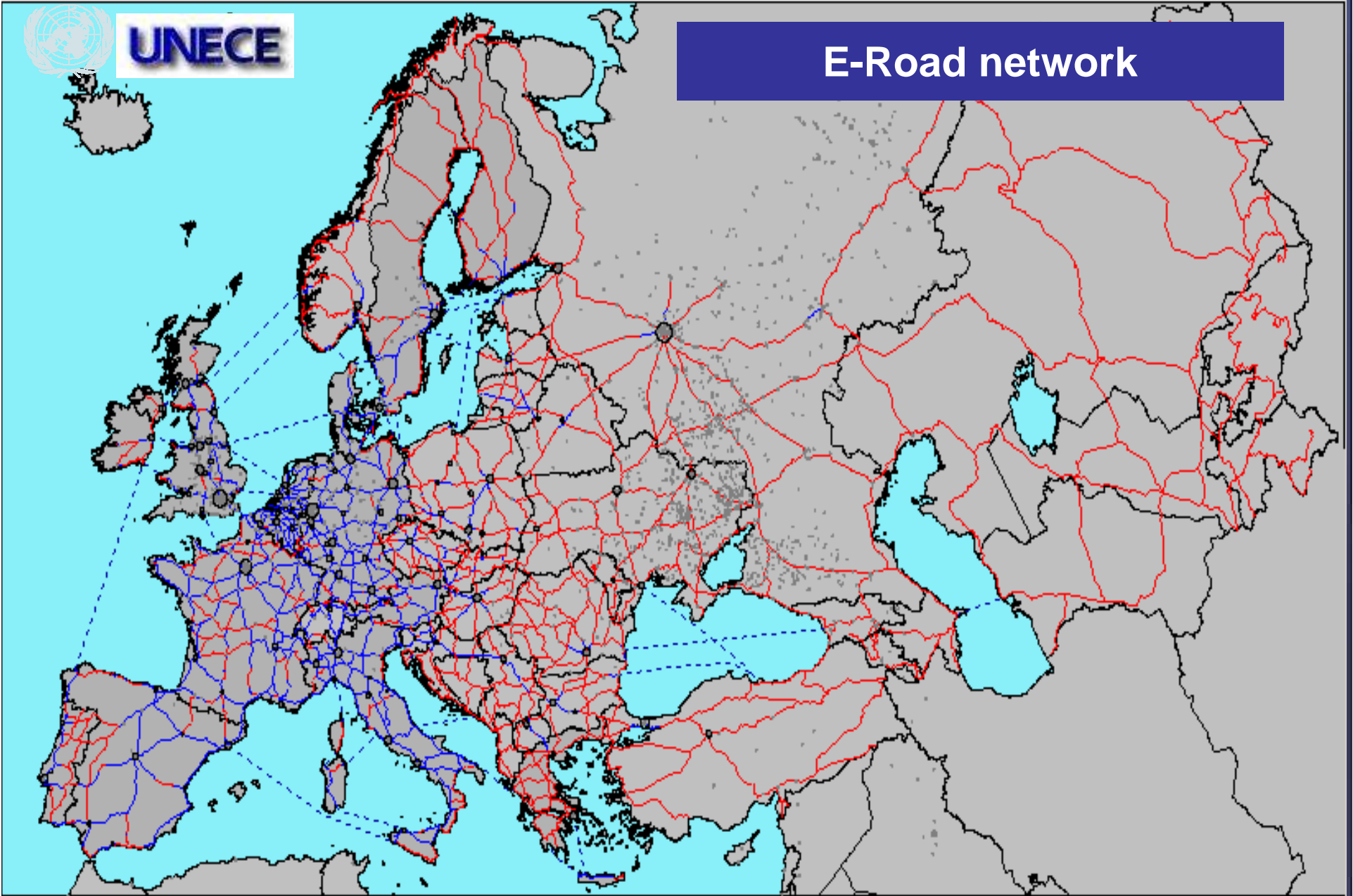
## Main areas of UNECE transport facilitation

- *Infrastructure* (**AGR, AGC, AGN, AGTC**)
- *Road transport regulations* (**2 Vienna conventions, 2 supplementary European Agreements, AETR**)
- *Vehicle construction* (1958 and 1988 vehicle regulations)
- *Border-crossing facilitation* (**CMR, TIR, Harmonized frontier controls, 2 conventions on temporary import of vehicles, ...**)
- *Dangerous and special goods* (**ADN, ADR, ATP**)
- 14 instruments selected (**bold type**)

## 1. The E road network agreement (AGR), 1975

- Minimum infrastructure standards for E roads in 37 countries, incl. Ukraine and 7 other EECCA countries
- A numbering system for E roads
- The E road network extends to the Caucasus and Central Asia up to the Chinese border
- Density and quality of E roads and motorways uneven

# E-Road network



## 2. The E rail network agreement (AGC), 1985

- Minimum infrastructure standards for E railway lines in 27 countries, incl. Ukraine and 3 EECCA countries in Eastern Europe
- A numbering system for E rail lines
- Extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific
- Density and quality of E rail lines uneven



### 3. The E combined transport network agreement (AGTC), 1991

- Minimum infrastructure standards for E combined road/rail services in 30 countries, incl. Ukraine and 5 other EECCA countries
- Identifies relevant terminals, border-crossing points, ferry links and other installations
- Extends to the Caucasus and Central Asia up to the Chinese border
- Density and quality of the AGTC network lines and facilities uneven





Transport Division

Intermodal Transport and Logistics

Home  
Staff  
Publications

WP.24 >  
Ad. Hoc Group >

Seminars >

Inventory of Standards

## AGC - AGTC

[European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines \(AGC\)](#)

[Accord européen sur les grandes lignes internationales de chemin de fer \(AGC\)](#)

[European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations \(AGTC\)](#)

[Accord européen sur les grandes lignes de transport international combiné et les installations connexes \(AGTC\)](#)

### Electronic Inventory of standards and parameters of the AGC and AGTC Agreements

### Inventaire électronique des normes et paramètres dans les accords AGC et AGTC

Map of AGC and AGTC networks 

Carte des réseaux AGC et AGTC 

**The inventory provides information on the performance of the pan-European rail (AGC) and combined transport (AGTC) networks and shows the degree of compliance with the infrastructure standards stipulated in the AGC and AGTC Agreements.**

**L'inventaire fournit des informations sur l'exploitation des réseaux ferroviaires et de transport combiné pan-européens contenus dans les accords AGC et AGTC et montre le degré de conformité avec les normes d'infrastructure définies dans les accords AGC et AGTC.**

Use the form below to build a report on existing infrastructure standards for a chosen railway or combined transport line. Any number of available parameters can be included in the report.

Utiliser le formulaire ci-dessous pour établir un rapport sur les normes d'infrastructure pour une ligne de chemin de fer ou de transport combiné donné. Le nombre de paramètres disponibles pouvant être introduits dans le rapport n'est pas limité.

**1. Choose a railway or combined transport line (refer to the above map)**

**Transport Division**

**modal Transport and Statistics**

Home  
Staff  
Publications

WP.24 >

Ad Hoc Group >

Seminars >

European Agreement on International  
European Agreement on International

**Inventory of existing**

The chart below presents existing standards and parameters for your chosen railway or combined transport line. Details of the AGC/AGTC can be found in the AGC/AGTC Manual. To generate a bar chart, simply click on the icon to generate the bar chart.

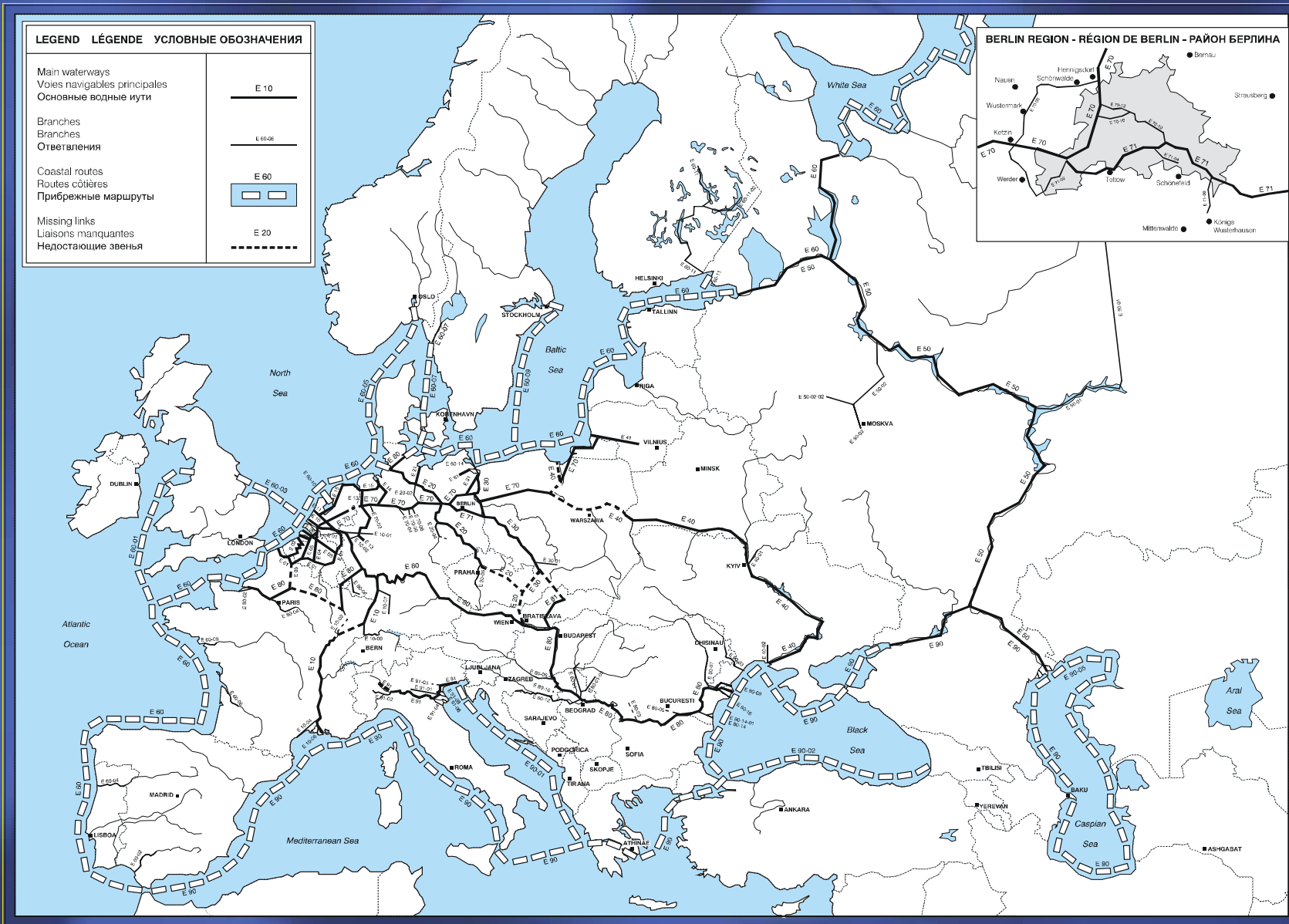
**Railway Line: C-E 30**

Country	Section of Line	Number of tracks	Loading gauge	Minimum distance between track centres	Nominal minimum speed	Authorized mass per axle - Locomotives	Authorized mass per axle - Rail cars and rail motor sets
Germany	Dresden - Görlitz (- Zgorzelec)	2	-	3.5	120	22.5	22.5
Poland	(Görlitz -) Zgorzelec - Wegliniec	2	3	4	120	22	17
Poland	(Horka -) Wegliniec	2	3	4	120	22	17
Poland	Wegliniec - Wrocław	2	3	3.84	120	22	17
Poland	Wrocław - Opole	2	3	3.9	120	22	17
Poland	Opole - Kedzierzyn Kozle	2	3	3.5	120	22	17
Poland	Kedzierzyn Kozle - Gliwice - Katowice	2	3	3.51	120	22	17
Poland	Katowice - Myslowice	2	3	3.56	120	22	17
Poland	Myslowice - Kraków	2	3	3.95	120	22	17
Poland	Kraków - Tarnów	2	3	4	120	22	17
Poland	Tarnów - Przemyśl - Medyka (- Mostiska)	2	3	4	120	22	17
Ukraine	(Medyka -) Mostiska-2 - Lvov - Rovno - Berdichev - Kazatin - Kiev - Kharkiv - Kupyansk - Topoli (- Valuiki)	2	3	4.2	120	22.5	17
Russian Federation	(Topoli -) Valuiki - Liski - Rtischevo - Sizran - Samara - Orenburg (- Iletsk I)	2	-	4.1	80	23	16

Note: '-' indicates no data available

## 4. The E inland water network agreement (AGN), 1996

- Ratified by 13 UNECE countries (incl. Moldova and Russia) – Ukraine not a CP
- Identifies relevant routes, E ports, technical and operational parameters
- Extends from Western and Central Europe to Southeast and Eastern Europe
- Density and parameters of the AGN waterways and ports uneven



## 5. The Vienna Convention on Road Traffic (1968)

- Facilitates international road traffic in 67 countries, incl. all EECCA states
- And enhances road safety
- Through uniform rules for drivers and other road users
- And for road vehicles



## A Systems Approach to Road Safety

- Firstly, the driver and perhaps the most difficult to influence (behavioural rules)
- Secondly, the vehicle (registration, technical and inspection requirements)
- Finally, the infrastructure (road signs and markings, traffic light signals)

## 6. The Convention on Road Signs and Signals (1968)

- Improves road safety: over 200 internationally agreed road signs & signals in 56 countries, incl. Ukraine and 8 other EECCA countries
- 3 categories of signs: danger warning, regulatory, informative
- Norms concerning shapes, dimensions, colours
- Norms for traffic lights, road markings, road works and level-crossings signs



## Recent Amendments (28 March 2006)

- New measures to enhance the safety and mobility of cyclists
- Use of handheld mobile phones prohibited while driving
- Improved visibility and legibility of signs
- Greater harmonization of domestic driving permits

## 7-8. Supplementary European Agreements (1971)

- Stricter road safety and vehicle registration norms
- E.g. maximum alcohol level in blood 0.5 mg per litre (since 28 March 2006)
- Supplementary agreement on road traffic adopted by 31 UNECE member states, incl. Ukraine and 3 other EECCA countries
- Supplementary agreement on road signs and signals adopted by 29 UNECE member states, incl. Ukraine and 3 other EECCA countries

## 9. Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR), 1956

- Ratified by 52 CPs to date, incl. the EU and all EECCA states
- Uniform waybill for international road shipments
- Fixes carrier's liability (loss of goods, delays)
- E-consignment note (Protocol could be signed in 2008)

## Benefits

- Simplifies border-crossing formalities
- Simplifies liability issues
- Fair competition between carriers
- Lower transport costs, including insurance

## 10. Harmonized Frontier Controls of Goods, 1982

- Ratified by 49 CPs, incl. the EU, Ukraine and 6 other EECCA countries
- Provides a framework for cooperation between border services within a country
- And between countries, e.g. joint border-crossing facility between Ukraine and Poland
- Model (streamlined) control procedures and provisions for efficient transit

## 11. Customs Convention on Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954

- Ratified by 80 CPs, incl. the EU and Russia but not Ukraine
- Facilitates temporary admission of cars registered in another country
- International customs document
- Guarantees vehicle taxes if the car not re-exported



## 12. Customs Convention on Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles, 1956

- Ratified by 40 CPs, incl. the EU and 3 EECCA states but not Ukraine
- Facilitates temporary admission of trucks registered in another country
- International customs document
- Guarantees vehicle taxes if the car not re-exported





## 13. Agreement on the Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), 1954

- Ratified by 42 countries, incl. Ukraine and 6 other EECCA states
- Assures safe transport of dangerous cargoes by road
- Uniform rules for vehicle equipment and signs
- Also uniform operator training rules

## 14. Agreement on the Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN), 2000

- Ratified by 6 countries, incl. Russia but not Ukraine
- In force one year after 7<sup>th</sup> ratification (probably 2008)
- Aims to assure safe transport of dangerous cargoes on inland waterways
- Uniform rules for vessel equipment and signs
- Also uniform procedures (inspections, training)
- Regulations updated every 2 years

## Conclusions

- Ukraine a CP to 10 out of the 14 UNECE transport agreements and conventions reviewed
- The country could benefit from acceding to the AGN, ADN and conventions on temporary import of private and commercial road vehicles
- Effective implementation is key
- A trade and transport facilitation mechanism could improve the implementation
- Involvement of both public and private sectors desirable



**Thank you for your attention!**

Detailed information (incl. English, French and Russian versions of international transport agreements and conventions) is available on the UNECE Transport Division website:

[www.unece.org/trans](http://www.unece.org/trans)