

Turkey and the EATL Project

Zeynep KAPLAN
Yıldız Technical University
Istanbul/Turkey
zkaplan@yildiz.edu.tr



EATL Phase III

*Second informal preparatory meeting for the 14th session
2-3 February 2016, Vienna*

EATL: Main Objectives

- Making the overland transport between Asia and Europe efficient, safe and fast by..
 - developing transportation infrastructure,
 - facilitating economic development,
 - reducing the number and duration of border controls,
 - harmonizing control procedures,
 - increasing the volume of trade.
- ...thus, to establish trade corridors linking Central Asia, Europe, East Asia, and South Asia is crucial.

Turkey and the EATL Project

- Turkey is a key junction for the development of Euro-Asian transport linkages.
- The EATL project places Turkey on the map as an important partner.
- One of the key routes of the project runs through Turkey.
- Turkey's EATL route covers a distance of 5,663 kilometers. Moreover, 208 kilometers to the Filyos and Çandarlı port will connect to the EATL.



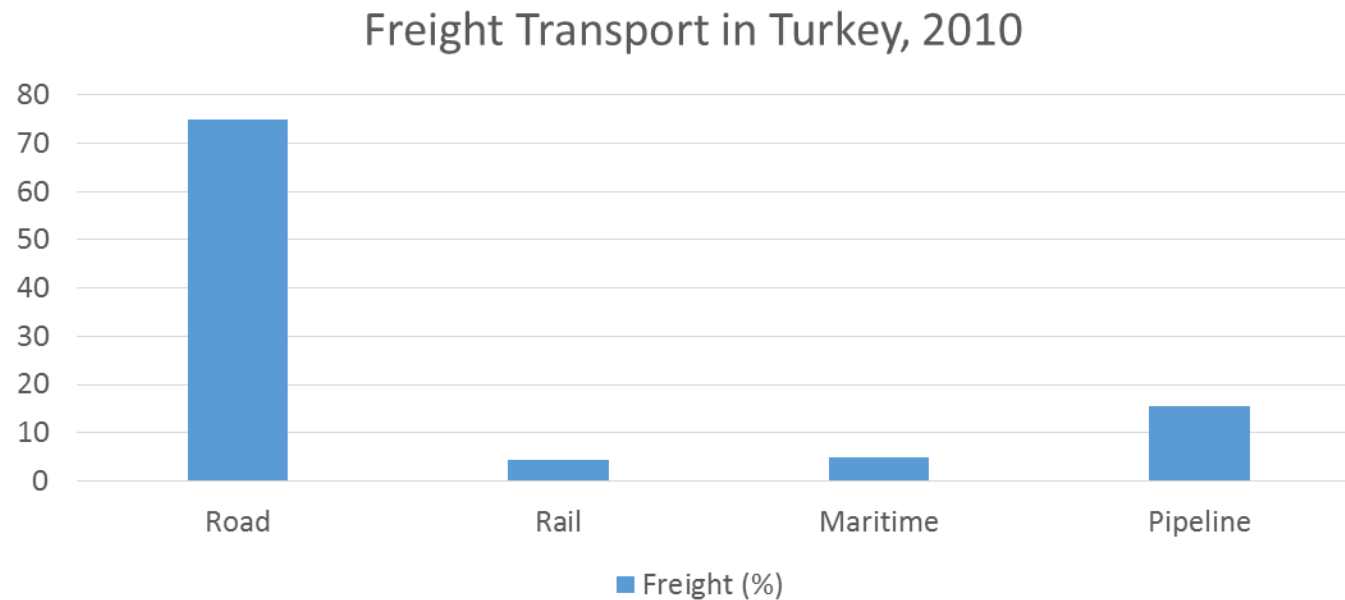
Transport in Turkey: Major Trends and Issues

- In 2013 the Turkish transportation sector;
 - ❖ grew by 3.4% year on year
 - ❖ accounted for 12.3% of national GDP.
 - ❖ employ about 5% of the national workforce.
 - ❖ about 30% of the total government budget is dedicated to transport infrastructure.
- While in past the majority of investment was related to road and bridges, followed by railways, priorities are now reversed as it is the will of the government to increase rail market share.

Investment in transport infrastructure, in billion EUR		
	Total for the period 2006-2011 ⁹	In 2014
Road	19.7	1.4
Rail	5.3	2.6
Air	2.5	0.35
Sea	0.14	0.21
Total	25.7	4.6

Freight Transport in Turkey

- 75 % of freight transport are made through highways.



- The need for a balanced distribution within transportation modes continues...

Major Transportation Projects

- Due to its unique geographical position, improving transport is a priority for Turkey's economic and social development.
- In recent years, Turkey has made significant investments and legal arrangements to improve and diversify its domestic and international transportation.



Major Ongoing Road Projects

The 3rd Bosphorus Bridge – Yavuz Sultan Selim Bridge

- The biggest suspension bridge in the world.
- Apart from freight vehicles passing, the project will also provide an extra railroad network across the Bosphorus, thereby supporting the transportation of goods across Trans-Asian Railways.
- The bridge is part of the *North Marmara Highway* project.

The Euroasia Tunnel Project

- A 5.4 km long, double-deck road tunnel under the Bosphorus to be completed in 2016.
- The tunnel will enable motor vehicles to travel between Asia and Europe.

North Marmara Highway

- The project is designed to reduce traffic and ease freight and passenger transportation time in Istanbul.
- Truck shipping traffic passing through Istanbul will not cross the center of the city.
- Companies will save considerable time and money!
- There will be reduction of carbon emission due to reduced fuel consumption due to the shortened time at traffic.



Major Railway Projects

Pakistan-Iran-Turkey Railway Project

- A railway track that connects China to the Middle East and Turkey via the Pakistan-Iran-Turkey rail corridor.
- It will be further extended to China under the China-Pak Economic Corridor (CPEC), providing a different route from China to Istanbul.
- The total distance of the railway is 6,566 km.
- The train travels this distance in 13 days.
- Rather than building track ways around the rugged shoreline, the goods are transported via train ferry across Lake Van.
- There are two ferries, each with a 16 coach capacity, capable of making 3 trips per day.



Baku-Tbilisi-Kars Railway

- It is a regional rail link project to directly connect Turkey, Georgia and Azerbaijan.
- The line will be a part of the 2,000 km Trans-Asia Railway after completion. (76 km part of track lies on the Turkish side.)
- The project will also be connected to the major sea ports of Turkey, including Mersin, Samsun, Haydarpaşa and Iskenderun ports.



Major Railway Projects

Marmaray Project

- This project will provide the non-stop transport of goods via railway from China to London.
- The total length of the railway line will be 76.3 km when finished.
- 21 freight trains will be operated per day in each direction.
- The trains that cross the **3rd Bridge** or the **Marmaray** will continue on their way to Istanbul/**Halkalı** then to **Bulgaria as well as to Europe**, where goods can travel without any customs restrictions according to the EU-Turkey Customs Union Agreement that was went into force in 1996.



- **Collaboration with an EATL Partner: China-Turkey High Speed Railway**
- China is clearly investing heavily in new trade routes by road, rail and sea.
- China and Turkey are aim to build a new high-speed railway link between Edirne and Kars.
- Some analysts suggest Edirne and Kars railway would cut travel time across Turkey by two thirds.
- Turkey's aims are twofold;
 - To modernize its domestic rail network new speed railines
 - To improve its ability to reach export markets in Central Asia and beyond

Developments and Targets in Transportation in Turkey

	2006	2012	2013	2018	2014-2018 ¹
Logistics					
Logistics Performance Index Ranking	34 ²	27	27	<15	---
Highway					
Dual-Carriage Way (km)	8,735	20,017	21,067	25,272	3.7
Motorway (km)	2,025	2,236	2,256	4,000	12.1
BHM Pavement (km)	8,855	15,386	18,486	39,552	16.4
Traffic (Billion vehicle-km)	65	94	98	119	4.0
Passenger Transport (Billion passenger-km)	188	259	276	321	3.1
Freight Transport (Billion ton-km)	177	216	232	294	4.9
Road Network Density (km/1000 km ²)	82	83	84	87	0.7
Motorway Network Density (km/1000 km ²)	2.60	2.85	2.88	5.11	12.1
Railway³					
Conventional Rail Network (km)	8,697	8,770	8,961	10,556	3.3
High-Speed Train Network (km)	0	888	1,376	2,496	14.6
Percentage of Electrical Network	21	26	29	70	19.3
Percentage of Signalized Network	28	33	35	80	18.0
Freight Transport (Billion ton-km)	9.6	10.9	12.4	22.5	12.7
Share of Rail Transport in Land Freight Transport (%)	5.1	4.8	5.1	7.1	6.8
Maritime					
Container (million TEU)	3.9	7.2	8.1	13.8	11.2
Handling (million ton)	248	388	418	615	8.0
Turkish Flag Merchant Fleet (million DWT)	7.3	10.3	11.0	14.0	4.9
Airway					
Airway Passenger Traffic (Million Passengers)	62	131	151	232	9.0

Turkey's Planned Railway Network by 2023

- TARGET 2023: 15 000 km new railways
- To have a 25.940 km long railway network by 2023.



Existing Conventional Lines	: 11.052 km
High Speed Lines	: 10.000 km
Conventional Lines	: 5.000 km
TOTAL	: 25.940 km

■	: EXISTING CONVENTIONAL LINES
■	: NEW CONVENTIONAL LINES
■	: HIGH SPEED LINES
●	: PORTS

Transportation in Turkey: An Overview

- Turkey's strategic geographical location, which provides easy access to East and West, allows the country to function as a hub of freight transportation in the region. Thus, Turkey as a natural transport bridge between Europe and Asia, is a very substantial component of the EATL Project.
- The transport sector in Turkey is expanding rapidly, in parallel with the country's economic and population growth;
 - ❖ Transportation sector has the largest share (more than 30 %) in public fixed capital investments,
 - ❖ Public-private partnership (PPP) model is widely used in financing the transportation infrastructure, including motorways, tunnels and bridges,
 - ❖ Turkey is putting more effort to establish direct transport links between railroads and ports.
- The number of logistic centers/villages is increasing. As of January 2016;
 - ❖ 7 in operation
 - ❖ 6 under construction
 - ❖ 20 planned
- Biggest problem around connectivity is the lack of harmonised custom tariffs, technical standards and customs procedures with the neighboring countries.
- Much of transport time is spent at border crossings due to different national regulations, adding costs to both transport operators and consumers.
- Turkey advocates for the digitalisation of paperwork and the introduction of modern IT tools such as eTIR for future customs facilitation within the region

Conclusion

- One of the large-scale projects on the transport corridor planning between Europe and Asia is the EATL Project.
- Due to its unique geographical position, improving transport is a priority for Turkey's economic and social development. In recent years, Turkey has made significant investments and legal arrangements to improve and diversify its domestic and international transportation. In this framework, Turkey aims at securing a balance among all transport modes, as well as meeting modern technological and international standards.
- Thus, **strong railway infrastructure and port capacity** are the prerequisites of a productive Asia-Europe connection via Turkey.
- EATL countries must undertake a **harmonization program for customs** with a view to making them more effective to facilitate trade.
- Special attention must be paid on where and how to **establish common standards, address non-tariff barriers and improve customs practices** across the entire region.
- If the further cooperation will be achieved, it is going to transform the entire region and provide additional benefits for Turkey.