



# UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE



## UNECE Role in the Development of Pan- European and Euro-Asian Transport

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# Transport, a Strategic Factor for Economic Development

- Basic for trade and tourism
- Job creator
- Key to social well-being, social cohesion
- Transport sector 10% of GDP



# Transport Challenges

- Inadequate transport infrastructures
- Bottlenecks and missing links
- Lack of funds
- Legislation, taxes and charges
- Cumbersome and time consuming border procedures
- Solutions require intergovernmental cooperation



# About UNECE

- Regional branch of the United Nations
- 56 States Members, Neutral, Pan-European, Trans-Atlantic, Euro-Asian
- Forum for intergovernmental cooperation in economic areas, including Inland Transport
- UNECE, Pioneer in international cooperation on inland transport
- The Inland Transport Committee, in cooperation with the EC and all stakeholders, including NGOs



# UNECE Conventions and Agreements

- 56 International Agreements and Conventions
- Legally binding, UN Procedures
- Constantly updated, brought in line with EC
- Applied by many countries worldwide
- European legacy to international Community
- Elaborated by consensus
- Open to all UN Member States
- Many non-ECE States are already Parties



# UNECE Conventions and Agreements

- Coherent International Infrastructure Networks
- Safe Roads
- Safe and Clean Vehicles
- Simple Border Crossing Procedures
- Transport facilitation and efficiency



# Coherent Transport Infrastructure Networks

- European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR) of 1975
- European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC) of 1985
- European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC), of 1991
- European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN), of 1996

***To provide legal framework for construction and development of coherent international road, rail, inland waterways and combined transport networks  
E networks***



# Road Traffic Safety,

- Convention on Road Safety, of 1968
- Convention on Road Signs and Signals, of 1968
- European Agreement supplementing the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic



***Provide a set of international agreed road traffic regulations aimed at the improvement of the efficiency and safety of international road traffic***





# Safe and Clean Vehicles

- Vehicles Regulation, 1958
- Global Vehicles Regulation, 1998
- Technical Inspection of Vehicles, 1997



***Uniform technical prescriptions for vehicles, equipments and parts and conditions for reciprocal recognition of approvals granted***



# Simple Border Crossing Procedures

- TIR Convention
- Harmonization of frontier controls
- Temporary importation of Commercial road vehicles
- Temporary importation of private vehicles
- On containers and pool containers
- Customs facilities for touring



***To facilitate the international carriage  
of goods and passengers across borders***



# Transport Facilitation and efficiency

- CMR and its protocol
- Perishable foodstuffs (ATP)
- Dangerous goods (ADR) and its protocol
- Work of crews (AETR)



***To facilitate international carriage of goods and passengers, increase safety of international road transport, prevent professional drivers from driving excessive hours***





# About Implementation

- International Conventions on transport facilitation can yield substantial benefits
- For this to happen, they must be fully and effectively implemented
- The ECE has neither enforcement authority nor financial means for implementation
- Implementation is the responsibility of Contracting Parties

*ECE Promotes accession and implementation, provides technical assistance and advise, monitors implementation (whenever possible)*



# Planning Tools

- E-road Traffic Censuses, every 5 years
- E-rail Traffic Censuses: first in 2005
- Terminology on Combined Transport by UNECE, EC and ECMT
- Electronic database on AGR, AGC, AGN, AGTC Agreements



# Sub-regional and interregional cooperation

- UNECE TEM and TER Projects
- UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA)
- Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI)
- UNECE-UNESCAP Euro-Asian Transport Linkages Project



# Euro-Asian Transport Links Project

- Joint ECE-ESCAP work with UNDA funds
- Part of a UN global project on developing interregional transport linkages (2003-2007)
- 18 countries involved
- Main Euro-Asian transport links identified
- 230 Projects evaluated and prioritized - 43 bill.\$
- Border crossing issues addressed



# UNECE-ESCAP Capacity Building Project

## Euro-Asian Transport Links: Countries Involved




**Afganistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, China, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan**

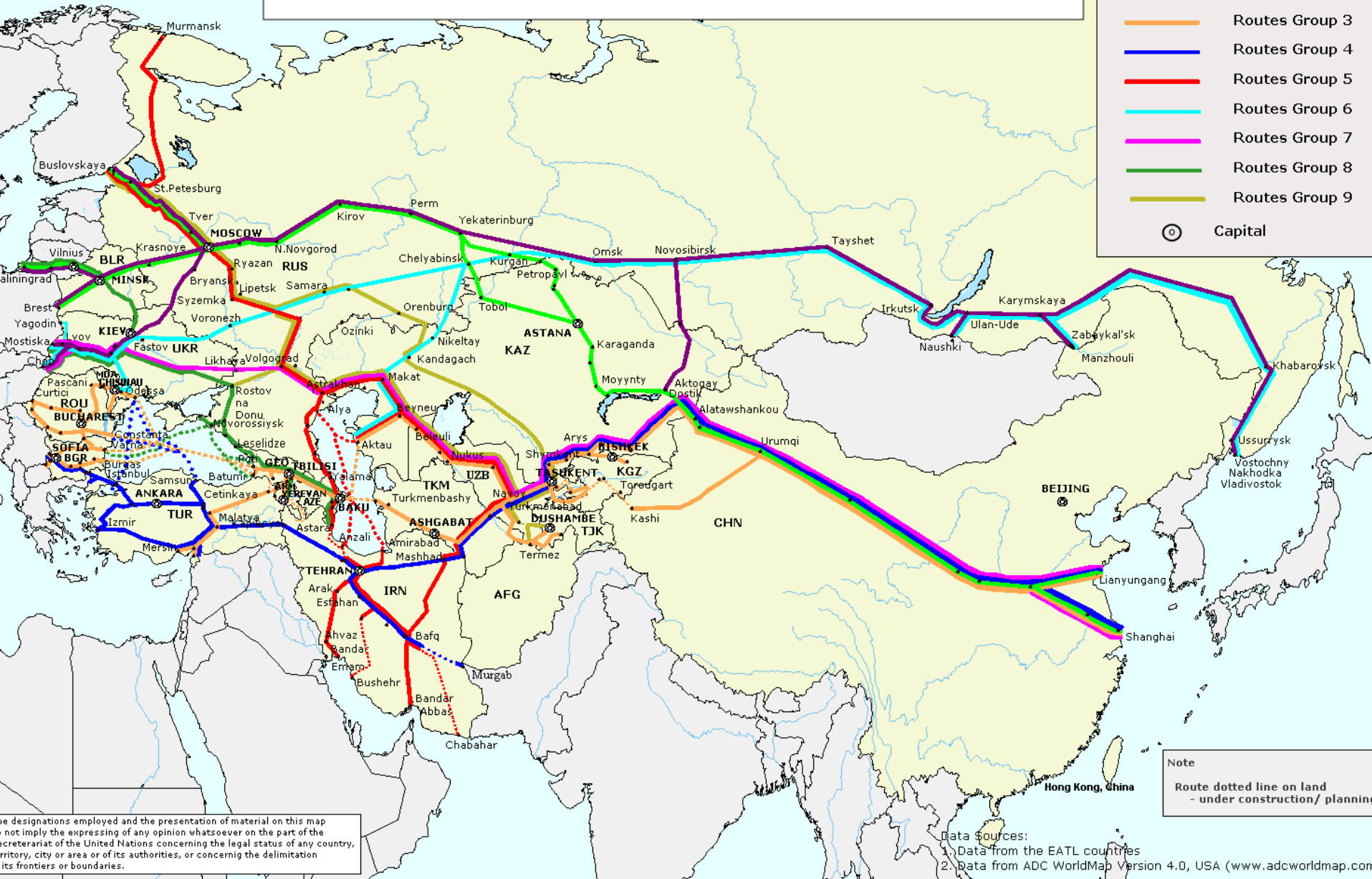


# UNECE-UNESCAP Euro-Asian Links Project RAIL ROUTES

## Euro-Asian Rail Routes Legend

- Routes Group 1
- Routes Group 2
- Routes Group 3
- Routes Group 4
- Routes Group 5
- Routes Group 6
- Routes Group 7
- Routes Group 8
- Routes Group 9

 Capital



## Note

Route dotted line on land  
- under construction/ planning

## Data sources:

1. Data from the EATL countries
2. Data from ADC WorldMap Version 4.0, USA ([www.adcworldmap.com](http://www.adcworldmap.com))

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# UNECE-UNESCAP Euro-Asian Links Project ROAD ROUTES

## Euro-Asian Road Routes Legend

- Routes Group 1
- Routes Group 2
- Routes Group 3
- Routes Group 4
- Routes Group 5
- Routes Group 6
- Routes Group 7

 Capital



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# Euro-Asian Transport Links Next Steps

- EATL Project has been found useful
- Much work remains to be done and for long time - momentum should be maintained
- Project funds will end in 2007
- Ensuring continuation as from 2008 is essential



# Conclusions

- International Conventions on transport vital to countries
  - Facilitate international transport and border crossing
  - Provide for efficiency, harmonize and improve standards
  - Provide market access, integration, inclusion in globalization
  - Basic tools for common pan-European and Euro-Asian transport space
- UNECE work and projects have yielded solid and tangible results
- Belarusia is invited to make further use of UNECE work and benefit from its active participation



# **The UNECE Transport Division, committed to an efficient, safe and sustainable transport**

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