Polish land transport corridors’ development as an example of facilitating the flow of goods on the axis West - East

Adrian Mazur
Ministry of Infrastructure and Construction of Poland
Department of Transport Strategy and International Cooperation
The location of Poland at the intersection of East-West and North-South transport routes creates exceptionally favorable conditions for the development of transport infrastructure linking Europe and Asia.

Since 2011, five regular train connections between China and Poland have been launched, including Łódź - Chengdu, Łódź - Chongqing, Warsaw - Suzhou and Łódź - Zhengzhou. Another way of transportation between the two countries is maritime transport from Gdansk to Ningbo and to Shanghai.

On November 26, 2015, in Beijing, a signing ceremony of governmental memorandum on the joint implementation of the One Belt and One Road project was held between China and Poland, Serbia, the Czech Republic, Bulgaria and Slovakia.
The Baltic-Adriatic Corridor

One of the most important trans-European road and railway networks.
It connects the Baltic with the Adriatic Sea, through industrialized areas between Southern Poland (Upper Silesia), Vienna and Bratislava, the Eastern Alpine region and Northern Italy.

The North Sea-Baltic Corridor

Connects ports on the Eastern shore of the Baltic Sea with the ports of the North Sea.
It provides modern transport road and railway links between Poland, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Finland.
Rail Freight Corridors RFC – European market oriented transport corridors

Rail Freight Corridors were established in 2010 as an international market-oriented corridors in order to meet three main challenges:

- strengthening co-operation between IMs on key aspects such as the allocation of paths, deployment of interoperable systems and infrastructure development
- finding the right balance between freight and passenger traffic along the RFCs, giving adequate capacity for freight in line with market needs and ensuring that common punctuality targets for freight trains are met
- promoting intermodality between rail and other transport modes by integrating terminals into the corridor management process.
The LHS Line (so-called the broad track) is the longest on the territory of Poland broad gauge railway line (track gauge of 1520 mm) designed for freight transport. It is also the farthest west broad-gauge line in Europe.

The location of the Euroterminal Sławków perfectly fits into the development of containers transport between the Far East/Asia and Western Europe.

Euroterminal Sławków has excellent connections with Transport Network on domestic and international by:

- direct broad-gauge LHS connection (ca. 400 km long) through the PL/UA border crossing and the Ukraine to the Far East,
- access to transport corridors between Europe and Asia. The location of the Euroterminal provides a convenient connection to both Pan-European Corridors (VI and III) and trans-European transport network.
Multimodal transport in Poland

Multimodal terminals and logistics centres on trans-European transport corridors (TEN-T) create an unique opportunity for further carriage of goods through Poland to the Western Europe.

Poland offers logistics centres at the contact points of 1435-mm and 1520-mm gauge tracks.

Sławków and Małaszewicze (PL/BY border) terminals offer opportunity to send freight to Russia, Black Sea region, Central Asia, Eastern Asia incl. China thanks to wide tracks going to Ukraine and Russia (via Belarus).
33 seaports serve whole society and economy of Poland and many other countries located in the CEE region (e.g. Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Belarus).

4 seaports are of the key importance for the national economy. They are located in Gdańsk, Gdynia, Szczecin and Świnoujście. It is estimated that these four seaports are responsible for the ca. 97% of cargo service provided in all of Polish seaports – which equals ca. 70,9 mln tonnes.
Polish seaports are important nodes of many international supply chains. They actively participate in servicing Polish and European foreign trade with business partners from all of the continents.

Gdańsk, Gdynia, Szczecin and Świnoujście and other seaports are already prepared to handle all kinds of goods. Their potential is successively strengthened by the investments.

Polish seaports should be considered as the windows of the world for several hundred million inhabitants – within the initiative of the New Silk Road (Northern-South, East-West) and able to engage as a participant of the initiative of East Silk Road Route (China, Kazkchstan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Ukraine, Poland).
Via Carpatia - complementary project to the One Belt One Road initiative

**Via Carpatia** is a Polish initiative of implementation of a transport corridor between Baltic and Mediterranean Seas.

**Via Carpatia** is an important trans-European road transport corridor, which has the chance to become a new effective transport route between northern and southern Europe, integrating transport systems of Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece and Turkey.

The implementation of the project will allow for the creation of the shortest transport link between the countries of the Middle East and South-East Europe with the Baltic states, thereby contributing to the launch of the New Silk Road initiative.
Thank you for your attention

Adrian Mazur
Ministry of Infrastructure and Construction of Poland
Department of Transport Strategy and International Cooperation

adrian.mazur@mib.gov.pl
+48 22 630 11 60