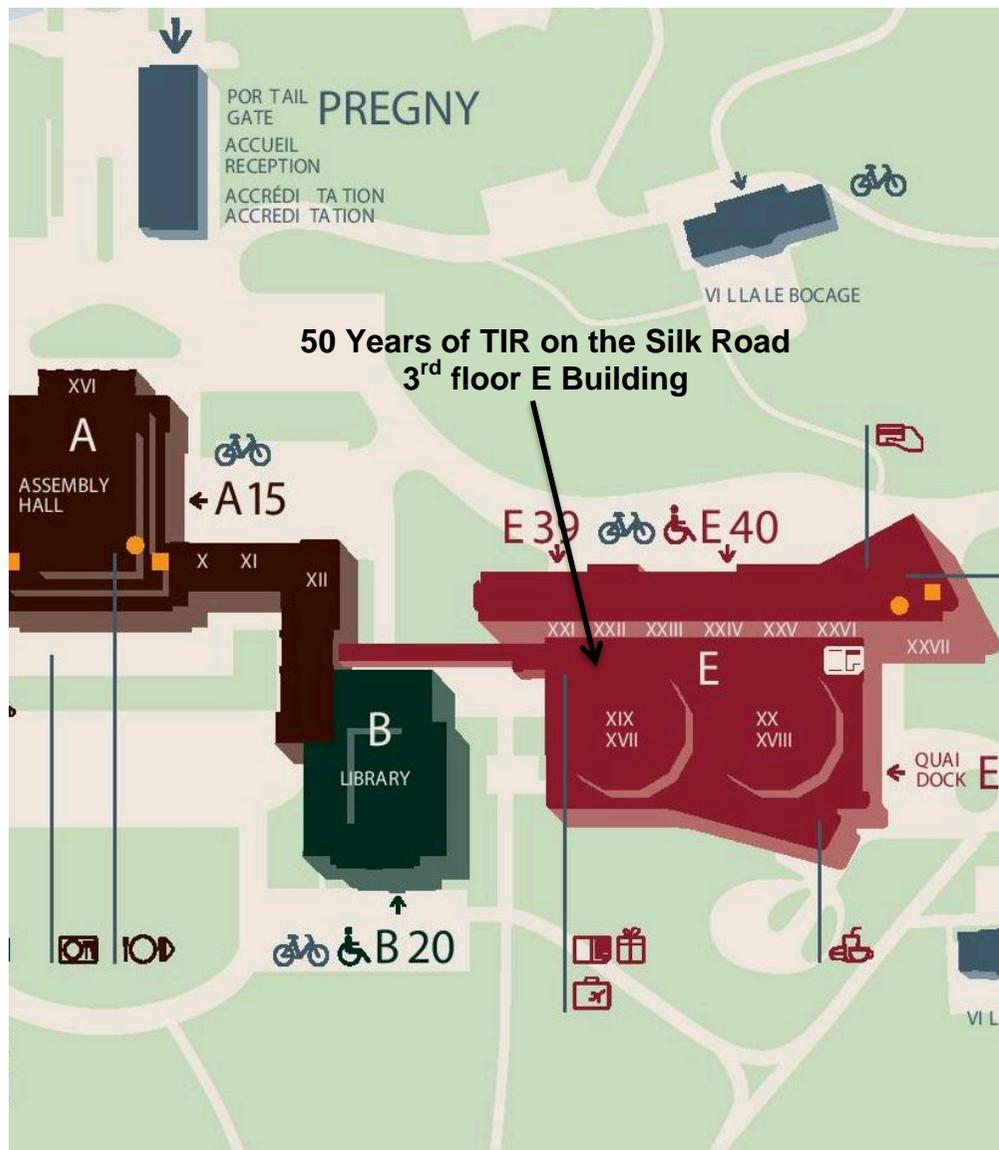


Map



United Nations

Economic Commission for Europe

Sixty-sixth Session of the Commission, 14-16 April 2015

50 Years of TIR on the Silk Road 1966-2014

The sixty-sixth session of the Commission (Palais des Nations, Room XIX) will focus on a cross-cutting and an interactive high-level dialogue on "Committing to Action on Sustainable Development in times of Change". UNECE will also organize side events and exhibitions to showcase the work of the organization and its impact on peoples' lives.

"50 Years of TIR on the Silk Road 1966-2014", is a photo exhibition organized in partnership with the International Road Transport Union (IRU), paying tribute to pioneer truckers who are telling in pictures the most fascinating story of their careers when travelling along the Silk Road, between 1966 and 2014. These drivers were using TIR Carnets as "passports" for the goods they transported from Europe to Asia. Experience has shown that the TIR Convention, as part of the transport and border crossing facilitation work undertaken by UNECE and the IRU, has served the interests of all concerned, Customs authorities and transport operators alike, and positively impacted people's lives since 1948.

www.unece.org/tir/welcome.html



50 Years of TIR on the Silk Road 1966-2014 Photo Exhibition

13-17 April 2015, E Building 3rd Floor



Anyone who has travelled on European roads will recognize the familiar blue and white TIR plate borne by thousands of trucks and semi-trailers using the TIR Customs transit system. For the driver, the transport operator and the shipper, this plate stands for fast and efficient international road transport.

The TIR transit system started soon after the Second World War in order to contribute to the facilitation of international transport initially between a small number of European countries. The original objective was to reduce the difficulties and delays experienced by transport operators and at the same time, to offer Customs administrations an international system of control that replaced traditional national procedures, while effectively protecting the revenue of each State through which goods were carried.

The success of this limited scheme led to the negotiation of a broader TIR Convention which was adopted in 1959 and entered into force in 1960. As time, technology and experience changed, the Convention was completely revised in 1975 aiming to create a more efficient, less complex, more secure version that was adapted to intermodal transport. Today, the TIR Convention of 1975 has been ratified by 68 countries around the world and is currently operational in 58 of the Contracting Parties, covering a geographical scope from Lisbon to Vladivostok and from Narvik to Bandar-Abbas.

The photographs in this exhibition are provided by photographer, Ferdy De Martin, through IRU. The collection comes from Mr. De Martin's study of the movement of goods along the Silk Road from 1966 up to modern times. All modern pictures are taken by Mr. De Martin.



The exhibition will be opened on 13 April at 14:30 by Mr. Christian Friis Bach, Executive Secretary of UNECE, Mr. van Schreven, Ambassador of the Netherlands and Mr. Umberto de Pretto, IRU Secretary General