

European Year of Rail 2021



DG MOVE

The Commission proposes to declare: 2021 – European Year of Rail

What?

- 4 March 2020: Commission proposal for a decision of the EP and the Council
- Spotlight on rail's important role in achieving **#EUGreenDeal** objectives

Why?

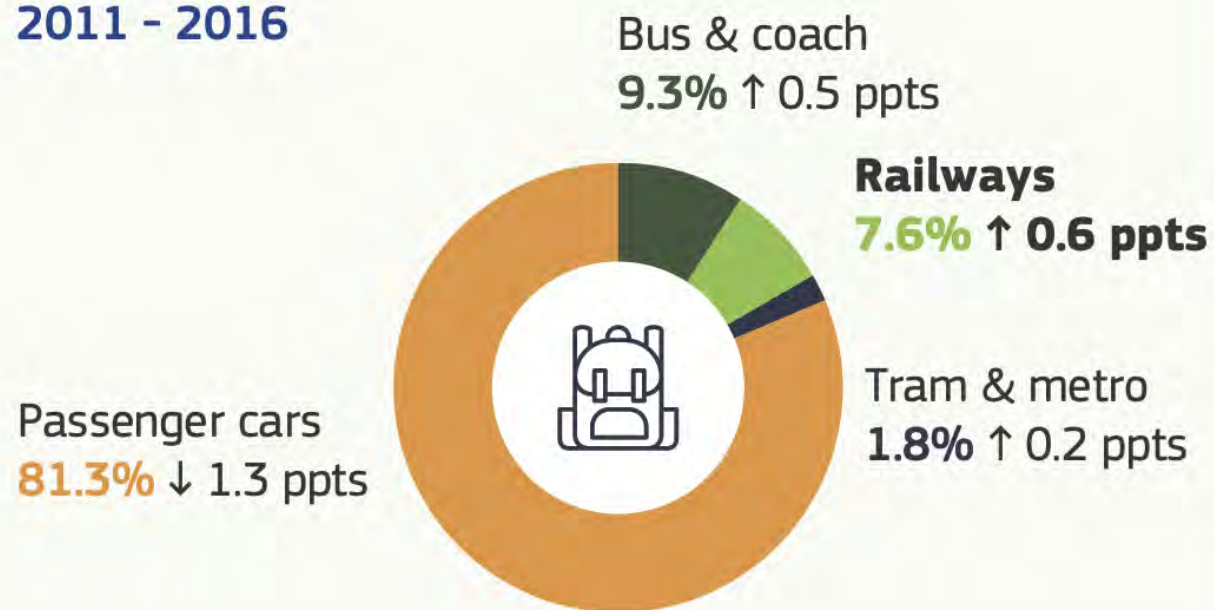
- Green Deal
- Illustrate that rail is **sustainable, innovative, energy-efficient, and safe**
- Significantly **increase rail's share** in transporting people and goods
- Raise awareness of the challenges that remain to a **Single European Rail Area**

How?

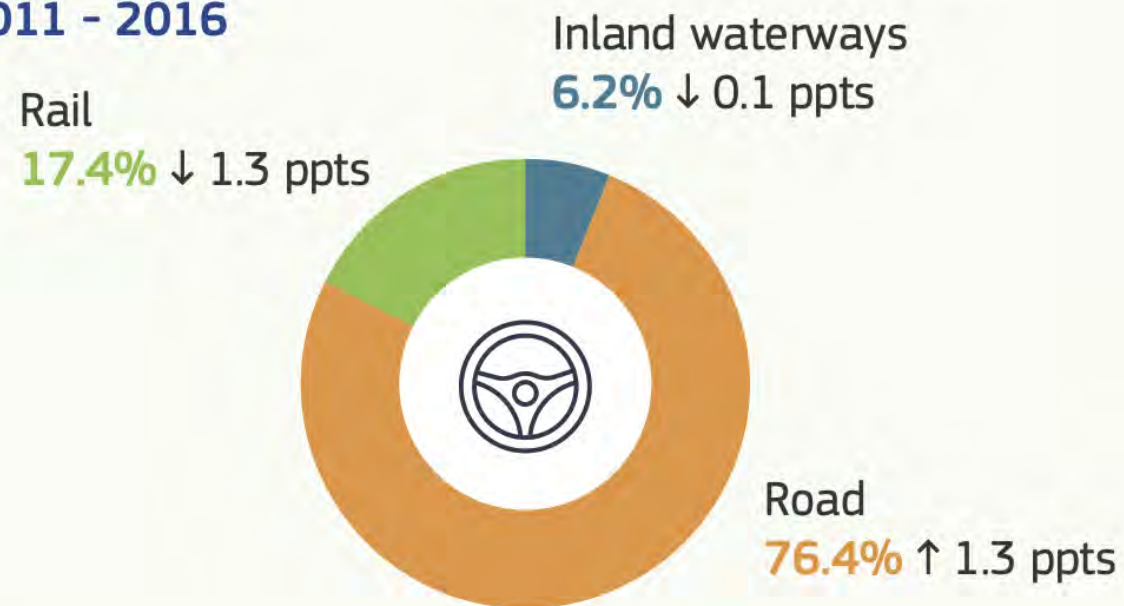
- Projects, engagement, events, debates **across the EU**
- Campaign to bust myths
- Eliminate obstacles and create Single European Rail Area

We need to significantly increase rail's share in transporting people and goods!

Passenger share 2011 - 2016



Freight share 2011 - 2016



Source: 6th Report on monitoring development of the rail market 2019

Why rail now?

Clear benefits

- Rail is largely **electrified**, increasingly **uses renewable energy**, and emits **far less CO2** than equivalent travel by road or air
- Rail is one of the **safest** transport modes and connects people, regions and businesses across the EU

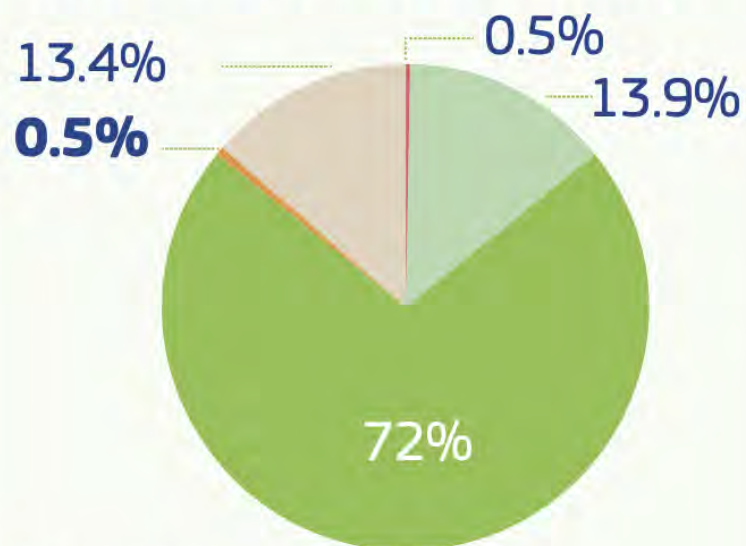
Remaining challenges

- Need for **improved quality of service, punctuality, reliability, exchange of data** such as estimated time of arrival
- **Cost reductions**
- Work on **capacity**, accelerating **ERTMS deployment**
- Purchasing **tickets** must become easier



Rail is sustainable

Greenhouse gas emissions from transport (EU-28, 2017)



- Road transportation
- **Railways**
- Navigation (including international)
- Other
- Civil aviation (including international)

Rail connects people

Length of railway lines in use, in 1000 km



Source: Statistical Pocketbook 2019

Rail is safe

Fatalities per billion passengers/km 2011 - 2015





Why 2021?

EU policy developments:

- 1st year in which the 4th Railway Package is fully implemented across the EU
- Follow-up to Strategy for Sustainable and Smart Mobility
- Shift2Rail successor program
- Proposal to revise Rail Freight Corridors
- Review of the TEN-T Regulation
- Review of the Combined Transport Directive
- Results for pilot project night trains and long distance passenger trains
- 2021 should see the continuation of the Shift2Rail and the European Agency for Railways (ERA) operating as fully-fledged EU certifying body

Celebrating rail:

- EUROPALIA Arts Festival 2021: Railways
- Many anniversaries, incl. 20th anniversary of the 1st Railway Package



What would the European Year look like?

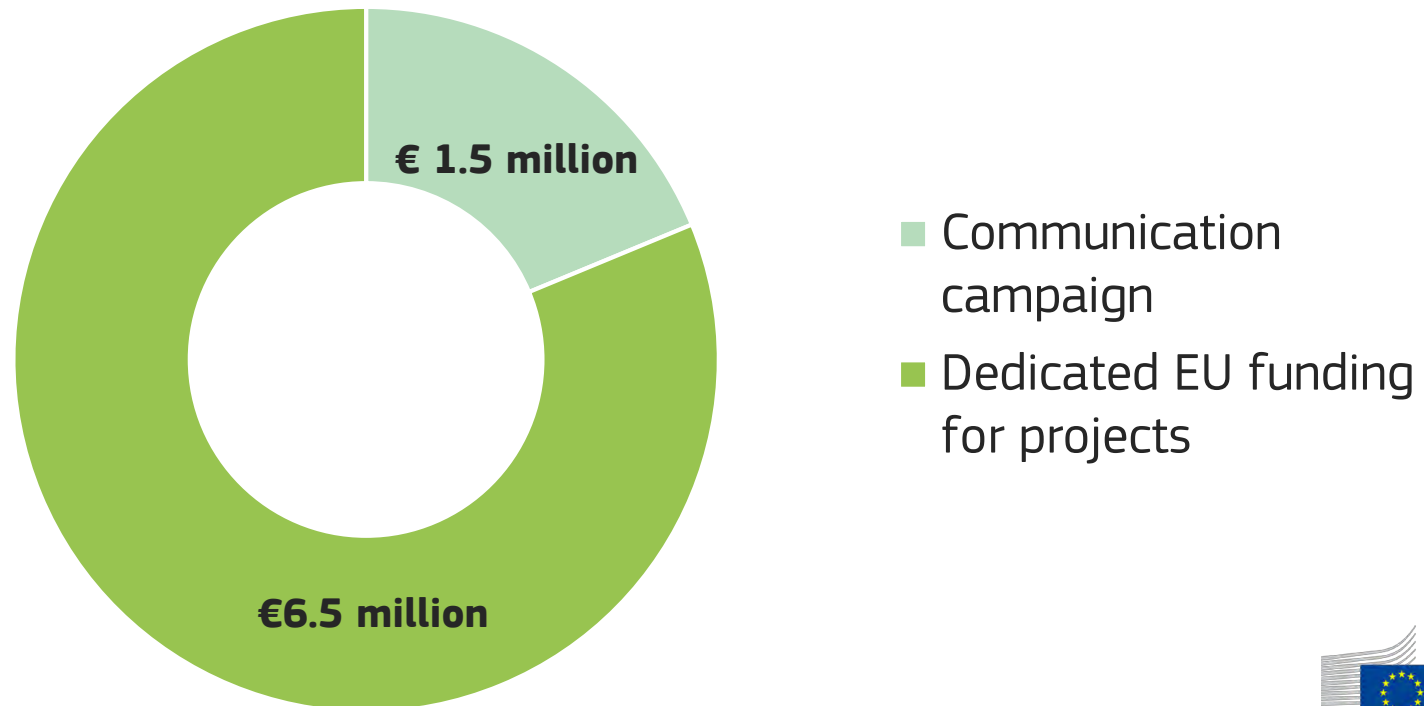
- **Raise awareness** of certain topics, **encourage debate** and **change attitudes**
- For and with citizens, public authorities, the European rail community, railway museums – sector commitment is key!
- Communication campaign
- **Support to projects**, for instance linked to:
 - #DiscoverEU
 - European corridors
 - Freight train of the future
 - Ticketing
 - Tourism, Industrial heritage
 - 5G, Satellite for rail
 - Regions love rail
 - Hydrogen
 - Can rail be climate-neutral by 2035?



What would the European Year look like?

Estimated budget of **€8 million**, split between:

- **Communication campaign:** coordination, visual identity and branding
- **Dedicated EU funding opportunities:** co-financing for projects



Disclaimer:
These figures are an estimation and are provided for information only.

Thank you – we look forward to hearing your ideas and suggestions.

For questions or for suggestions, please contact:

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For more information, please see:

[Press Release](#)

[Commission proposal](#)

#EUYearofRail

