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SCHUMAN
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Florence
School
of
Regulation

10th Florence Rail Forum

Villa la Fonte
San Domenico
di Fiesole
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Rail freight in Europe: how to improve capacity and usage of the network?

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Context

- EU/EC goal: improve the **capacity** and **usage** of the European freight network
- **Liberalization** (since 2007) as a first step/means
- But **problems** persist:
 - technical barriers to full **interoperability**
 - network access priorities (over passenger transport)
- Two new initiatives as of recently:
 - RailNetEurope, association set up by European Rail Infrastructure Managers and Allocation Bodies
 - **Rail Freight Corridors (RFCs)**
 - **Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking**: Research & Innovation (R&I) for market-driven solutions



Objectives of the 10th Forum

- Take stock of the current situation of rail freight in Europe and understand the barriers to its further development
- 4 main questions:
 - Where is rail freight transport in Europe currently at and what is the current European **strategy** for rail freight?
 - How to achieve **modernization** and **interoperability**?
 - How to increase capacity and usage of the network? (development of the **Rail Freight Corridors**)
 - How to increase capacity and usage of the network? (industry involvement in **Shift2Rail** and future developments)



Structure and principles of the day

- 4 sessions with short inputs and subsequent discussions:
 - current situation and EU strategy
 - modernization and interoperability
 - Rail Freight Corridors
 - Shift2Rail
- Chatham rules
- Slides, summaries and Observer after the Forum