



**One day Conference on Research  
Infrastructures**



*Setting out the objectives of the  
Conference and presentation of the the  
European Transport Research Alliance -  
ETRA*

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# *Aims and objectives of this Conference*

- A. Exchange information and further discuss current practices and status in opening up to cooperative use and more networking of European and world RIs in the Transport field.***
- B. Discuss and comment on the relevant recommendations of the EUTRAIN project.***
- C. Make its own proposals on the subject, directed to the EU - ESFRI or National governments.***
- D. Recommend specific follow-up actions.***

# *EUTRAIN recommendations on Research Infrastructures (1/2)*

- 1. Systematically raise interest in RI networking** (through dissemination actions and best practice examples).
- 2. Develop a global RI database of world-class RI** (all modes), e.g. by further developing the FEHRL RI Online Catalogue.
- 3. Establish networks of RI around special research topics.**
- 4. Establish and fund common projects around at least one RI,** as an essential basis and common resource for the project. Need to overcome:
  - Legal barriers, including insurance issues (Usually there is no or limited insurance cover for government-owned RIs);
  - Different Intellectual Property Regimes (IPR) for transferring the outcomes;
  - Physical condition and maintenance costs of RI;
  - Difficulties experienced with international transfer of funding.

# *EUTRAIN recommendations on Research Infrastructures (2/2)*

Promote further networking of Transport RI, through:

- A. Creating an **International RI Task Force** to formulate recommendations and promote relevant actions on world-class RIs **for all transport modes** .
- B. Transport-related RIs to be incorporated in future **European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI)** roadmaps.
- C. Drafting of “ESFRI proposals for transport-related RI” and subsequent endorsement of these proposals.
- D. List of “common” Transport RIs in the ESFRI roadmap, as a major facilitation of joint international implementation of the specific RI.

... but first a few words about ETRA –  
*The European Transport Research Alliance*



***ETRA was created in Brussels on September 20<sup>th</sup> 2012  
by five European Transport Research Associations  
(ECTRI, EURNEX, FEHRL, FERSI, HUMANIST)  
in the presence of the Commission***

# *Identity and status of the ETRA*

- ❖ The ETRA is a voluntary grouping of European Transport research related Associations who decided to coordinate their actions, to create synergies, and promote common goals.
- ❖ No fees are payable to ETRA, all contributions by partners are “in-kind”
- ❖ Each ETRA partner Association retains its full autonomy and focus area of activity.
- ❖ No legal form or status



# *ETRA scope and main objectives*

- *Promote the ERA in the field of Transport.*
- *Provide a structure for the interchange of knowledge and support efforts to foster research results through to their full implementation;*
- *Promote cooperation between its partners in all relevant areas through a commonly agreed action plan enabling (among others):*
  - ✓ *cross-modal and interdisciplinary joint research activities,*
  - ✓ *setting of common research priorities, and*
  - ✓ *Supporting common programmes and initiatives;*
- *Prepare common position papers on key transport related issues for added value to the transport users and the community as a whole;*
- *Strengthen the European research expertise, research infrastructures and mobility of researchers through specific joint actions and initiatives;*
- *Promote international cooperation in transport research.*

# *Basic Texts*

- *Decisions of the 1st Assembly*, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012 (Minutes of the Assembly).
- “*Statement of purpose and vision*” (Scope, “vision”, and main objectives of ETRA – January 2013).
- “*4-year activity plan 2013-2016*” (Activities Agenda for the Alliance over the first four years – January 2013).
- *ETRA input – position on: the 1<sup>st</sup> work programme of the transport challenge, of the societal research in the H2020 programme* – May 2013.



## *New ETRA partners are:*

- ❖ Research or academic Associations from EU member countries (and EFTA) active in Transport related issues*
- ❖ Decisions on new partnerships only by the ETRA Assembly on unanimous vote*
- ❖ Applications accepted in simple letter format with a short description of the Association and its activities.*

*Thank you !*

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