



**Joint
„Budapest Declaration”**

by the Initiative „Magistrale for Europe“

for the Realisation of the High-Speed Rail Line
„Magistrale for Europe“
Paris - Budapest

via
Strasbourg - Karlsruhe - Stuttgart - Ulm - Augsburg - Munich -
Salzburg - Vienna

Budapest, 14 November 2003

The rail connection „Magistrale for Europe“ from Paris via Strasbourg, Stuttgart, Munich, Salzburg, Vienna to Budapest is the central east-west axis in the heart of Europe and a backbone of the Pan-European rail network. It links cities and regions that are home to 34 million people, including 16 million employed persons, in France, Germany, Austria and Hungary.

Considering the EU expansion, the conversion of the „Magistrale for Europe“ into a continuous high-speed line for passenger and freight transport is an indispensable prerequisite for the rapid economic, political and cultural integration of Eastern and Western Europe.

The Initiative „Magistrale für Europa“ – an alliance of 27 cities, regions and chambers of industry and commerce – aims to obtain the upgrading of the „Magistrale for Europe“ to a continuous high-speed rail connection for passenger and goods traffic by 2015.

Before this background, the Initiative welcomes:

- the **European Commission’s proposal to revise the Community guidelines for the development of a Trans-European Transport Network** of 1st October 2003 declaring the upgrading of the Magistrale to be a priority project of European interest in view of the realisation of the Trans-European Networks (TEN), a project that is to be launched before 2010,
- the **European Commission’s proposal to revise the financial rules for TEN projects** of 1st October 2003 (EC Decision No. 2236/95), aiming to raise to up to 30 % the EU contribution to the total cost of cross-border sections of projects of „European Interest“,
- the **conclusions of the Presidency of the European Council** of 16/17 October 2003 launching a growth initiative in the European Union based on increased investment in key projects to build modern, efficient transport infrastructure and ensure easy and better access between all Member States,
- the **“Joint Communiqué by the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Hungary, the State of Baden-Württemberg and the Free State of Bavaria“** on the occasion of the **“Passau Summit”** of 12 September 2003 in which the heads of government emphasise the importance of cross-border east-west rail axes in view of the imminent EU expansion and the increasing traffic burden, stressing in particular the necessity to upgrade the „Magistrale for Europe“,
- the **Declaration of Intent by the governments of the Republic of France and the German Federal Republic on the occasion of the 81st Government Consultations** of 18 September 2003 confirming their will to interlink the French and German high speed networks via Strasbourg and Karlsruhe by 2010,
- the **Joint Letter of Intent by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Transport, the Federal State of Vienna and the Austrian Federal Railways (ÖBB)** of October 2003 in view of a rapid realisation of a through station in Vienna.

The Initiative regrets

- the **Decision taken by the Government Cabinet of the Federal Republic of Germany** on 2 July 2003 listing the portion „Munich-Mühldorf-Freilassing-Salzburg“ in the **“Federal Transport Infrastructure Plan 2003”** as being of secondary priority, therefore being a portion that is not to be upgraded before 2015,
- the **Press Release of the Ministry of Transport, Building and Housing of the Federal Republic of Germany** of 3 November 2003 stating that none of the grants of 23.71 million Euro that the Federal Republic of Germany will receive in 2003 from the European Union for the development of the Trans-European Networks (TEN) will be invested in the upgrading of the „Magistrale for Europe“.

The Initiative calls upon

- the **European Council** and the **European Parliament** to follow the proposals of the European Commission aiming to revise the guidelines for the development of a Trans-European Transport Network and to amend the financial rules for TEN projects which will ensure that the „Magistrale for Europe“ is definitely recognised as a priority TEN project and will make the financing of TEN projects easier – in particular where cross-border sections are concerned. In this context the Magistrale section “Munich-Salzburg-Attnang/Puchheim“ should be mentioned explicitly as „cross-border section“ of “Project 17“,
- the **Republic of France** to take – on the occasion of the next meeting of the „Comité Interministériel pour l'Aménagement et le Développement du Territoire (CIADT)“ held at the end of 2003 - a definitive decision on the realisation of the second phase of the TGV Est Européen from Baudrecourt to Strasbourg and to make this decision immediately after the completion of the first phase of the TGV Est from Paris to Baudrecourt (2007),
- the **Republic of France** and the **Federal Republic of Germany** to confirm in a legally binding way their declaration of intent concerning the connection of the German and French high speed network via Strasbourg and Karlsruhe by 2010 and to initiate the planning and financing procedures required for this purpose,
- the **German Federal Parliament** and the **German Federal Council** to include in the “Rail Infrastructure Extension Act” as “sections of high priority” all German sections of the “Magistrale for Europe“ not yet realised. This concerns in particular the section „Munich-Mühldorf-Freilassing-Salzburg “ if work is to be launched by 2010 – as intended for the „Projects of European Interest“ of the Trans-European Networks (TEN),
- the **Republic of Austria** and the **Federal Republic of Austria** to initiate rapidly **in co-operation with the Deutsche Bahn AG and the Austrian Railways (ÖBB)** a cross-border solution for the upgrading of the section Munich-Mühldorf-Salzburg-Attnang/Puchheim,
- the **Republic of Hungary** and the **Hungarian State Railway (MÁV)** to plan the development of the capital Budapest as an efficient junction of the Trans-European Networks (TEN) with special regard to long-distance transport and – as a medium-term aim – to upgrade the portion Heygeshalom-Budapest to allow a speed of 200 km/h,
- the **nation-states in South East Europe** to include the „Magistrale for Europe“ and its extension beyond Budapest in their national transport master plans as an infrastructure essential to boost European integration.

Budapest, 14 November 2003

signed
Heinz Fenrich

Lord Mayor of the City of Karlsruhe
President of the Initiative „Magistrale for Europe“

On behalf of the Initiative „Magistrale for Europe“

Initiative „Magistrale for Europe“

Cities

Budapest	Oberbürgermeister Dr. Gábor Demszky
Wien	Bürgermeister Dr. Michael Häupl
St. Pölten	Bürgermeister Willi Gruber
Salzburg	Bürgermeister Dr. Heinz Schaden
München	Oberbürgermeister Christian Ude
Augsburg	Oberbürgermeister Dr. Paul Wengert
Ulm	Oberbürgermeister Ivo Gönner
Stuttgart	Oberbürgermeister Dr. Wolfgang Schuster
Karlsruhe	Oberbürgermeister Heinz Fenrich
Strasbourg	Maire Fabienne Keller
Nancy	Maire Dr. André Rossinot

Regions

EURegio Salzburg – Berchtesgadener Land – Traunstein	Landrat Hermann Steinmaßl
Regionaler Planungsverband München	Bürgermeister Dr. Eberhardt Reichert
Regionaler Planungsverband Augsburg	Bürgermeister Georg Barfuß
Regionalverband Donau-Iller	Landrat Erich Josef Geßner
Verband Region Stuttgart	Vorsitzender Dr. Jürgen Fritz
Regionalverband Mittlerer Oberrhein	Vorsitzender Josef Offele
Regionalverband Südlicher Oberrhein	1. Bürgermeister Otto Neideck
Ortenaukreis	Landrat Klaus Brodbeck

Chambers of Industry and Commerce

Wirtschaftskammer Österreich	Präsident Dr. Christoph Leitl
Wirtschaftskammer Salzburg	Präsident Rainhardt Buemberger
Industrie- und Handelskammer für München und Oberbayern	Präsident Dr. Claus Hipp
Industrie- und Handelskammer Augsburg und Schwaben	Präsidentin Hannelore Leimer
Industrie- und Handelskammer Ulm	Präsident Dr. Peter Kulitz
Industrie- und Handelskammer Region Stuttgart	Präsident Dr. Günter Baumann
Industrie- und Handelskammer Karlsruhe	Präsident Bernd Bechtold
Industrie- und Handelskammer Südlicher Oberrhein	Präsident Karlhubert Dischinger