



# Introduction to the Group of Experts on International Railway Passenger Hubs

Agenda item 3: Background to the Group

1<sup>st</sup> Session

Group of Experts on International  
Railway Passenger Hubs



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07-09 | 07 | 2021, Geneva

# The development of international passenger rail transport in the context of ITC resolution No. 264



- 100 participants
- Discussed the role of international rail passenger transport and the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on the future evolution of rail passenger transport.
- Speakers from national and international institutions as well as from the railways shared their experiences and identified challenges and possible solutions going forward.
- Report of workshop available:

<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/sc2/sc2.html>



# The development of international passenger rail transport in the context of ITC resolution No. 264



- Participants noted the importance of this work and discussed the need for further work and requested the creation of a new **Group of Experts on International Railway Passenger Hubs – GE HUBS**

(Documents: ECE/TRANS/2021/6 and ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2020/3)

- ITC endorsed the creation of this Group of Experts in February 2021.
- Final ECE EXCOM approval obtained shortly after.



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- To facilitate the growth of international passenger transport by rail by offering passengers stations (hubs) with harmonized high-level parameters and services that can be recognized when arriving at, and departing from, cities.





- The Group of Experts will focus its work on the following issues:
  - A. Identify the technical and service parameters necessary for the definition of an “International railway passenger hub or hubs”;
  - B. Identify which stations on the AGC network should be defined as an “International railway passenger hub” and its type as appropriate;
  - C. Identify what legal instrument or tool should be used to define and implement these “International railway passenger hubs” and draft the necessary legal provisions;



- D. Analyse the legal framework governing international passenger transportation in order to identify restrictions hindering the development of international passenger transport by rail in East – West traffic and prepare recommendations for its improvement;
- E. Prepare a document (recommendations, joint action plan, ECE ITC resolution) on measures to support international rail carriers in the context of the crisis caused by the pandemic of the new coronavirus infection COVID-19;
- F. Propose a way forward in the form of a report to the Working Party on Rail Transport for consideration.



- i. The Group of Experts should consider legal instruments, standards and guidelines already in place for the identification of different station types by ERA, OSJD, UIC, RUs, IMs, etc..
- ii. Also look at good practice examples from other sectors with a particular focus on the aviation sector;
- iii. The Group of Experts is expected to meet twice in 2021, at least twice in 2022 and 2023 and report to SC.2 in Nov 2023;
- iv. Full secretariat services are to be provided to the Group.



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**UNECE**

# Thank you

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