



**FERRMED**

Promotion de l'Axe Ferroviaire de marchandises  
Rhin-Rhône Méditerranée Occidentale, ASBL

Brussels, April 5th 2005



**FERRMED**

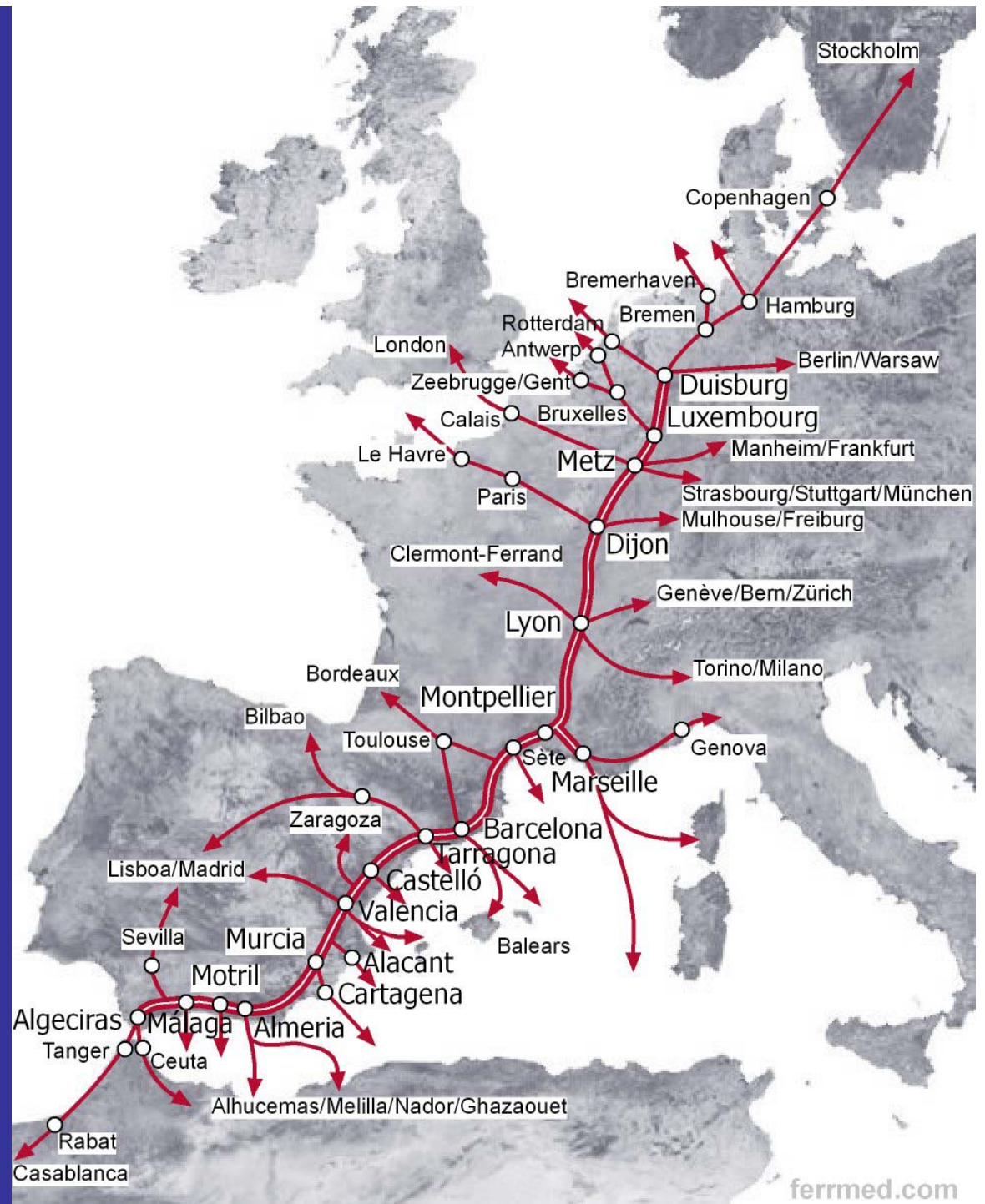
## FERRMED PRESENTATION

FERRMED is a non profit association constituted in Brussels, by the initiative of the civil society, particularly the entrepreneur world, to promote the Rhine – Rhone – Western Mediterranean Railway Axis for freight transportation.

The main trunk of the Axis starts in Duisburg, passing by the Rhine and the Rhone Valley, and continues through the Western Mediterranean coast up to Algeciras.

The aim of the association is to achieve, as soon as possible, the necessary conditions of continuity, interoperability, capacity and speed of the railway axis, to be a powerful development tool and an effective and efficient alternative to highway transportation; and to improve the fluvial and maritime trade through the two most important harbor fronts.

[www.ferrmed.com](http://www.ferrmed.com)



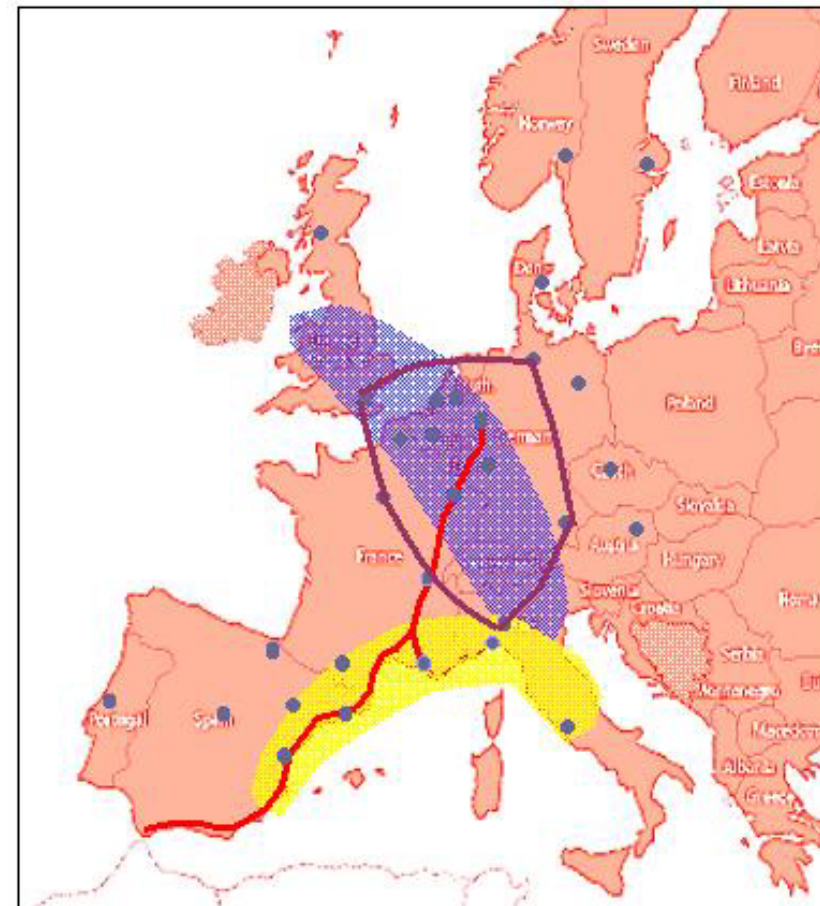
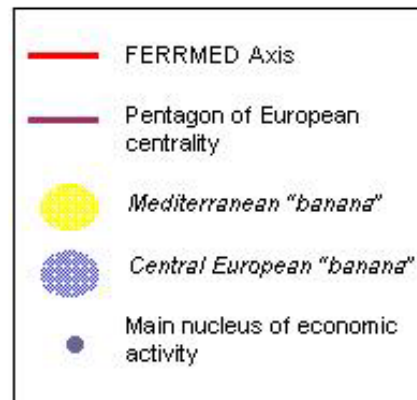


**FERRMED**

## A VITAL AXIS FOR EUROPE

A First Magnitude Economic Corridor.

FERRMED Axis connects some of the most important areas in the European Union. From sociological and geographical points of view, it is an ideal axis for freight transportation.

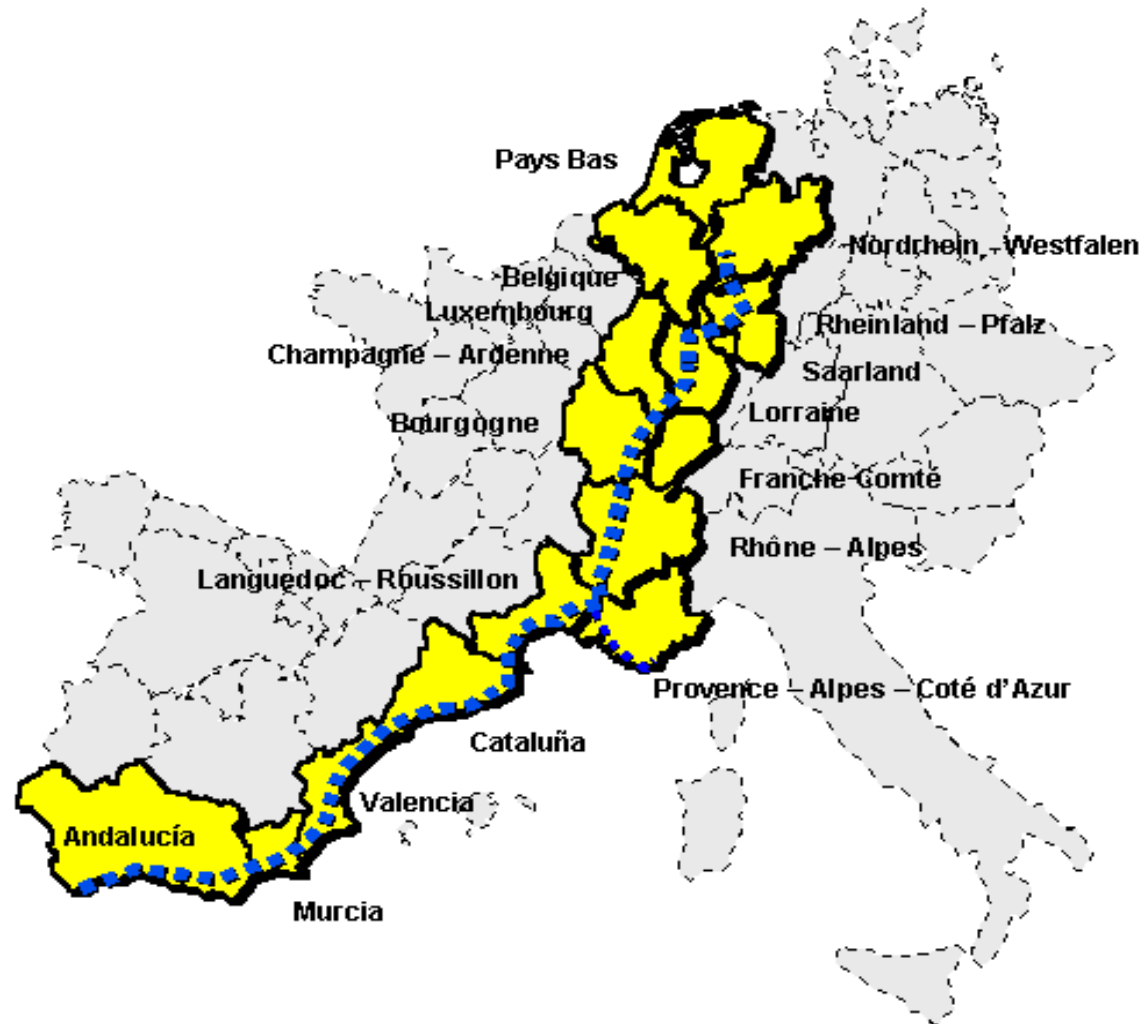




**FERRMED**

## DIRECT FIELD OF INFLUENCE

The axis has direct influence over a population of 90 million inhabitants (20% of EU population and 21% of GDP).

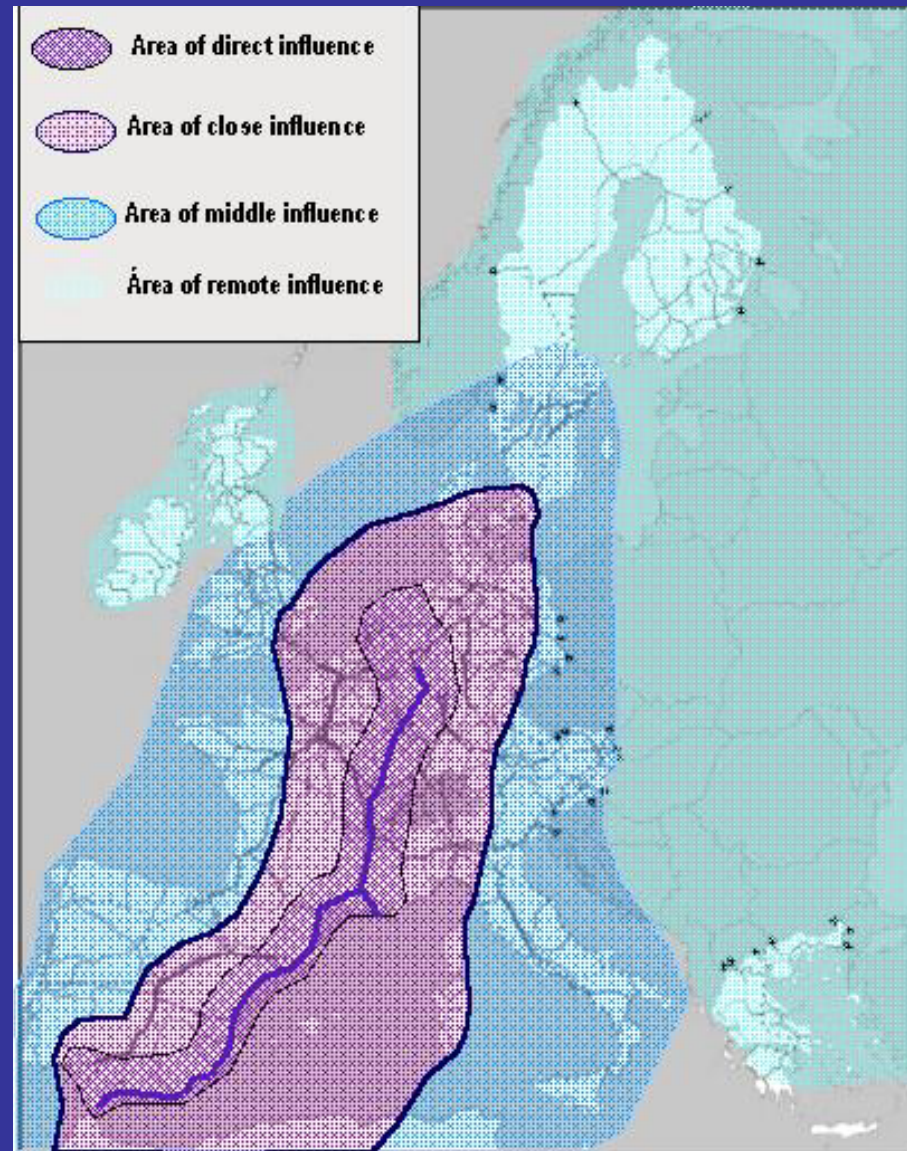




**FERRMED**

## DIRECT AND CLOSE FIELD OF INFLUENCE

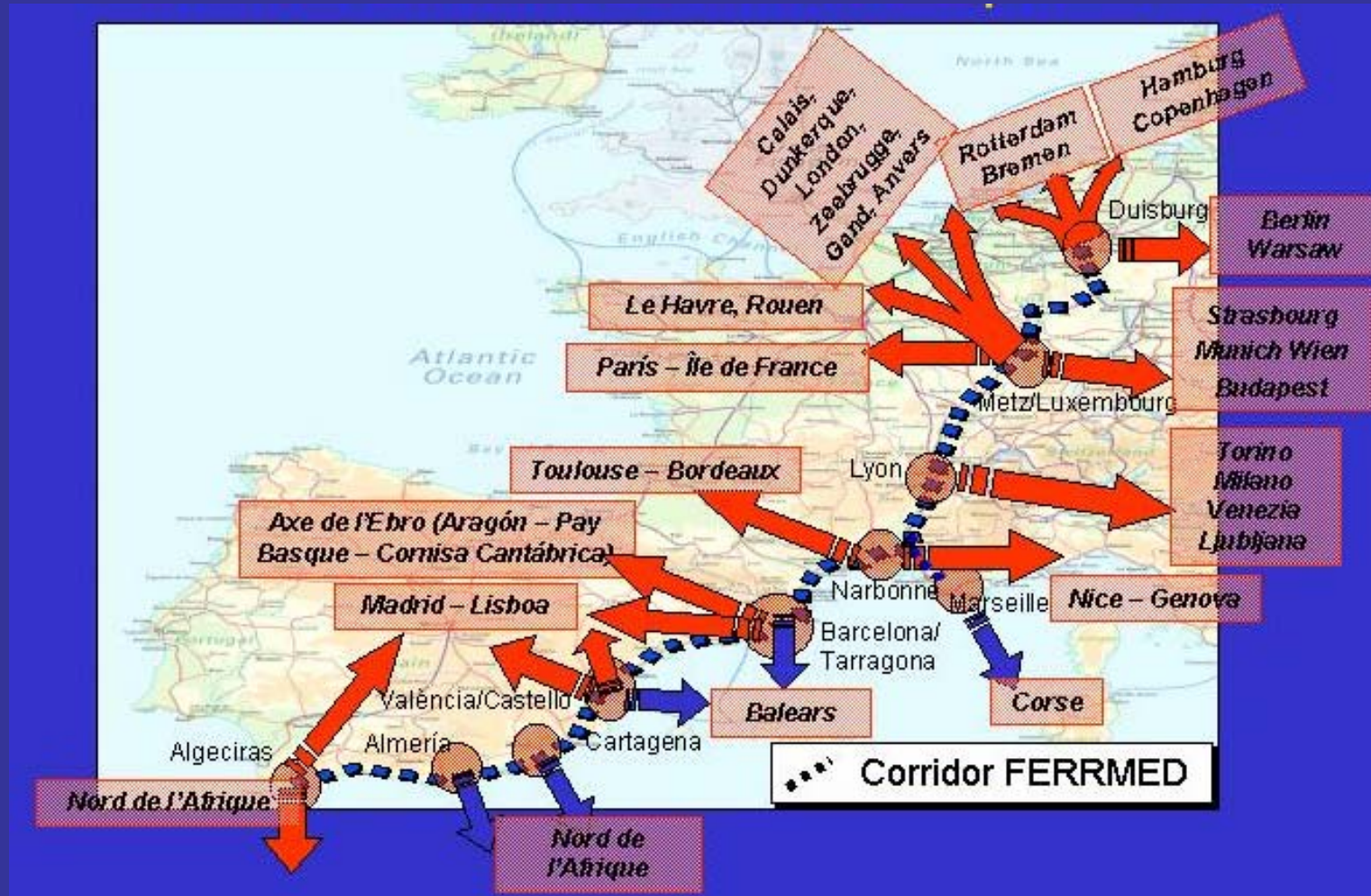
The Axis has a direct and close influence over a population of 224 million inhabitants (49% of EU population and 60% of GDP)





**FERRMED**

## A STRUCTURING AXIS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION (I)



The FERRMED Axis, through its connection with other axis, provides a better access to the entire western European Union.



## **A STRUCTURING AXIS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION (II)**

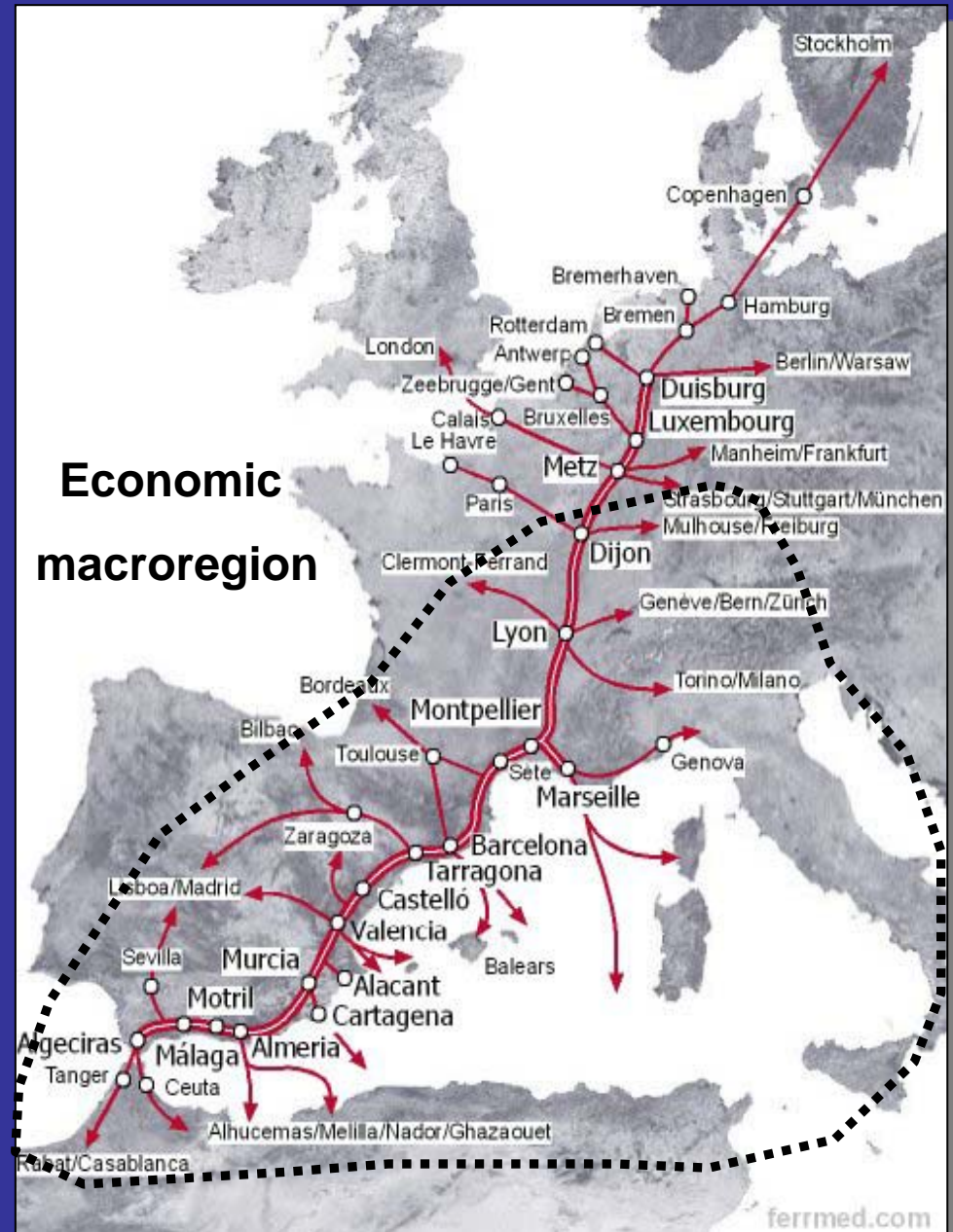
- An Axis promoting the intracommunitary and intercontinental trade.
- An Axis favouring the creation of an economic space in the Western Mediterranean area.
- An Axis connecting the most important harbour fronts and fluvial corridors.
- An intermodal Axis coherent with the European Community Transport policy.
- A sustainable Axis in line with the European Community Environmental policy.





**FERRMED**

**AN AXIS THAT  
PROMOTES AN  
ECONOMIC  
MACROREGION IN THE  
WESTERN  
MEDITERRANEAN  
AREA**





**FERRMED**

## THE NECESSITY OF THE FERRMED FREIGHT RAILWAY AXIS

- ✓ To eliminate the extreme congestion in the highways parallel to the Axis which are at the hedge of saturation.
- ✓ To face the expected increases of traffic and absorb the volumes in relation to maritime trade with Asia and North Africa.
- ✓ To improve the competitiveness of firms and the logistic system of the Western European Union with sustainable processes.



**FERRMED**

## **A RAILWAY AXIS WITH INFRASTRUCTURAL AND OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS**

### On the French line:

- ✓ Bottlenecks in Montpellier, Nîmes, Lyon, Dijon and Metz.

### On the Spanish line:

- ✓ Different rail width.
- ✓ Bottlenecks in Barcelona and Valencia neighbourhoods.
- ✓ Lack of connection between Murcia and Almería/Granada.



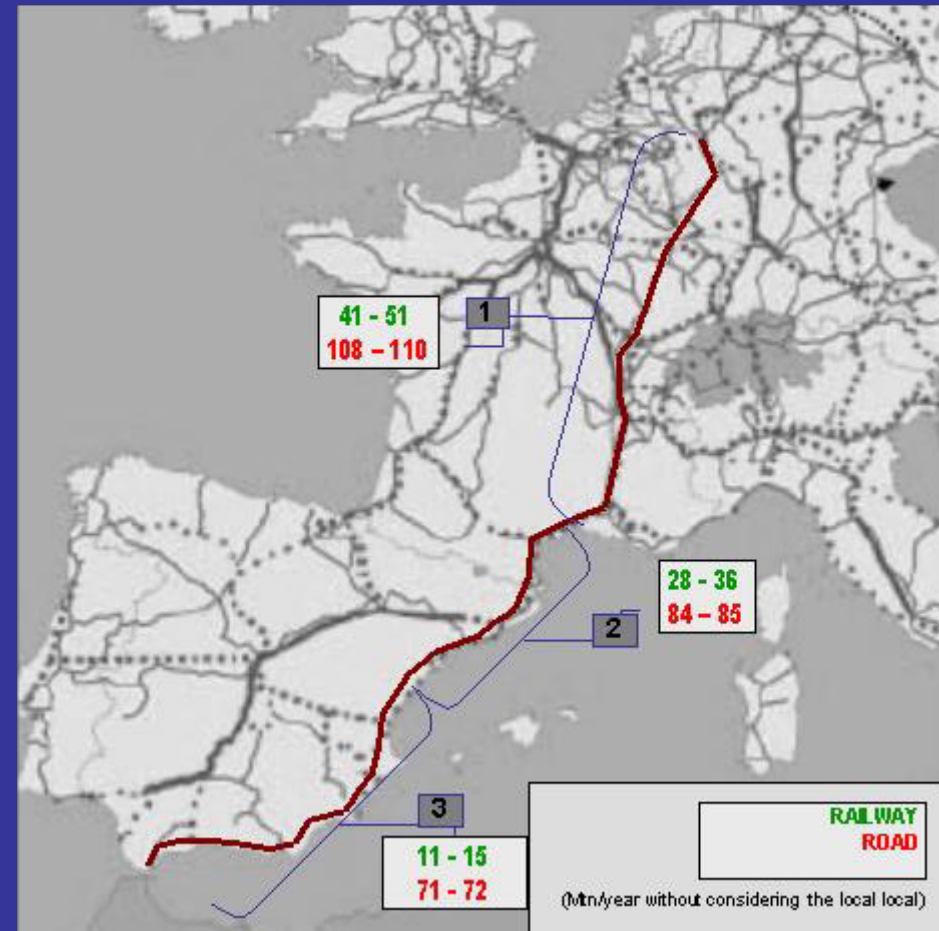
**FERRMED**

## SURFACE TRAFFIC FORECASTED FOR 2020 (WITHOUT LOCAL TRAFFIC) IN MILLION TONS

•For 2020, the necessary actions for the improvement of the infrastructures and for the management of the corridor FERRMED are considered to be done; what allows a greater quota of participation of the railway.

### Summary of the annual average growth:

2002-2020 Scenarios: tendency	Ferrmed
1- Duisburg–Cerbère: 5,6%	8%
2- Cerbère-Valencia: 9,9%	13%
3- Valencia–Algeciras: 5,5%	17%



The Study of the new line between Perpignan and Barcelona, the study of the Pyrenees Observatory and the study for combined transport of the UIC-CGT consider annual average growth of 8.9%, 8.3% and 8.5% respectively.

## RECOMMENDED AXIS CHARACTERISTICS (I)

Infrastructural requirements:

### 1. Interoperability of the Axis

- Complete implementation of the rail width UIC.
- Electric traction in the whole route.
- Installation of equipments for the circulation in double sense in each track.
- General application of the ERTMS.

2. Double track on the whole route, with preferable/exclusive use for freight.



## RECOMMENDED AXIS CHARACTERISTICS (II)

### 3.- Design of new actions and adaptation of existing infrastructures:

- Adequacy of the routes to the combined transport/rail highway.
- Compositions up to 3.600 Tm.
- Route profile with ramps lower than 12‰. (Only exceptionally until 15‰). Limited length of the ramps.
- Stretches and stations suitable for trains 1500 meters long.



## SHORT TERM ACTIONS PROPOSED

Year 2010

- ✓ Review of the characteristics of the projects and adapt them to the FERRMED criteria.
- ✓ Speed up of the execution of the priority sections.
- ✓ Integrate to the current planning new actions not previously foreseen.
- ✓ Improvement of the operability.



## **MIDDLE AND LONG TERM ACTIONS PROPOSED**

### **Year 2017**

Conclusion of the necessary actions to benefit from the Axis completed with conditions of capacity, interoperability and preferred use for freight.

### **Year 2025**

Complementary actions which allow the exclusive management of the transport of goods on the major part of the Axis.





**FERRMED**

## FERRMED ASSOCIATION ACTION PLAN (I)

- Realization of three Studies:
  - Descriptive Study
  - Technical Study
  - Economical Study
- Divuligation of the project and incorporation of new members.
- Presentation and defense of the project in front of private, public, European, national and regional institutions.
- Join working groups with the different Administrations in order to achieve the foreseen objectives and obtain the introduction of the FERRMED Axis in the high priority national and European programmes.



**FERRMED**

## WHO IS MEMBER OF FERRMED?

FERRMED brings together private sector actors interested in the freight transportation through this axis:

- firms
- transport and logistic companies
- ports
- multimodal platforms
- chambers of commerce
- ....



**FERRMED**

## **FERRMED SECRETARY GENERAL**

**Rue de Trèves, 49 BP-7  
B-1040 Bruxelles.**

**Tel. + 32-2-230.59.50 - Fax: + 32-2-230.70.35**

**[ferrmed@ferrmed.com](mailto:ferrmed@ferrmed.com)**

**The Secretary General is available for enterprises interested by the FERRMED Project in order to communicate them in detail and face to face the goals of the Association and the expected action plans.**