

ORIENT/EAST-MED CORRIDOR

*Hamburg – Berlin
 Rostock – Berlin – Dresden
 Bremerhaven/Wilhelmshaven – Magdeburg – Dresden
 Dresden – Ústí nad Labem – Melnik/Praha – Kolin
 Kolin – Pardubice – Brno – Wien/Bratislava – Budapest – Arad – Timișoara – Craiova – Calafat – Vidin – Sofia
 Sofia – Plovdiv – Burgas
 Plovdiv – TR border
 Sofia – Thessaloniki – Athina – Piraeus – Lemesos – Lefkosia
 Athina – Patra/Igoumenitsa*

Description

This long northwest-south eastern corridor will connect central Europe with the maritime interfaces of the North, Baltic, Black and Mediterranean seas, allowing to optimise the use of the ports concerned and the related Motorways of the Sea. This corridor will integrate Priority Projects 7 and 22, ERTMS corridor E and Rail Freight Corridor 7 (RFC 7). It will foster the development of those ports as major multimodal logistic platforms and will improve the multimodal connections of major economic centres in Central Europe to the coastlines, using rivers such as the Elbe. The corridor will also provide the link to Cyprus.

Main missing links

Missing links are numerous, since most of the multimodal connections between Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania and Greece remain to be built or substantially upgraded. The Elbe also needs important upgrading to be able to attract traffic flows. Cross-border traffic management systems on rail and inland waterways are still to be implemented on many sections.

Success stories

Rail development along the north – south line from Budapest until Athens

The Commission is already granting EU support for a study that will analyse traffic flows and potential development of a rail link that will connect Budapest with Sofia and Athens via Timisoara, Vidin-Calafat and Thessaloniki. The link is currently not fully operational and support is needed for creating the right preconditions for development along this line, preparing investments in the oncoming multi-annual financial framework. The cooperation between the Member States concerned by RFC 7, the various cofounding authorities is exemplary of what the future of the cooperation on the new corridor would be like.



The multimodal Danube Bridge between Vidin and Calafat at the Bulgarian Romanian border



Piraeus port in Greece

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CEF: Pre-identified projects

Dresden - Praha	Rail	studies for high-speed rail
Praha	Rail	upgrading, freight bypass; rail connection airport
Praha – Breclav	Rail	upgrading
Hamburg – Dresden – Praha – Pardubice	IWW	Elbe and Vltava studies, works for better navigability and upgrading
Děčín locks	IWW	studies
Prague - Brno - Breclav	Rail	upgrading, including rail node Brno and multi-modal platform
Breclav – Bratislava	Rail	cross-border, upgrading
Bratislava – Hegyeshalom	Rail	cross-border, upgrading
Mosonmagyaróvár – SK Border	Road	cross border upgrading
Tata – Biatorbágy	Rail	upgrading
Budapest – Arad – Timișoara – Calafat	Rail	upgrading in HU nearly completed, ongoing in RO
Vidin – Sofia – Burgas/TR border Sofia – Thessaloniki – Athens/Piraeus	Rail	studies and works Vidin – Sofia – Thessaloniki - Athens; upgrading Sofia – Burgas/TR border
Vidin – Craiova	Road	Cross-border upgrading
Thessaloniki, Igoumenitsa	Port	Infrastructure upgrading and development, multimodal interconnections
Athens/Piraeus/Heraklion – Lemesos	Port, MoS	port capacity and multimodal interconnections
Lemesos – Lefkosia	Ports, multimodal platforms	upgrading of modal interconnection, including Lefkosia South Orbital, studies and works, traffic management systems
Lefkosia – Larnaca	Multimodal platforms	Multimodal interconnections and telematic applications systems
Patras	Port	Port interconnections, (further) development of multimodal platforms
Athina - Patras	Rail	studies and works, port interconnections