

**CONFERENCE ON ACCESSION  
TO THE EUROPEAN UNION  
– CROATIA –**

**Brussels, 30 September 2009**

**AD 20/09**

**LIMITE**

**CONF-HR 15**

**ACCESSION DOCUMENT**

---

Subject : EUROPEAN UNION COMMON POSITION  
Chapter 21: Trans-European Networks

---

# EUROPEAN UNION COMMON POSITION

(Revision of CONF-HR 31/07)

## Chapter 21: Trans-European Networks

This position of the European Union is based on its general position from the Accession Conference with Croatia (CONF-HR 2/05), and is subject to the negotiating principles endorsed by the Accession Conference (CONF-HR 5/05), in particular:

- any view expressed by either party on a chapter of the negotiations will in no way prejudice the position which may be taken on other chapters;
- agreements – even partial agreements – reached during the course of the negotiations on chapters to be examined successively may not be considered as final until an overall agreement has been reached;

as well as to the requirements set out in points 13, 16 and 26 of the Negotiating Framework.

The EU underlines the importance of Croatia's complying with the Stabilisation and Association Agreement as well as the Accession Partnership, which constitute basic elements of pre-accession strategy.

The EU encourages Croatia to continue the process of alignment with the *acquis* and its effective implementation and enforcement and, in general, to already develop policies and instruments as close as possible to those of the EU as regards transport, energy and telecommunication networks, before accession.

The EU notes that Croatia, in its positions CONF-HR 12/07 and 28/08, accepts the *acquis* under chapter 21 as in force on 1 September 2008, and that Croatia declares that it will be ready to fully implement it by the date of its accession to the European Union.

## **Transport networks**

The EU takes note of the approval, by the Committee on Coordination of the Funds (COCOF), of the Transport Operational Programme covering the period 2007-2009. The EU notes that this programme aims at a balanced development of the transport network through the investments foreseen.

The EU takes note of the adoption by the Croatian Parliament of the National Programme for Railway Infrastructure covering the period of 2008-2012 (adopted in March 2008) and of the strategy for Development of Inland Waterways in the Republic of Croatia covering period 2008-2018 (adopted in May 2008).

The EU encourages Croatia, in implementing these plans, to ensure coherence with the development of regional and European networks as currently designed, in particular in terms of timing and coordination with existing projects in neighbouring countries.

The EU takes note that Croatia ratified on 21 May 2008 the European Common Aviation Area (ECAA) agreement and notes Croatia's plans to proceed with the implementation of the first transitional stage of this agreement.

The EU takes note that the South East Europe Core Regional Transport Network is the basis for the identification of the future TEN-T network in Croatia. The EU encourages Croatia to continue its cooperation in the framework of the Core Regional Network to complete the priority projects identified, and in particular to simplify procedures at border crossings through the implementation of soft measures in addition to the infrastructure investments.

The EU emphasises the need to develop the transport network in Croatia, in full compliance with the development of the Trans-European networks and the South East Europe Core Regional Transport Network, as currently designed.

The EU takes note of Croatia's plans to adopt the modal development programmes, such as the programme for Public Road Construction 2008-2011 and of the mid-term development plan for inland waterways and ports.

The EU takes note of Croatia's plans to align the national legislation with that of the EU acquis in the area of Trans-European networks safety and interoperability and of Croatian plans to strengthen the administrative capacity.

The EU also notes the increased funding intended for improving airport safety standards.

The EU welcomes the agreement reached by Croatia and the European Commission on the future TEN-T network in accordance with Decision No 1692/96/EC, as amended, and on a priority project of European interest in the framework of this TEN-T network, meeting the benchmark set for closure of chapter 21 in the European Union common position (CONF-HR 31/07) (see annexed maps).

The EU also invites Croatia to participate in any further revision of the TEN-T network.

### **Energy networks**

The EU takes note of the information provided by Croatia on on-going developments as regards the interconnections of Croatia's electricity network with those of neighbouring countries and EU Member States.

The EU takes note of the information provided by Croatia on its active participation in the preparations for the development of the axis of the Greece-Slovenia gas pipeline.

The EU takes note of Croatia's continuous strengthening of its administrative capacity in the field of energy networks.

The EU also invites Croatia to participate in any further revision of the TEN-E network.

## Telecommunication networks

The EU takes note of the active preparation of Croatia to participate, as soon as possible, in the Information and Communications Technologies Policy Support Programme of the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme.

\* \* \*

In view of all the above considerations, the EU notes that, at this stage, this chapter does not require further negotiations.

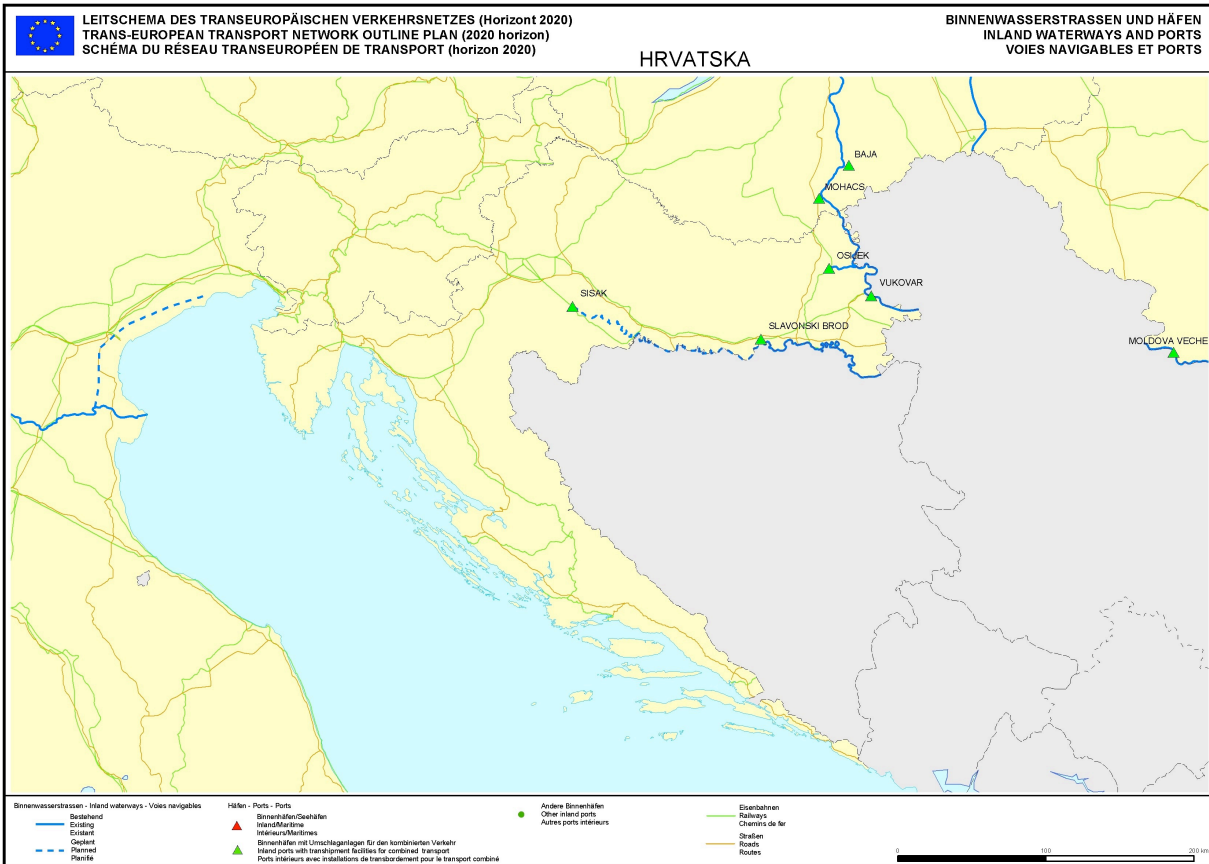
Monitoring of progress in the alignment with and implementation of the *acquis* will continue throughout the negotiations. The EU underlines that it will devote particular attention to monitoring all specific issues mentioned above with a view to ensuring Croatia's administrative capacity and its capacity to complete legal alignment in all the areas under this chapter as well as to ensure the appropriate level of safety required for all modes of transport. Particular consideration needs to be given to the links between the present chapter and other negotiation chapters. A final assessment of the conformity of Croatia's legislation with the *acquis* and of its implementation capacity can only be made at a later stage of the negotiations. In addition to all the information the EU may require for the negotiations in this chapter, which is to be provided to the Conference, the EU invites Croatia to provide regular detailed written information to the Stabilisation and Association Council on progress in the implementation of the *acquis*.

In view of all the above considerations, the EU will, if necessary, return to this chapter at an appropriate moment.

Furthermore, the EU recalls that there may be new *acquis* between 1 September 2008 and the conclusion of the negotiations.

---

# Annex

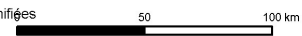




HRVATSKA



|  |  |  |   |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|
|  | Hochgeschwindigkeitsstrecken<br>High-speed lines |  | Ausbaustrecken für Hochgeschwindigkeitsverkehr<br>Upgraded high-speed lines |  | Geplante Hochgeschwindigkeitsstrecken, entsprechend Richtlinie 96/48/EG<br>Planned high-speed lines, following Directive 96/48/EC |
|  | Konventionelle Strecken<br>Conventional lines    |  | Lignes aménagées à grande vitesse   |  | Geplante konventionelle Strecken<br>Planned conventional lines  |
|  | Lignes à grande vitesse                          |  |   |  | Lignes planifiées à grande vitesse, selon la Directive 96/48/CE   |
|  | Lignes conventionnelles                          |  |   |  | Lignes conventionnelles planifiées  |





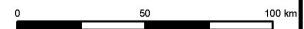
LEITSHEMA DES TRANSEUROPÄISCHEN VERKEHRSNETZES (Horizont 2020)  
 TRANS-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT NETWORK OUTLINE PLAN (2020 horizon)  
 SCHEMA DU RÉSEAU TRANSEUROPEËN DE TRANSPORT (horizon 2020)

STRASSEN  
ROADS  
ROUTES

HRVATSKA



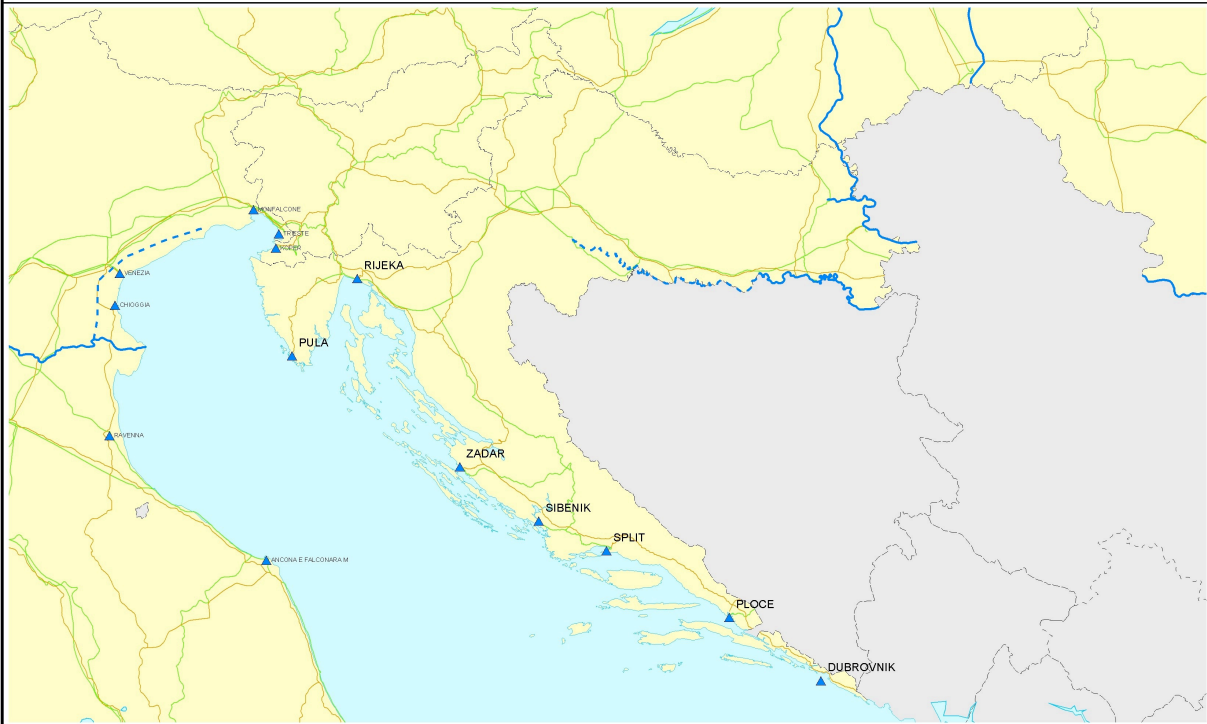
|  |           |  |          |
|--|-----------|--|----------|
|  | Bestehend |  | Geplant  |
|  | Existing  |  | Planned  |
|  | Existant  |  | Planifié |







HRVATSKA



Häfen - Ports - Ports  
 Seehäfen Klasse A  
 Seaports class A  
 Ports maritimes classe A  
 Binnenhäfen/Seehäfen  
 Inland/Maritimes

Binnenwasserstraßen - Inland waterways - Voies navigables  
 Bestehend  
 Existing  
 Geplant  
 Planned  
 Planifié

Eisenbahnen  
 Railways  
 Chemins de fer  
 Straßen  
 Roads  
 Routes





HRVATSKA



- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| ■ Teil eines internationalen Flughafensystems<br>Part of international system<br>Partie d'un système aéroportuaire international | ● Teil von Gemeinschaftspunkten<br>Part of Community connecting points<br>Partie de composantes communautaires | ★ Regionale Netzpunkte und Zugangspunkte<br>Regional and accessibility points<br>Composantes régionales et d'accessibilité |
| ■ Internationale Netzpunkte<br>International connecting points<br>Composantes internationales                                    | ● Gemeinschaftspunkte<br>Community connecting points<br>Composantes communautaires                             |  |

