



PRESS RELEASE

2022 AS EUROPEAN YEAR OF RAIL AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT: UITP JOINS FORCES TO ADDRESS THE E.U.



BRUSSELS, 18 JUNE 2021

UITP, EMTA, EPTO, Polis and EPF have jointly addressed an Open Letter calling on the European Union to make 2022 the European Year of Rail and Public Transport.

Rail and public transport play **a key role in the daily life of millions** of citizens across Europe.

With this joint call, the five associations – **UITP**, [European Metropolitan Transport Authorities](#), [European Passenger Transport Operators](#), [Polis Network](#) and [European Passengers' Federation](#), - strongly believe that **2022 represents a unique opportunity to promote this essential role.**

The European institutions have dedicated [2021 as the Year of Rail](#), with a focus on the activities of rail and what is to come for the sector.

A number of stakeholders have already suggested to **extend the duration of the current European Year of Rail until 31 December 2022** due to the difficulty to promote rail transport given the issues of the coronavirus pandemic, particularly the sanitary context.

UITP, EMTA, EPTO, Polis & EPF agree on the principles behind the suggestion and **are ready to go one step further by making 2022 a European Year of Rail and Public Transport.**

Rail and public transport are **used every day by millions of citizens**, allowing them to move in and around cities, regions and across countries in **a sustainable, smart and safe manner.**

Making 2022 the European Year of Rail and Public Transport will put **the spotlight on the many benefits of rail and public transport for citizens.**

Expanding the current Year of Rail activities to public transport can be a chance to put current and potential new customers of all public transport systems at the centre of the activities.

The sector as a whole could **use the opportunities to re-assess customer interests, monitor current performance and advance both customer and environmentally friendly systems** across all modes.

The five associations **call on the Commission, the European Parliament and the European Council to support the initiative** and are engaged to actively **contribute to the organisation of 2022 European Year of Rail and Public Transport.**

Make 2022 a public transport year: Our Open Letter

Placing the spotlight on the rail sector: UITP says its time to KeepItRail!

UITP in Europe



ABOUT UITP EUROPE

UITP is the international association representing public transport stakeholders. In the European Union, UITP brings together more than 450 urban, suburban, and regional public transport operators, and authorities from all Member States. We represent the perspective of short distance passenger transport services by all sustainable modes: bus, regional and suburban rail, metro, light rail, tram and waterborne.

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