

21

June
2021

15.00-18.00h

EBU hybrid Event 2021

Inland Waterway Transport key to deliver the European Green Deal and contribute to the sustainable and smart mobility strategy

Organiser



European
Barge
Union

Venue

Thon Hotel EU
Wetstraat 75, Rue de la Loi
1040 BRUSSELS



EBU Hybrid Event 2021

EBU is supporting the European Green Deal (EGD), in particular its aims to reduce transport emissions by shifting a substantial part of the freight carried by road to inland waterway transport (IWT) which in the SSMS is underpinned by concrete figures. IWT is known as an energy efficient, safe and sustainable alternative to other transport modes. It contributes to decongesting overloaded road networks for cargo and people. A better integration into transport chains and shifting higher volumes to Inland Waterway Transport will substantially contribute to realise the objectives of the EGD. The IWT sector is prepared to take over much higher volumes and to substantially increase its share in the coming years if the right framework conditions are met. EBU in this context welcomes the own initiative reports by the European Parliament

Inland Waterway Transport is key to deliver the EU Green Deal

The European Union Commission in the Smart Mobility Strategy (SSMS) underlines the importance of Inland Waterway Transport as sustainable mode to realize its future sustainability goals. The Smart Mobility Strategy (SSMS) seeks to increase the share of Inland Waterway Transport (IWT) by 25 % by 2030 and by 50 % by 2050. Based upon the Green Deal a key objective is to deliver a 90% reduction in transport-related greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

on both the SSMS and IWT in which the import role of IWT is emphasised.

Concrete measures and an implementation strategy needed

To support the policy objectives the European Commission is expected to release its NAIADES III action program short termed. EBU counts on the support of the European Commission and the EU Member States to fully tap the potential of IWT by concrete actions with regard to infrastructure, greening, digitalisation and attracting the sector to qualified people in this program. In particular the energy transition and the modal shift towards Inland Waterway Transport call for concrete actions and a robust program of funding within a new implementation strategy for IWT. This should be a joint effort under a strong

governance structure by the European Commission, Member States, River Commissions and relevant International Organisations.

To support the discussion regarding the energy transition of the IWT sector the Central Commission for the Navigation on the Rhine together with its Member States launched a couple of studies regarding the financing of the innovation of the fleet. The results of these studies are expected in autumn and will deliver important insight in the financing and funding needs of the European fleet in the energy transition path.

We are pleased to welcome high level key note speakers and panel members at this event to discuss the challenges, needs, initiatives and potential of IWT in the frame of the EU policies.

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Programme

- 14.30 Registration
- 15.00 Opening
- 15.05 Key note speeches by
Adina VĂLEAN, *Commissioner for Transport, European Commission*
Caroline NAGTEGAAL, *MEP TRAN and rapporteur report (INI) on inland waterways: 'Towards Futureproof Inland Waterway Transport (IWT) in Europe'*
Paul GORIS, *President EBU*
- 16.00 Panel 'How to realise the objectives of the EGD with regard to the greening challenges and the modal shift towards IWT' chaired by **Theresia HACKSTEINER**, *Secretary General EBU*

Henrik HOLOLEI, *Director General European Commission DG MOVE*
Daniel MES, *Cabinet Member, Executive Vice-President Timmermans, European Commission, DG CLIMA*
Marian-Jean MARINESCU, *MEP TRAN committee*
Bruno GEORGES, *Secretary General Central Commission for the Navigation on the Rhine*
Friedrich LEHR, *President of the European Federation of Inland Ports and Managing Director of Port of Vienna*
Heinrich KERSTGENS, *Director Board Projects / CNO/ CKO Rhenus SE & Co. KG*
Martin STAATS, *CEO MSG Shipping eG and President Bundesverband der Deutschen Binnenschifffahrt eV.*
- 17.45 Summary and closure
- 17.50 Networking Cocktail

Free registration: www.ebu-uenf.org-register

