



16/06/2025  
WARSAW, POLAND



# CONFERENCE

## ON RAIL RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE



*Location: Hotel Radisson Blu Sobieski, Plac Zawiszy 1, 02-025, Warsaw, Poland*

### Background

The increasing occurrence of extreme weather events such as floods, landslides, and high winds poses a serious challenge to railway infrastructure and operations all over Europe. Devastating floods hit Belgium, Germany, and the Netherlands in 2021, Greece in 2023, and Spain and Central Europe in 2024 – but other well-documented extreme weather events, too, have established a need for a clear understanding of such events, and what can be done about them.

This is why the European Commission mandated the European Union Agency for Railways (ERA) to conduct a study on rail resilience to the effects of climate change in mid-2024, that helps to develop a more structured, data-driven approach to the topic. Under the umbrella and with the support of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and the Polish Office of Rail Transport (UTK), ERA and the European Commission will present preliminary results of the study at a conference in Warsaw on 16 June 2025.

During this one-day conference, some of the stakeholders that are supporting on the study will take the floor and present analyses and solutions – including members of the European rail sector, partner institutions such as the European Environmental Agency (EEA), different national safety authorities (NSAs) in Europe, and other partner institutions from the European and academic environment.

**Programme: Monday 16 June 2025**

09h00 Registration and breakfast

**09h30 Opening of Conference**

**Ignacy Góra**, President of the Office of Rail Transport (UTK)

**Joachim Lücking**, Head of Rail Safety and Interoperability Unit, European Commission

**Oana Gherghinescu**, Executive Director, European Union Agency for Railways (ERA)

**10h00 Setting the Scene: 10min Presentations with Q&A** (moderated by ERA)**1) Data and Climate Event Modeling**

*Julie Berckmans, Climate Risk & Environment Expert, European Environmental Agency (EEA)*

**2) Resilient Railways Facing Climate Change (RERA) Project**

*Lucie Anderton / Francisco Cabrera Jeronimo, UIC*

**3) Mitigation and Adaptation**

*Lisa Constable, Head of Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation, Network Rail*

**4) Heavy Precipitation Events and Pluvial Flooding**

*Sonja Szymczak, Scientific Desk Officer, German Centre for Rail Traffic Research (DZSF)*

**5) Climate Adaptation Needs on the TEN-T Network**

*Nevena Gavalyugova-Bolsi, Policy Officer European Commission, DG Mobility and Transport*

Followed by presentation of initial results of **ERA Rail Resilience Study**

11h30 Coffee Break

**11h45 Panel I: Rail Resilience in the EU – Status Quo, Knowledge Sharing, and Best Practice**

*Moderated by Miriam Graute, Policy Officer European Commission, DG Mobility and Transport*

**Lene Bøgebjerg Bøgvad**, Climate Adaptation Manager, Banedanmark

**Violeta González Aleñar**, Technical Manager for European Funds and Project Finance, ADIF

**Anthony Holmes**, Manager Sustainability & Environment, Deutsche Bahn AG

**Michelle Ochsner**, University of Lund

**Andreas Schirmer**, Coordinator Standardisation, Joint Network Secretariat ERA

12h45 Lunch

**14h00 Panel II – Innovation for Rail Resilience**

*Moderated by Nicolas Furio, Head of Innovation Pillar, EU-Rail*

**Alexandre Anfriani**, Chief of Modeling and Risk Management Division EPSF

**Luca Beccastrini**, FS Research Centre

**Zbigniew Jancewicz**, Project Director PKP / Rail4Earth Project

**Daniel Lopour**, Senior Market Development Officer EU Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA)

**Peter Schmidt**, Standards and Regulations Director, Alstom Group / UNIFE

**Elisabet Vila Jordà**, Transport Specialist European Investment Bank (EIB) / JASPERS

15h30 **Wrap-up session**

**Joachim Lücking**, Head of Rail Safety and Interoperability Unit, European Commission  
**Oana Gherghinescu**, Executive Director, European Union Agency for Railways (ERA)

16h00 End of conference