



# BOOSTING GROWTH AND COHESION IN EU BORDER REGIONS

#EUBorderRegions

## Missing links - Rail



Regional and  
Urban Policy

COM(2017)534  
SWD(2017)307



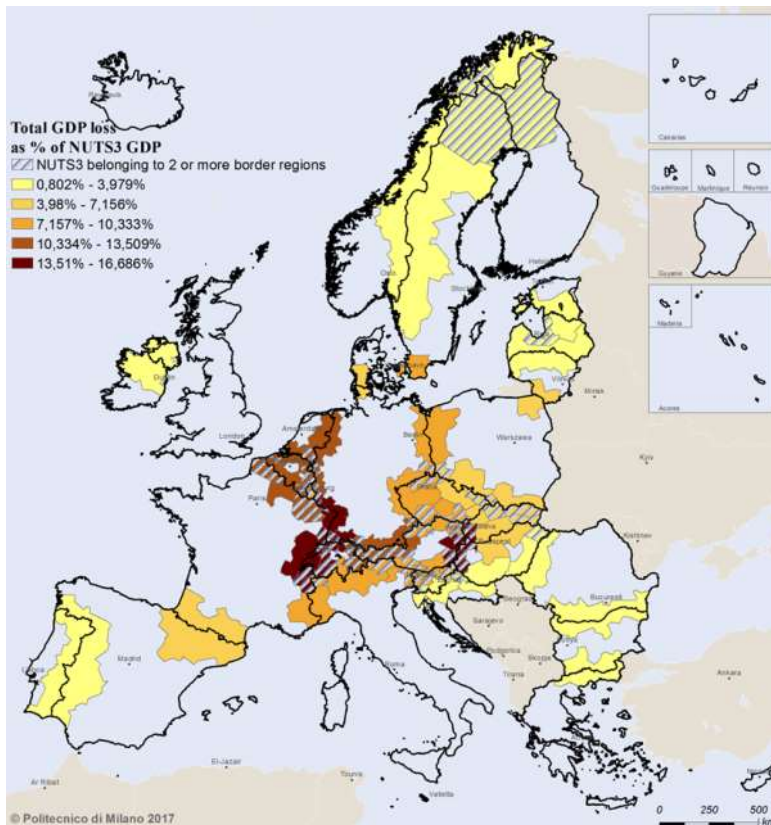
## EU Border Regions



- ❑ Importance of border regions: 40% EU territory; 30% EU population (150 million), 30% EU GDP
- ❑ **BUT** less economically developed, lower access to public services
- ❑ Navigating different legal and administrative systems is still complex, long and costly



## "Border Effect" – Unused potential



- Border obstacles lead to lost potential GDP;
- Removing 1/5 of all obstacles could lead to +2% GDP in border regions;
- Corresponding to 1 million new jobs
- Problems are more deeply felt where there is a greater level of interaction



## What can be done?

### **10-point Action Plan**

#### **MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE**

European institutions – MS- regions  
Stakeholders

Close cooperation with other DGs  
Border Focal Point in EC (REGIO)



# 10-point Action Plan



**deepen cooperation and exchanges**



**improve the legislative process**



**support cross-border employment**



**promote border multilingualism**



**facilitate cross-border accessibility**



**e-government to enable  
cross-border public administration**



**provide reliable and understandable  
information and assistance**



**promote greater pooling of health  
care facilities**



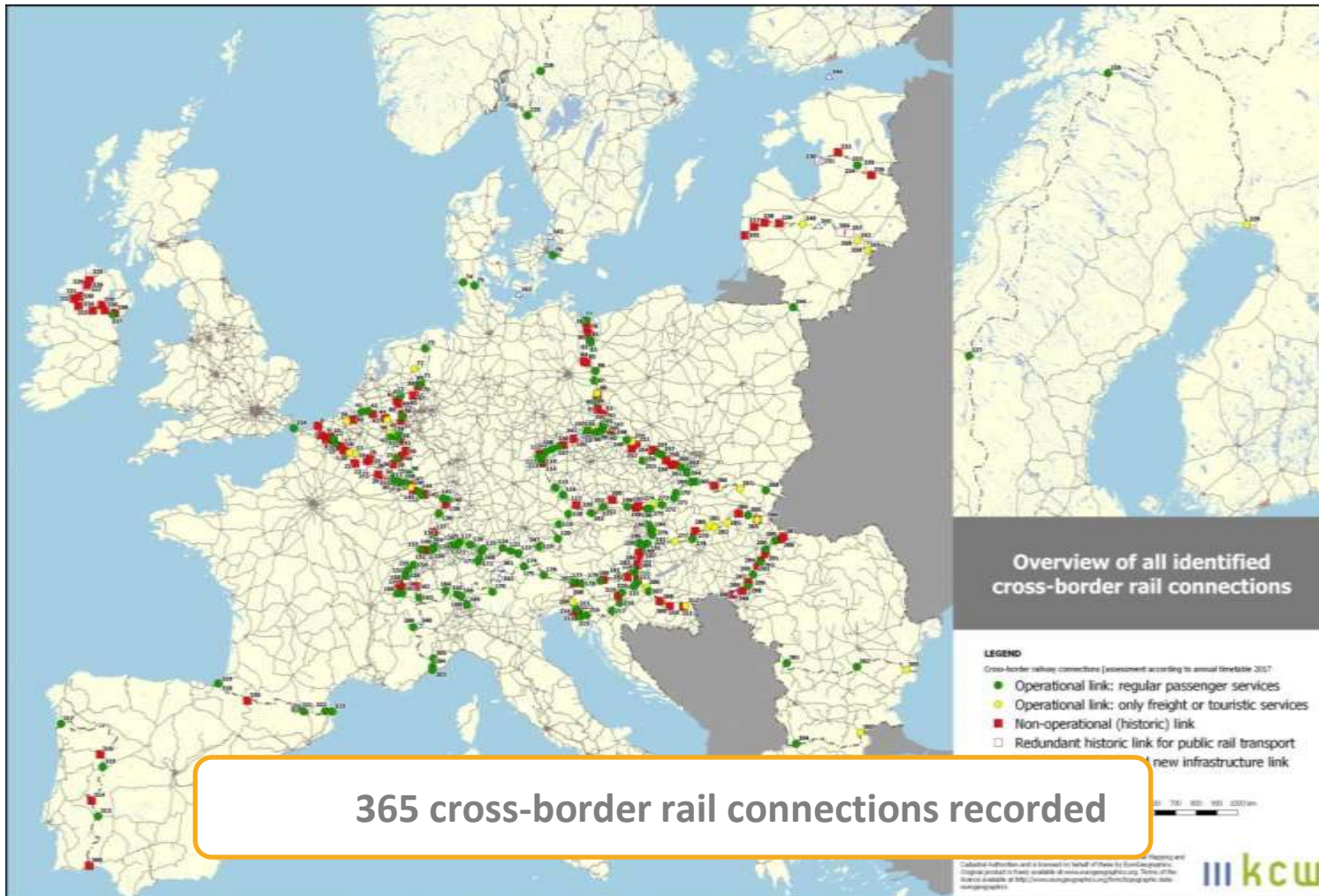
**consider the legal and financial  
framework for cooperation**



**build evidence for better  
decision-making**



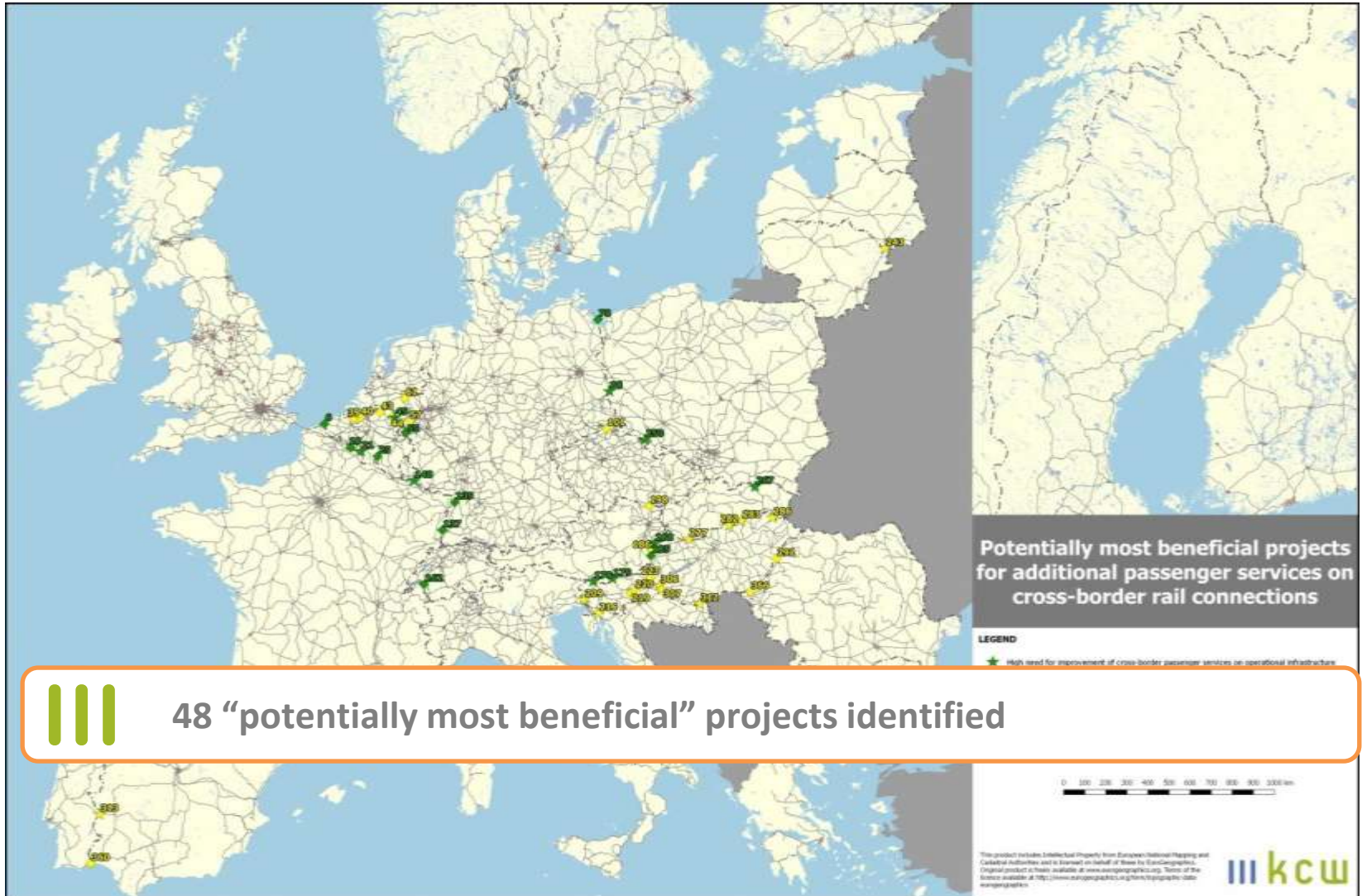
# Missing links - rail



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48 “potentially most beneficial” projects identified



# MOST PROMISING MISSING LINKS

ID	Name of the rail connection	TEN-T: Corridor/ Core Network or Comprehensive Network	Classification according to 2017 Timetable	Importance for the border region	Importance for the countries concerned	Importance in TEN-T level	NUTS3 in country A	NUTS3 in country B	The connection could improve TEN-T connectivity between...	The connection could alleviate the following structural spatial effects	Stakeholders' assessment
6	Dunkerque (FR) - De Panne (BE)	-	Elements missing	Medium	Low	No	FR301	BE288	-	Connection would be an additional link north of Lille, along the French-Belgian coast	Rather positive
14	Valenciennes (FR) - Mons (BE)	Comprehensive Network	Entirely missing; dismantled	Medium	Low	Low	FR301	BE323	-	Connection would be an additional link south of the Lille area where no rail connection with passenger services between FR and BE exist today (gap of approx. 230 km)	Rather positive
31	Hautbois (FR) - Charlersi (BE)	Comprehensive Network	Freight only	Low	Medium	Low	FR301	BE326	-	Connection would be an additional link south of the Lille area where no rail connection with passenger services between FR and BE exist today (gap of approx. 230 km)	Rather positive
25	Charleville-Mzières (FR) - Givet (FR) - Dinant (BE)	-	Entirely missing; dismantled	Medium	Low	No	FR211	BE353	Comprehensive Network/North Sea-Mediterranean	Connection would be an additional link south of the Lille area where no rail connection with passenger services between FR and BE exist today (gap of approx. 230 km)	Rather positive
45	Mol (BE) - Roermond (NL)	Comprehensive Network	Freight only	Medium	High	Low	BE222	NL454	-	Connection would be an additional link in the border area between Brabant and Vlaanderen where no rail connection with passenger services between BE and NL exist today (gap of approx. 100 km)	Rather positive
55	Aachen (DE) - Maastricht (NL)	-	Proposed link	Medium	Low	No	DEA2D	NL423	North Sea-Baltic/Rhine Alpine/Comprehensive Network	-	Rather positive
79	Ducheroo (DE) - Świdwójce Centrum (PL)	-	Entirely missing; dismantled	High	Medium	No	DE80N	PL426	-	Connection would ease the access from Berlin to the Polish and also the German part of the Island Usedom	Rather positive
86	Guben (DE) - Cierwiotek (PL) - Szewce stacja (PL)	-	Freight only	Medium	Low	No	DE40G	PL432	Comprehensive Network	-	Rather positive
113	Freiburg (DE) - Colmar (FR)	-	Entirely missing; dismantled	High	Low	No	DE132	FR422	Rhine-Alpine/North Sea-Mediterranean	-	Rather positive
114	Kastatt (DE) - Raaschwoog (FR) - Haguenau (FR)	-	Elements missing	High	Low	No	DE124	FR421	Rhine-Danube/Rhine Alpine/Comprehensive Network	-	Rather positive
146	Metz (FR) - Thionville (FR) - Metz (FR)	Comprehensive Network	not fully exploited	High	Medium	Low	DECO2	FR413	-	Improved direct connection would ease rail transport between Trier and Metz. Today detour via Luxembourg or Saarbrücken necessary.	Rather positive
142	St-Haureix (FR) - Evian-les-Bains (FR)	-	neglected	High	Low	No	CH012	FR718	-	Connection would improve public transport on the southbanks of Lake Geneva where no passenger rail services exist today	Rather positive
176	Rosenbach bei Völsch (AT) - Jesenice (SI)	Comprehensive Network	not fully exploited	High	Medium	High	AT211	SI04Q	-	-	Rather positive
178	Klagenfurt (AT) - Bleiburg (AT) - Maribor (SI)	-	not fully exploited	Medium	Low	No	AT213	SI033	-	-	Rather positive
185	Oberwart (AT) - Szombathely (HU)	-	Entirely missing; dismantled	Medium	Low	No	AT111	HU222	-	Connection would be an additional link in the border area between Sopron and Szentgotthard where no rail connection with passenger services between AT and HU exist today	Rather positive
188	Deutsch-Wagram (AT) - Sopron (HU)	Comprehensive Network	not fully exploited	High	Medium	Low	AT112	HU221	-	-	Rather positive
230	Waltowicz (PL) - Hradecná (CZ)	-	Freight only	Medium	Low	No	PL317	CZ052	-	-	Rather positive
247	Muzyna (PL) - Plaveč (SK)	Comprehensive Network	Freight only	Medium	Low	No	PL218	SK041	-	Connection would be an additional link in the border area of Poland and the Slovak Republic where only few railway connection with passenger services exist at all	Rather positive
326	Zaragoza (ES) - Carriac (ES) - Pau (FR)	Comprehensive Network	Entirely missing; dismantled	Medium	Medium	Low	ES241	FR615	-	Connection would be an additional link in the border area of Spain and France where only few railway connection with passenger services exist at all	Rather positive
39	Gerk (BE) - Wundelgem (BE) - Terneuzen (NL)	Comprehensive Network	Freight only	Medium	No	Low	BE233	NL341	-	-	Rather cautious
40	Sint-Niklaas (BE) - Terneuzen (NL)	-	Entirely missing; dismantled	Medium	No	No	BE236	NL341	Rhine-Alpine/Comprehensive Network	-	Rather cautious





# Financing CB investments

## Interreg Programmes

## “Mainstream Programmes”

## CEF – EIB – InvestEU

## Blending ?



## More Information

InfoRegio:

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/information/publications/communications/2017/boosting-growth-and-cohesion-in-eu-border-regions](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/communications/2017/boosting-growth-and-cohesion-in-eu-border-regions)



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Dedicated platform:

<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/border-regions/forum>