

## Reviving Europe's international rail network

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Research group: Innovation Studies

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### Project description

In spite of many calls for improvements to international rail connections, an integrated European rail network of high-speed, inter-city and night trains is still lacking. This project considers how the political economy of rail influences the integration of the European network. Traditionally, rail traffic has been the domain of national, publicly owned companies. Due to liberalization, also new private companies have entered international rail. In this project we investigate the relative merits of a national public versus liberalized organization of infrastructure and services in European rail. We also explore the alternative logic of organizing rail as a “European public good”.

In the project, your tasks can involve:

- Reviewing literature on international rail, political economy, sustainability innovation, transport geography as well as contributing to a structured literature review
- Conducting qualitative research interviews with key stakeholders in the European rail sector
- Qualitative content analysis of newspaper articles
- Organizing a workshop with European stakeholders

### Job requirements

- A willingness to undertake exploratory research
- Experience with qualitative interviewing
- Organizational skills



### References

Witlox, F., Zwanikken, T., Jehee, L., Donners, B., & Veeneman, W. (2022). Changing tracks: identifying and tackling bottlenecks in European rail passenger transport. *European Transport Research Review*, 14(1), 1-12.