



Making tracks: Update on the extension of EU rail gauge to Ukraine and Moldova - From strategy to project implementation

04 December 2025



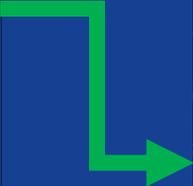
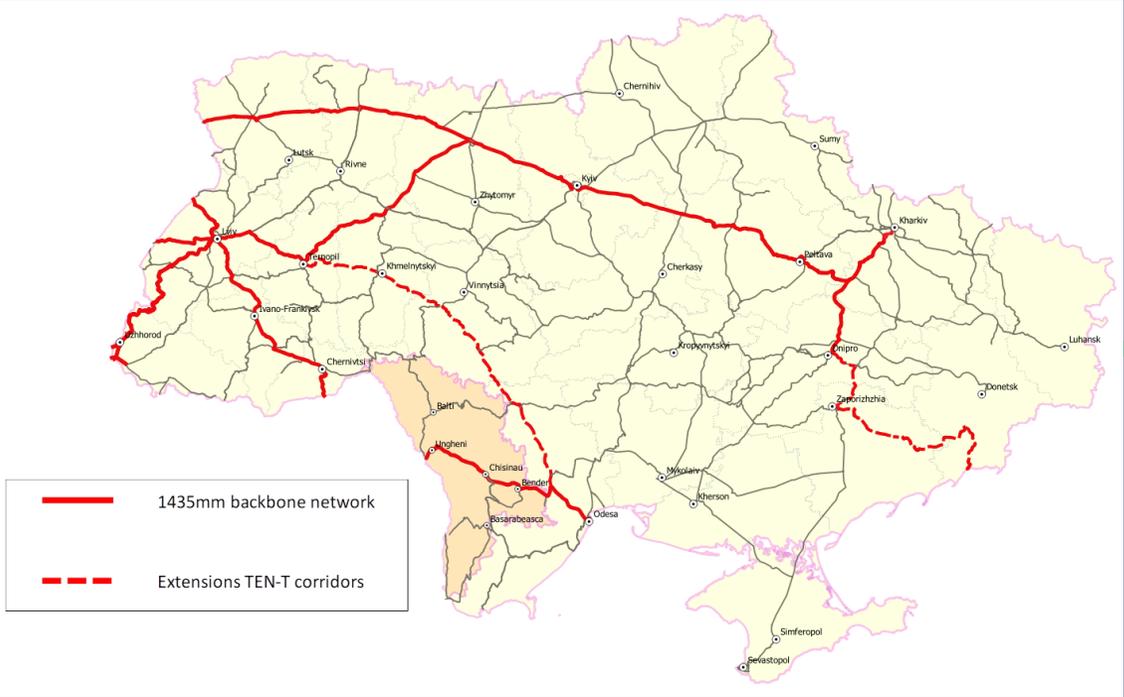
Strategy for the EU integration of the Ukrainian and Moldovan rail systems

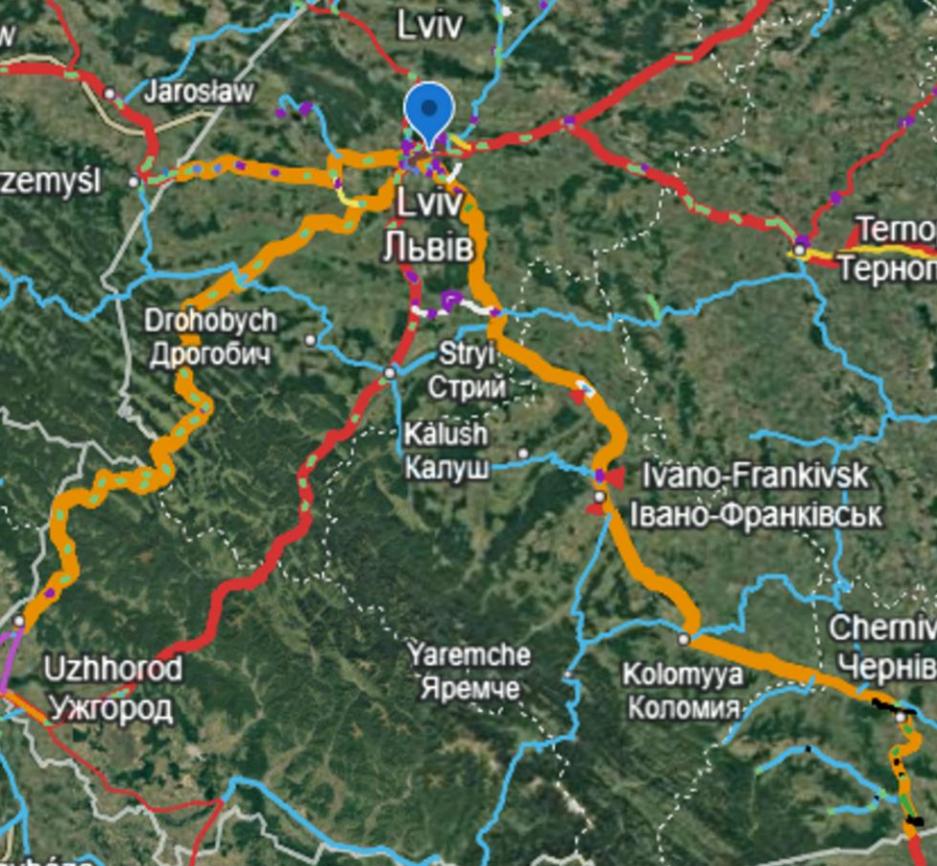
11 July 2023

Strategy – EU integration of railways

- DG MOVE requested to EIB PJ Transport Advisory to develop the Strategy
- Strong engagement and interaction of all stakeholder, including PL, SK, HU and RO
- Approach → Backbone 1435mm network, maintaining 1520mm network operational
- Basis for the development of the TEN-T network in Ukraine and Moldova
- Basis for CEF 2023 and 2024 calls in Ukraine and EPIC work in Moldova

Strategy - Indicative Extension of TEN-T to Ukraine and Moldova





Project Preparation

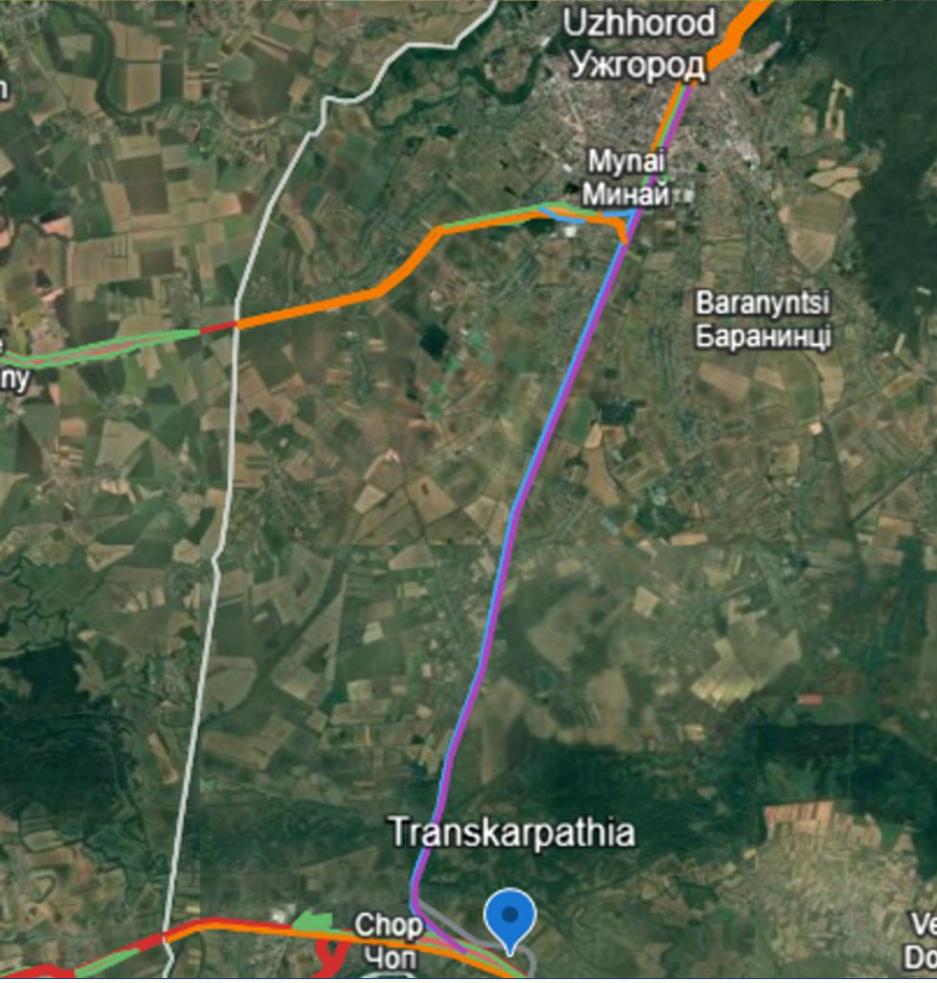
- Ukraine with CEF support:
 - **Lviv Railway Node Strategy**
 - FS and design – Lviv-Uzhhorod
 - FS and design – Lviv-Chernivtsi-RO border
 - FS and design – Sknyliv passenger and freight terminal
 - FS and design – Sknyliv to Lviv Main Station
 - **Pre-FS – 1435 connection Lviv/Kovel to Kyiv**
- Moldova with EPIC support:
 - Pre-FS for the 1435 railway Ungheni – Chişinău
 - FS Intermodal Freight Terminal in Chişinău



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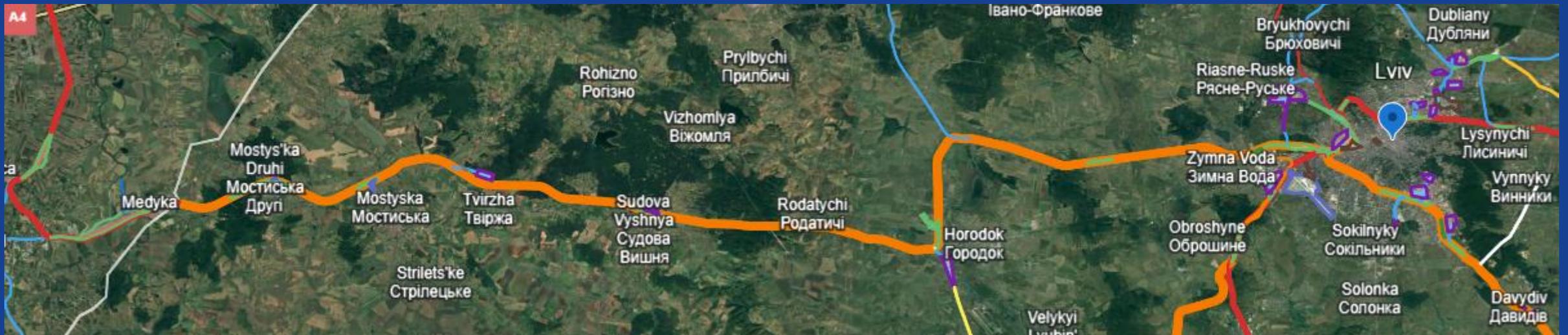


Implementation – Chop-Uzhhorod

- 22 kilometres single-track 1435
- Supported by CEF 2022 grant and EIB loan
- Total cost 22.8 MEUR
- Implemented in less than one year under challenging war conditions
- Operations started in September 2025
- Direct trains to Austria, Hungary and Slovakia
- Electrification ongoing (CEF 2023 grant) – expected completion summer 2026

Implementation – Mostyska (PL border) – Sknyliv (Lviv)

- First 1435 connection to a major urban centre in Ukraine
- 81 kilometres electrified track – 1 track 1435 and 1 track 1520
- Total estimated project cost 192 MEUR (CEF 2024 grant 73.5 MEUR)
- Expected completion end of 2027



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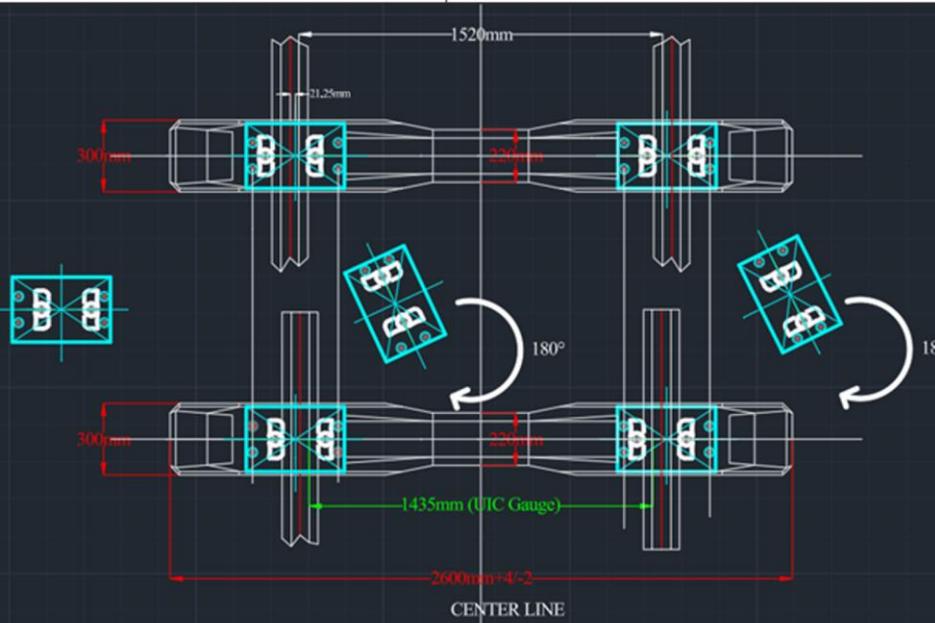
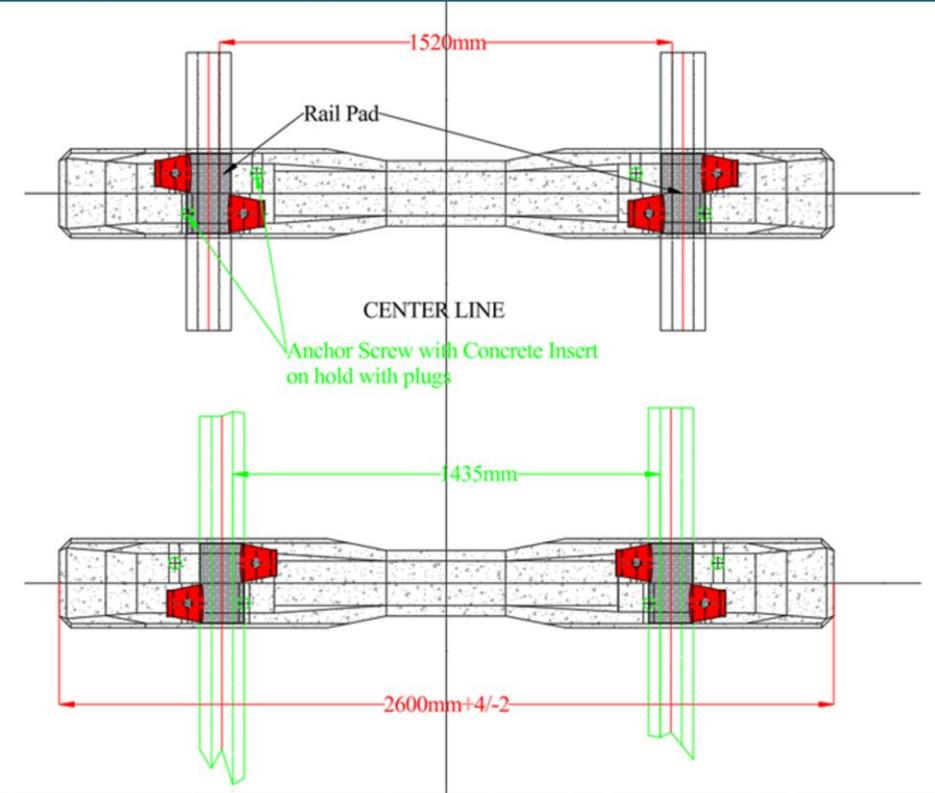


Implementation – Sknyliv terminal

- Cooperation between UZ, SARDI and Lviv City Council
- Technical solution to allow 750m train length
- Integration in the high-level road network
- First road/rail 1435 freight terminal
- Passenger platforms design with shelters
- Temporary 1435 terminus for passengers

Implementation – Innovation

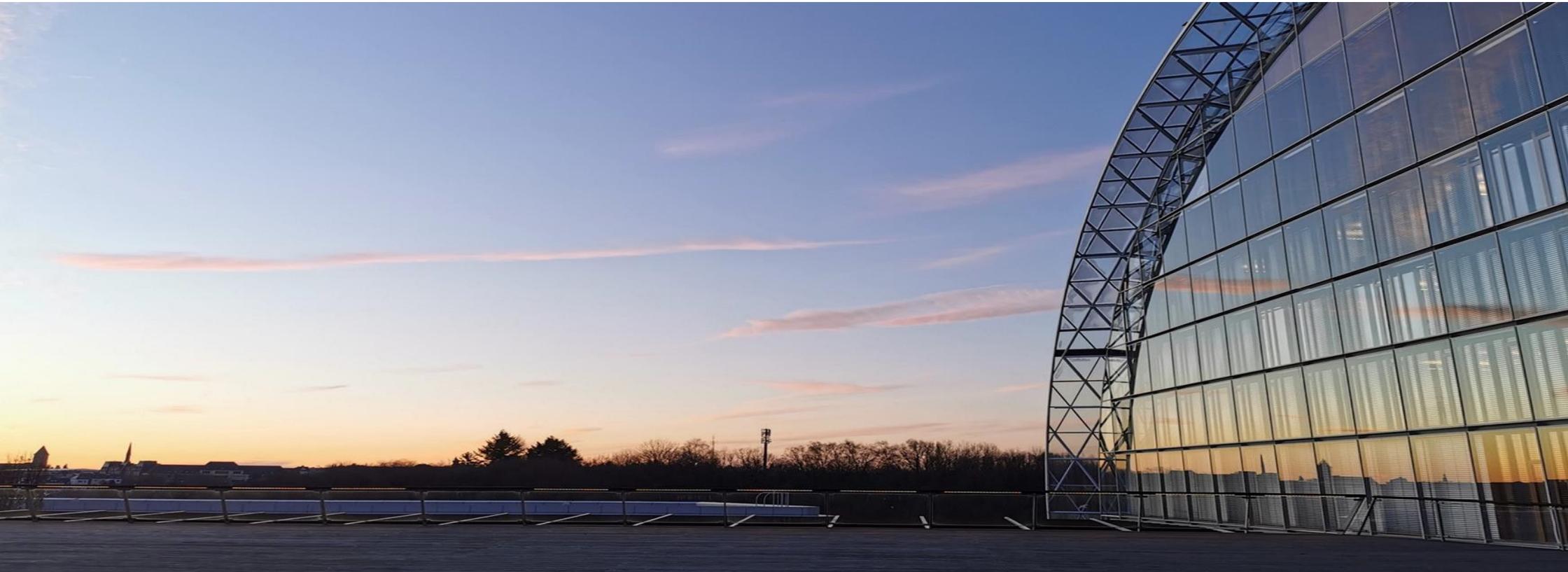
- Polyvalent 1435/1520 infrastructure
- Phased transition from the 1520 to 1435 coordinated with fleet adaptation
- Build on successful Iberian example
- Two technical options:
 - Polyvalent Sleepers
 - Polyvalent Fastening System
- Immediate Relevance for Ukraine – Moldova – Baltic States



Thank you for your attention!

Слава Україні!





JASPERS support to Ukraine interconnectors

04 12 2025

Update of the trans-European Energy networks policy (2022)

- Introduction of the concept of **Projects of Mutual Interest (PMI)** with third countries
- Expansion of the eligibility, similar to Project of Common Interest (PCI), and availability of Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) financing
- First list of PMI projects adopted in 2023

Furthermore In 2022 the Ukraine power system was synchronised with the Continental European network. Since 2024 Ukrenergo is a full member of the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E)



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Support for the preparation of Slovakia-Ukraine and Romania-Ukraine power interconnectors projects (2024)

JASPERS:

- Outlined the essential criteria and procedures needed to seek status of Project of Mutual Interest
- Mapped the requirements and steps for applying to EU funds e.g. Connected Europe Facility
- Clarified the need for further technical assistance of UKRENERGO related to the preparation of power interconnectors projects



Support for the preparation of the Ukraine-Romania power interconnector (2025)

JASPERS:

- Planning and scoping of the project preparation work (Terms of Reference for feasibility study, CBA, ESIA, etc.)
- Identification and activation of the required technical assistance consultancy for the preparation of the required project documentation (e.g., from EU4U or other facilities)
- Supervision and guidance of the consultants to ensure that the quality of the documentation meets EU financing requirements.



Thank You!





**The digital
dimension: From policy to
projects in the Western Balkans
4. 12. 2025**



- Digital transformation – an EU policy priority
- Challenges and Solutions – EIB experience
- Role of EIB Advisory through JASPERS
- Case Studies in Western Balkans region



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION – EU POLICY PRIORITY

- Digital transformation – a central priority of the EU’s Growth Plan (2024-2027)
 - Political and strategic goals: enabler for countries aspiring to join the EU
 - Driver of economic resilience and competitiveness
 - People in the centre
- Need for appropriate digital infrastructures
 - High-speed broadband is the foundation
 - e-Services, connected schools, data centres, AI, etc – all need adequate infrastructure

CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS – EIB EXPERIENCE



-  **TIME**
Adequate preparation of all steps
-  **DECISIONS**
Organisational structures
-  **MARKET KNOWLEDGE**
Needs identification & best delivery

ROLE OF EIB ADVISORY THROUGH JASPERS

- Set the intervention framework for digitalisation
- Help with preparation of the project (TA GAF, ToRs, FS and CBA, Investment GAF etc.)
- Horizontal coordination - help to navigate through the process, with EC and IFIs
- Assignments and experience in Western Balkans:
 - Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, North Macedonia
 - Types of projects: high speed broadband, data centres, research, healthcare, education

And several similar assignments in the EU Member States

CASE STUDIES

- ***Albania - Investment for Broadband Infrastructure in white areas*** - over EUR 100m / 200,000 residents; + schools, healthcare and public offices; EIB lead IFI
 - 2019/2020 Technical definition of scope of digital intervention
 - 2024-now Advice on key documents, support to the Beneficiary in monitoring key deliverables of the consultant, support in the preparation of investment grant application
- ***Montenegro – Broadband deployment*** - over EUR 20m / aiming at universal connectivity in underserved areas, EBRD lead IFI
 - 2020/2022 Technical definition of scope of digital intervention
 - 2024-now Support in the preparation of application for co-financing of the project with EU grants
- ***Kosovo – early engagement - 2024-2025 – preparation of funding applications***
 - Upgrade of broadband infrastructure
 - Expanding and improving the current park of national-level data centres in the country





<http://jaspers.eib.org/>

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