

Press release

Brussels, 27 March 2017



Rail sector supports EC *Move2Learn, Learn2Move* initiative

The Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER) welcomes today's launch of the *Move2Learn, Learn2Move* initiative by the European Commission. CER reiterates its support for this project aiming to promote a sustainable way to travel across the continent.

Following the invitation of the European Commission Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport, numerous European train operating companies are prepared to second this initiative. Comboios de Portugal, Deutsche Bahn, Slovenian Railways Passenger Transport, SNCF, Transferoviar Calatori, Trenitalia, ZSSK Passenger and Eurail (the consortium that manages Interrail passes bringing together more than forty European rail passenger operators) have all declared their support for *Move2Learn, Learn2Move*.

CER Executive Director Libor Lochman said: *"Railways have been connecting Europe for almost two centuries. Move2Learn is telling a positive story about transport, and in particular about the sustainable modes. The railways not only connect cities, they also connect people. Although the young generation lives in a world of ever more virtual relationships, they still want to meet, shake hands, get to know each other in reality. I wish this initiative a long life, and I hope that in the future the Commission will dedicate ever more resources to these kinds of proposals."*

Background information: *Move2Learn, Learn2Move* will enable at least 5,000 young citizens to travel to another EU country in a sustainable manner – individually or together with their school class. The initiative, which is linked to the 30th anniversary of the Erasmus programme, is consistent with two central priorities of the Commission: to put a renewed focus on Europe's youth, and to facilitate EU citizens' mobility, particularly low-emission mobility. *Move2Learn* will be implemented through eTwinning, the world's biggest teachers' network. Part of Erasmus+, it enables teachers and pupils across Europe to develop projects together through an online platform. See also the dedicated webpage: https://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/social/move2learnlearn2move_en

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About CER

The Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER) brings together more than 70 railway undertakings, their national associations as well as infrastructure managers and vehicle leasing companies. The membership is made up of long-established bodies, new entrants and both private and public enterprises, representing 73% of the rail network length, 83% of the rail freight business and about 95% of rail passenger operations in EU, EFTA and EU accession countries. CER represents the interests of its members towards EU policy makers and transport stakeholders, advocating rail as the backbone of a competitive and sustainable transport system in Europe. For more information, visit www.cer.be or follow us via Twitter at [@CER_railways](https://twitter.com/CER_railways).