# Keys to the Development of International Passenger Rail in Europe

## **ALAIN QUINET**

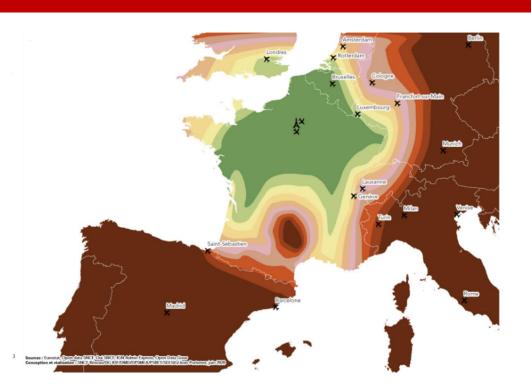
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## INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC POTENTIAL

## Travel times from Paris design a different map of Europe



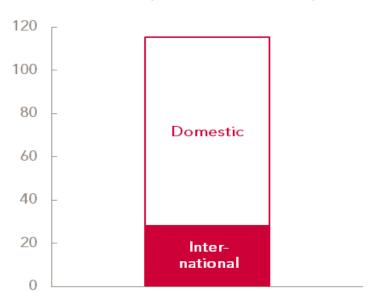




# WHERE DOES INTERNATIONAL PASSENGER TRAFFIC STAND TODAY?

International trains in France make up for almost 24% of HS rail traffic

INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN FRANCE FOR HIGH SPEED RAIL (million train-km, 2019)







## INTERNATIONAL MARKET ANALYSIS

## Two different networks producing two different models

#### **NORTHERN EUROPE & FRANCE**

## A network of interconnected HSLs

- LN3, Channel Tunnel, HS1 (UK), HSL Zuid (Neth.), HSR in Belgium...
- ... serving a large and mature market
  - Paris London : 11 millions passengers in 2019

## MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES & FRANCE

- Longer travel times ...
  - *A non continuous network of HSLs*
  - *A strong competition from the airlines*
- ... yet a market expected to grow
  - Boosted by competition
  - With an economic model where international traffic is completed by a domestic offer



## WHAT DOES THE MARKET REQUIRE FROM IMS?

## Interoperability, frequency, travel time

#### **TECHNICAL CONVERGENCE**

- Removal of technical barriers for an improved *interoperability*
- Capacity
  - Access to the main stations
- Train path availability during peak hours

## INCREASED RAIL FREQUENCY AND IMPROVED TRAVEL TIMES

- *Frequency* is a key factor for modal choice
- ... while offer is Still missing on certain links (eg. Paris-Francfort...)

## Compared numbers of trains and flight daily





# THE ONGOING DEBATE ON TRACK ACCESS CHARGES

Infrastructure development is based on a range of different models

- Track access charges and / or public subsidies
- Public Private Partnerships bring in a further diversity of models
- Harmonisation of the level of charges may not be a necessity for a B2B market

Track access charges make it possible for IMs to invest in interoperabilty



- SNCF Reseau is currently investing in ERTMS between Paris and Lyon (820 M€).
- This is mainly funded by track access charges, partially by EU subsidies (124 M€).



# THE ONGOING DEBATE ON TRACK ACCESS CHARGES



New entrants demand visibility and stability

- SNCF Réseau adopted a mutli-annual track access charges system for 2021-2023.
- During this period, the price of TAC will be indexed on the overall rate of inflation



### **Incentives for new services**

- TAC discounts can encourage new rail services (art. 33 of directive 2012/34/EU).
- A discount from 10 to 20% of TAC mark-up for new high speed services in France

