

## PRESS RELEASE

### **New EU rail passenger rights agreement will make the EU Green Deal harder to achieve**

**BRUSSELS, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020: Yesterday's agreement by Member States and the EU Parliament did not go far enough to make rail more attractive – it did not mandate through ticketing across all operators.**

*Mandatory through ticketing would have* allowed travelers to receive passenger rights coverage (i.e. missed connection protection & delay compensation) for their entire rail journey, regardless which operators form part of the travel chain (as long as minimum connection times are adhered to). Liability for any delay compensation should then lie with the causer of that delay – the fairest and most effective way to improve on-time performance.

As a result, it *would have* led to a myriad of *better* rail options (faster, cheaper, more frequent) between any 2 rail stations, especially on cross-border routes, such as from Cologne to Lille or Paris to Bologna. It *would have* allowed passengers to make the most optimal use of different competitors on the same tracks, combining them all in order to get the best possible deal.

In short, it *would have* made passenger rail much more attractive. Additional revenue *would easily outweigh* the cost of any additional delay compensation.

We should not forget: EU citizens subsidise the passenger rail system to the tune of billions of euros each year. Surely, it should be an EU passenger right that citizens are able to see all options, combine them in the most optimal manner and receive coverage for the entire journey !?!?

ALLRAIL General Secretary Nick Brooks says: “By rejecting mandatory through ticketing, EU negotiators have decided against the interests of rail passengers. They have rejected a measure that would have made searching and booking a rail journey much easier.”

**With rail being one of the most sustainable modes of transport, it is very disappointing that EU negotiators have killed off one of the most effective ways to achieve modal shift. It will now be much harder to reach the goals of the EU Green Deal.**

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**About ALLRAIL**

**ALLRAIL, the Alliance of Passenger Rail New Entrants in Europe, represents independent passenger rail companies – railway operators and ticket vendors. ALLRAIL promotes competition in the passenger rail market, aiming for an EU regulatory environment that encourages innovative & attractive rail services. Our members share the belief that faster market opening is the only way to help Europe achieve its ambitious climate change targets as set down in the EU Green Deal. ALLRAIL was established in May 2017, and is based in Brussels, Belgium. It is also a member of the Group of Representative Bodies in the EU rail sector. For more information please go to: [www.allrail.eu](http://www.allrail.eu)**