

**Speech of the Minister of Infrastructure of Ukraine
Volodymyr OMEL'YAN within the
Global Conference for Sustainable Transport
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DEAR PARTICIPANTS, GUESTS

On behalf of the Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine let me welcome you and express hope for fruitful discussion during this meeting!

Ukrainian transport system is a unique combination of transit facilities and extensive system of railways, roads, seaports and river ports.

On my part I want to briefly inform you about the position of Ukraine, the state, which is as a transit bridge between the European Union, Asia, the Baltic States and Mediterranean region, concerning the further development of the vision of such transportation development.

Improving transit attractiveness of Ukraine we see through the reforming of road, maritime, railway and aviation sectors. We also change approaches to the management system, access to the transport market, funding sources and qualified personnel selection. Impulse for growth of the national economy and raising of Ukraine attractiveness for foreign partners is rehabilitation of roads and construction of new highways. Reform of railway sector, especially with respect to modernization of rolling stock and infrastructure will also promote largely to increase freight transit through the territory of Ukraine. Open sky and establishing new direct routes is the key for promoting transit through the territory of Ukraine in aviation sector.

Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine has set itself the ambitious task – fully realise the transit potential and turn Ukraine into a reliable international partner-supplier of the best logistics services, providing quality service in the organization of transport on the Eurasian continent.

I would like to stress, that now a key challenge for Ukraine is to restore the status of the transit state. We have to find flexible and efficient solutions for speed, seamless and safe transit. This is the main trend for all the world and for Ukraine as well.

Notwithstanding the worldwide trends on promoting the better integration and connectivity, we can see the economical, trade and transport restrictions imposed by Russian Federation.

Due to the imposed restrictions on transit transportations Ukrainian and foreign carriers suffers losses and have to look for new routes for transportations.

I would like to stress, that we work with the WTO on the issue of transit restrictions and as it was mentioned above develop new transit connections and corridors from EU to Asia. We are confident that irrespective of all the barriers and restrictions Ukraine will move forward and will provide you with the best multimodal logistics solutions.

As for the external environment, nowadays mutually beneficial conditions for performance of multimodal transportation from Asian countries are being worked out on the following directions:

- ✓ combination of technologies of transportations using trains "Viking" and "Zubr" with the usage of ferries in the Black Sea and railways of Georgia and Azerbaijan;
- ✓ an active work is being carried out for the improvement of conditions in organizing transportation from the territory of the Eastern Europe countries to the Ukrainian port of Illichivsk
Further continuation of the transportation route can take place both in the direction of Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and China, as well as Iran, Turkmenistan and Afghanistan.
- ✓ cooperation with the representatives of the Slovak transport sector is carried out in order to improve procedures for the carriage of goods with their further transportation towards the Czech Republic, Austria, Serbia, Montenegro.

Therefore, the synergies receiving from the realization of joint initiatives linking Europe with Asia in context of increasing the effectiveness of current transport projects implementation is possible by common realization and enhancement of the existing transport projects.

In this context Ukraine has come up with an initiative "3 seas – 100 roads", namely the development of international transport corridor linking Europe with Asia through Ukraine.

The implementation of this project is possible by the expansion of the TRACECA corridor (Europe – Caucasus – Asia) towards the Baltic countries and Eastern Europe as well as through active work within the existing Trans-Caspian International Transport Route.

As of today, the implementation of the mentioned initiatives is being hampered by obstacles, overcoming of which depends upon our common ability to unify the efforts.

Today, unfortunately, we have been unable to form the transit tariff for international transportation between Ukraine - Georgia – Azerbaijan – Kazakhstan and the continuation of the given route to China, Iran, India and other Asian countries on one side, and Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and other countries of Northern and Western Europe on the other side

However, such parameters as time of delivery and its cost have a direct impact on the formation of value of the goods but it is relevant to bear in mind the providing of high quality service in organizing the whole chain of the transportation process from manufacturer to consumers.

I hope that such great international events as today's Conference will allow to draw the attention to the importance of the discussion and searching for common solutions of problematic issues concerning the organization of the transportation process on the direction from Europe to Asia and vice versa.

In conclusion I would like to emphasize on the importance of creation of comfortable conditions in transport operations by all modes of transport in order to meet the needs of carriers as well as for the integral economic development of our countries.

Thank you for your attention!