

**Question for written answer E-002310/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

David McAllister (PPE)

Subject: Boosting rail transport across Europe – making the most of the Year of Rail (passenger transport)

The Trans-Europ-Express (TEE) 2.0 concept proposed by the German Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure in September 2020 put the boosting of European high-speed and long-distance connections on track and gave an impetus to the development of a viable European night train concept by railway undertakings.

The European Union's objective of becoming climate neutral by 2050 can only be achieved by strengthening rail in Europe, increasing freight and passenger transport by rail in Europe, including through high-speed rail connections that can compete with air transport.

1. Does the Commission intend to promote the introduction of a Europe-wide regular interval timetable (Europatakt) covering a network of European long-distance freight and passenger transport connections and synchronised cross-border regional transport services?
2. Does the Commission intend to work at European level to significantly improve the possibility of booking cross-border rail journeys, for example by obliging railway undertakings to sell through-tickets on the basis of the EU Passenger Rights Regulation?
3. What concrete measures does the Commission intend to take to promote the further development of the European night train network?