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DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT
Directorate B – Investment, Innovative & Sustainable Transport
B.1 – Transport Networks

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Mr Jan de Goeijen

By email:
janalmelo@hotmail.com

Subject: Netherlands-Germany: improving rail connections as part of the EU Green Deal

Dear Mr de Goeijen,

Thank you very much for your email of 29 March 2025 to the Commissioner for Sustainable Transport and Tourism, Apostolos Tzitzikostas, and the European Coordinator in charge of the North Sea - Baltic European Transport Coordinator, Catherine Trautmann. I have been asked to reply on their behalf.

Thank you for your detailed work on and analysis of the cross-border rail connections between the Netherlands and Germany. Cross-border connections are essential for building a trans-European transport network (TEN-T) that is stronger than its 27 national parts. They are also required to increase passenger and freight traffic on rail which, as you point out, is a priority for the Commission.

The trans-European transport network includes the main links between its different nodes, i.e. the major urban nodes, terminals, ports and airports and the main transport infrastructure between them. The most important links are on the European Transport Corridors, which, given their high priority, mostly have to be completed by 2030.

The cross-border sections for railways of the core network between the Netherlands and Germany are between Amersfoort and Osnabrück, Arnhem and Oberhausen, and Venlo and Möchengladbach. The Lelyline is on the comprehensive network of the trans-European transport network and therefore should be completed by 2050.

The European Coordinator for the North Sea - Baltic Corridor will prepare a work plan which will assess the progress of this Corridor and set out the next steps to complete the infrastructure. This work plan is likely to be published next year.

Thank you very much for sharing your work with us, which feeds into this process well.

Yours sincerely,

Silke BROCKS
Head of Unit (acting)