## RAIL BALTICA PROJECT IN ESTONIA

**Harri Aro Rail Baltic Estonia** 

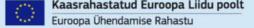


RAIL BALTICA – PART OF THE
NORTH SEA - BALTIC CORE NETWORK
CORRIDOR

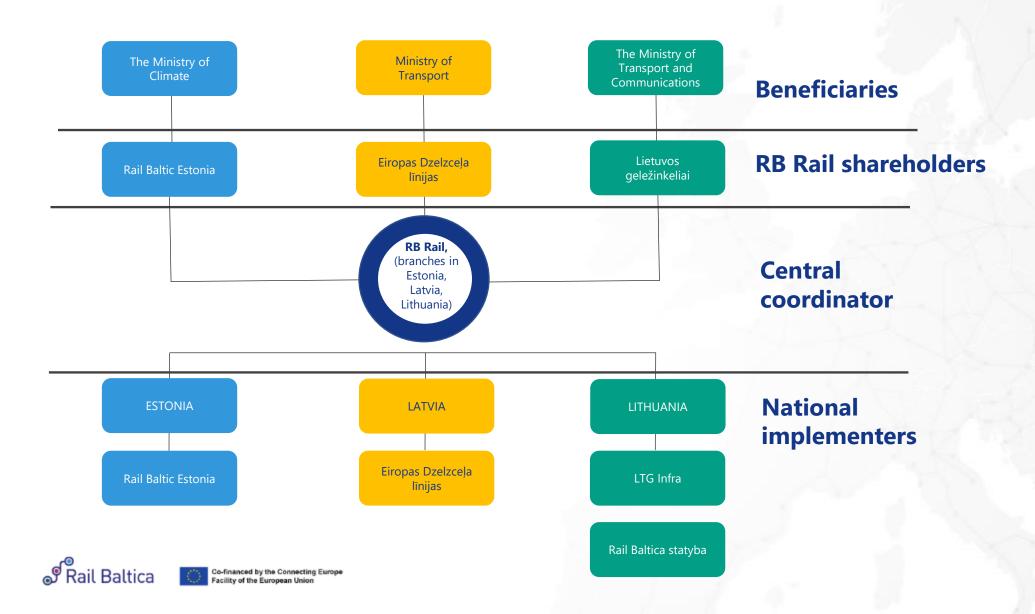
- Restoring the missing link between the Baltics and rest of Europe
- Connection to European TEN-T networks with many ports & terminals all over the Europe
- New economic and security corridor
- Reunite Baltic states in a single railway infrastructure







## **Project governance**



### **MAIN FACTS**

- EU gauge (1435 mm)
- Double-track (first stage single track)
- Max speed: 249 km/h (passengers), 120 km/h (freight)
- Fully electrified & interoperable
- Length: 870 km
- A 10-year construction period (finish date 2030)
- More than €10 bn investment in the region
- Implemented by Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania
- Financed by: Connecting Europe Facility and the Baltic states





Estonia
August 2025

#### **Designs**

Mainline master design completed from Harju County (Ülemiste) to Pärnu County (Tootsi).

Ongoing design work for:

- Southern areas of the Ülemiste passenger terminal.
- · Mainline South of Tootsi.
- Orasselja, Tootsi, Murru, Timmermanni and Paide mnt overpassses.
- 9 ecoducts (Elbi, Sanga, Kullipesa, Maarjapeakse, Possa, Asuja, Loigu, Treimani, Piiri).
- Lemmejõe railway bridge.

Soodevahe-Muuga mainline and Muuga freight terminal

Building permits received from CPTRA for all railway sections from Ülemiste to Tootsi.

**Land acquisition:** approximately 75% (total number of the land plots to be acquired is 1319 and 991 acquisitions have been completed or are in the state ownership).

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#### **Construction (incl. procurements)**

Mainline civil works covered by construction contracts: approximately 202 km of Estonia's total 213 km.

There is a total of **200.28 km** of the railway embankment with signed construction contracts:

- Ülemiste station area 1.8 km
- Ülemiste-Lagedi 4.8 km
- Lagedi traffic junction 1.8 km
- Soodevahe-Kangru 9.16 km
- Kangru-Saku 8.65 km
- Saku-Harju/Rapla border 10.54 km
- Harju/Rapla County border–Loone 9.2 km
- Loone-Hagudi 7.2 km
- Hagudi–Alu **6.88 km**

- Alu–Kärpla 17.25 km
- Kärpla-Selja 13.97 km
- Selja–Tootsi 15.83 km
- Ülemiste–Pärnu superstructure and Tootsi–Pärnu substructure Alliance procurement 36.66 km
- Pärnu–Ikla (EE/LV border) Alliance procurement **58.12 km**

#### **Financing**

- Financing granted for all activities: approximately 1,06 billion EUR. 870,6 million EUR thereof being EU financing and 196 million EUR - Estonia State Budget co-financing. Additional grants from RRF approximately 30 million EUR, SF approximately 65 million EUR and CO2 approximately 198 million EUR.
- Financing used for all activities: about 385 million EUR.
- Financing used for construction activities: approximately 270 million EUR.

#### Point – type objects, stations, maintenance facilities and other objects:

#### **Ongoing construction works**

- Ülemiste Terminal Phase 1 Construction of Ülemiste 1520 railway infrastructure.
- Ülemiste Terminal Phase 2 Construction of Ülemiste terminal underground structures.
- Ülemiste Railway station tunnel No 5 construction works.
- Construction works of the northern areas of the Ülemiste passenger terminal.
- Ülemiste Terminal building construction works.
- Ülemiste PT 1435 railway infrastructure.

- Design and construction of the Rail Baltica pedestrian and bicycle tunnel on State Road No 4 Tallinn-Pärnu-Ikla road km 132.35 (Raeküla road pedestrian tunnel).
- 7 (Kalevi, Loone, Saustinömme, Urge, Lepplaane, Selja and Tagadi) ecoducts have been completed out of 7.
- 16 railway crossings (Saustinõmme, Künka, Tagadi, Assaku, Sikeldi, Tagadi-Kurtna, Kirdalu-Kiisa, Põlma, Kuku, Elveso, Kivisilla, Põrguvälja, Seli-Koigi-Alu, Rae, Vaskjala and Kodila jõe) have been completed out of 26.
- 10 viaducts are under construction. (Alu, Juula, Parila, Kodila jõe, Saku-Tödva and Tõdva-Hageri, Kangru, Raudalu, Raku viaducts, Männiku pedestrian viaduct and Männiku pedestrian tunnel)







#### **Designs**

- Over 30 master designs completed for more than 110 km (out of a total 265 km).
- Design finished for the lecava infrastructure maintenance facility, where the mainline construction base for the southern section will be established this year.
- Design for the Skulte infrastructure maintenance facility is in the final stages.
- Optimization of solutions and design of the cargo terminal for the future Salaspils Intermodal Logistics Center (SILC) has been completed.

- Land acquisition: 45% of the land units necessary for the construction of Rail Baltica mainline (Phase 1) in Latvia have been acquired.
- Land acquisition in the south priority section is fully underway, with 99% obtained.

#### **Construction (incl. procurements)**

Mainline civil works covered by construction contracts: 228 km, with construction scheduled for up to 40 km in the priority section (southern section towards Lithuanian border).

Large-scale construction at Rail Baltica Riga Central Hub and RIX Riga Airport:

- Construction of the parking area at RIX Riga Airport has been completed:
- The construction of the reinforced concrete load-bearing structures of the railway station building, passenger platforms and internal viaduct section has been completed, as well as 45 track viaduct supports have already been constructed (or 85% of the total order) at RIX Riga Airport section;
- Construction is ongoing in the overpass section at RIX Riga Airport – at the end of June, the connection of the overpass supports with three-meter-high steel beams began; the work will continue for approximately six months;
- Construction of the Rail Baltica Bridge over the Daugava River in Riga is completed for Phase 1;
- Construction of Rail Baltica's Riga Central Station resumed to complete the southern part of Riga Central Station (works include finishing works on building, platform level and landscaping;

- Rail track layout completed at Rail Baltica Riga Central Hub (southern side) to provide temporary traffic for 1520 mm gauge tracks;
- Ongoing work on the installation of railway traffic signalling at Rail Baltica Riga Central Hub.

Mainline construction agreement for 230 km signed; preparation works are ongoing to establish the construction base and prepare for the first 13 km of the main line in the southern section:

- Deforestation of construction areas is finished with around 100 hectares completed;
- UXO laserscanning completed for the lecava construction base;
- Set up of the lecava construction base ongoing with finished fencing of the base and installing temporary office containers;
- Construction of electricity connection for the construction base has begun;
- Contract signed for mainline construction supervision;
- First Detailed Technical Designs received for the Misa Lithuanian/Latvian border (southern section);
- In July, an act was signed to begin extensive construction work on the first of four construction permits for the Rail Baltica main route (the southern section).



Construction (inc. Procurement)

- Large scale construction ongoing at Rail Baltica Riga Central Hub and RIX Riga Airport sections
- Mainline civil works covered by construction contracts: 230 km
- ■ Mainline civil works covered by construction contracts: Misa to RIX station is under review
- Construction scheduled for up to 40 km in the priority section (southern section towards Lithuanian border)

#### **Financing**

- Financing granted for all activities: approximately 1,41 billion EUR financing – 1,13 billion EUR thereof being EU financing and 282,6 million EUR – Latvia State Budget co-financing.
- Financing used for all activities: about 505 million EUR.
- Financing used for construction activities: about 357 million EUR.







#### **Designs**

- Kaunas Ramygala territory planning and land acquisition procedures for public needs completed. Design completion rate is about 90,4%.
- Ramygala Lithuanian/Latvian state border territory planning and land acquisition procedures for public needs completed. Design completion rate is about 55,2%.
- Kaunas Lithuanian/Polish border territory planning procedure completed, land acquisition procedure contracts in progress, design services contract signed.
- Kaunas Vilnius territory planning procedure in final stage, contracts for land acquisition signed.

#### **Construction (incl. procurements)**

Construction of the 46.3 km mainline embankment and engineering structures on the Kaunas – Lithuania/Latvian state border section is progressing, with new 31 km contracts signed. Additionally, construction is scheduled to extend to the 114 km section between Kaunas and Panevėžys later this year (from a total of 265 km by 2030). The design contract has been signed for the Kaunas (Jiesia) – Lithuania/Poland border section (96 km).

- Mainline embankment covered with construction contracts (Kaunas – Ramygala): 77.3 km
- Mainline embankment works covered with ongoing tenders (Ramygala – Joniškėlis): 36.7 km
- Mainline superstructure works covered with construction contract (Šveicarija – Žeimiai): 10 km

#### OTHER NOTABLE OBJECTS CONSTRUCTION UPDATES: Kaunas – Lithuanian/Latvian state border

- Finished: access roads (section Šveicarija Žeimiai (18.3 km)
- Finished: access roads (section Žeimiai Šėta (13.7 km)
- In progress: embankment works (section Šveicarija Ramygala (44.8 km)
- In progress: bridge over the Neris (part of Šveicarija Žeimiai section/1.51 km)



#### **Financing**

- Financing granted for all activities over the period 2014-2027: 1,4 billion EUR (total from CEF1 to CEF10, excluding CEF1 (LT) (2014-LT-TMC-0109-M)) for already implemented, currently ongoing and planned services, construction works, and land acquisition for public needs, of which 1,2 billion EUR was allocated for construction activities.
- Financing used for all activities: about 257 million EUR spent to date. Financing used for construction activities: about 213 million EUR spent on construction.
- Total length (km) of the mainline embankment covered with financing: ~114.83 km.

#### Point – type objects, stations, maintenance facilities and other objects:

#### Regional stations (Kaunas – Lithuanian/Latvian state border section):

territory planning completed, land acquisition for public needs procurement ongoing; design procurement planned to start in 2025 Q3.

#### Panevėžys Node:

territory planning completed, land acquisition for public needs procurement ongoing; design procurement planned to start in 2025 Q3.

#### Infrastructure maintenance facilities in Kaunas and Panevėžys:

territory planning completed, land acquisition for public needs is in progress; design procurement launched.

#### **Kaunas Railway Station:**

design contract in progress.

## ÜLEMISTE JOINT TERMINAL

- The Ülemiste passenger terminal is located in the Lasnamäe district of Tallinn, in close proximity to the airport.
- The Ülemiste terminal will serve as a versatile transport hub and become a new landmark in the urban space, integrating business areas, public services, and architectural solutions.
- The terminal has been designed by the internationally renowned architecture firm Zaha Hadid Architects, in collaboration with Esplan OÜ.



### **MUUGA FREIGHT TERMINAL**

- Located in Muuga Harbor, it is the only Rail Baltica freight terminal directly connected to a harbor.
- Also the northernmost and largest freight terminal on Rail Baltica.
- A multimodal freight terminal where operators can accept or dispatch goods to both the 1,435 mm and the 1,520 mm gauge rail networks.

#### **Current state of the project**

The master design procurement completed – contract will be signed Q2 2025. The construction works are planned 2027 - 2030.

Estimated cost: 80+ MEUR

#### **Stage I of construction**

Works to be carried out: general construction, construction of 1,520 mm gauge track railway infrastructure, road infrastructure and facilities.

#### **Stage II of construction**

**Works to be carried out:** Construction of the 1,435 mm track gauge railway infrastructure, rolling stock service depot and traffic control centre.





## KEY OBJECTIVES FOR PREPARING OPERATIONS ON RAIL BALTICA

#### **Access to infrastructure**

To provide equal, non-discriminatory and easy access to infrastructure to railway undertakings, customers and third parties.

#### **Current focus on developing common:**

- Charging scheme
- Capacity allocation framework
- Network statement
- Synchronized traffic Control
- Safety management
- Seamless railway traffic link with Poland (and further on)



Organizational Preparation



Preparation for Operations



**Preparation for Maintenance** 



**Commercial Preparation** 

PASSENGERS ON RAIL BALTICA 2030

#### **Projected passenger volumes by 2045:**

- 9.2 million international passengers
- 5.6 million regional passengers
- 1.6 million night train journeys

## Phase I for Estonia: 5.8 million passenger-kilometres and an estimated 2.8 million passengers per year:

- High-Speed Trains (HST): 1.79 million passengers per year (64%)
- Regional Trains: 0.84 million passengers per year (30%)
- Night Trains: 0.17 million passengers per year (6%)

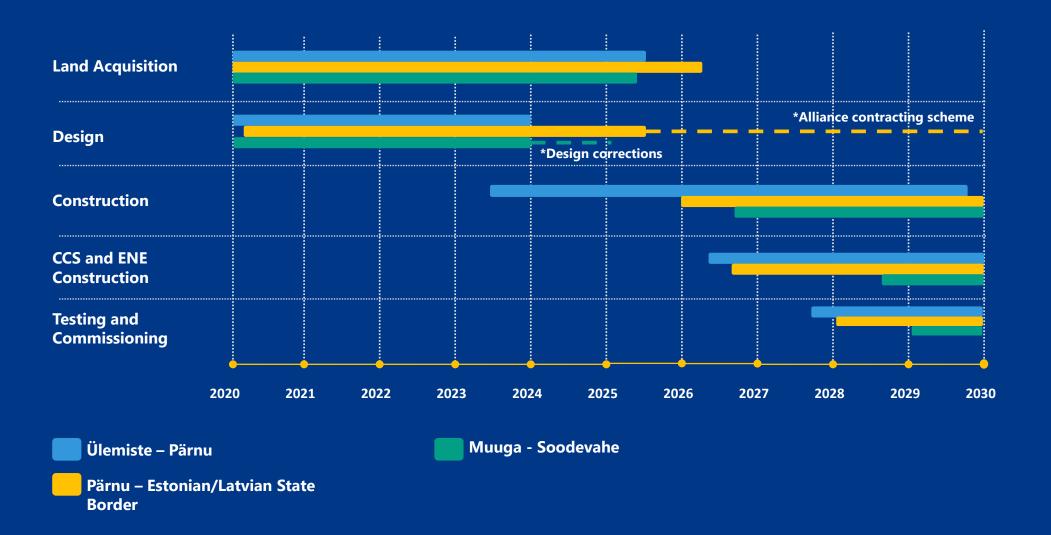


## FREIGHT ON RAIL BALTICA 2030

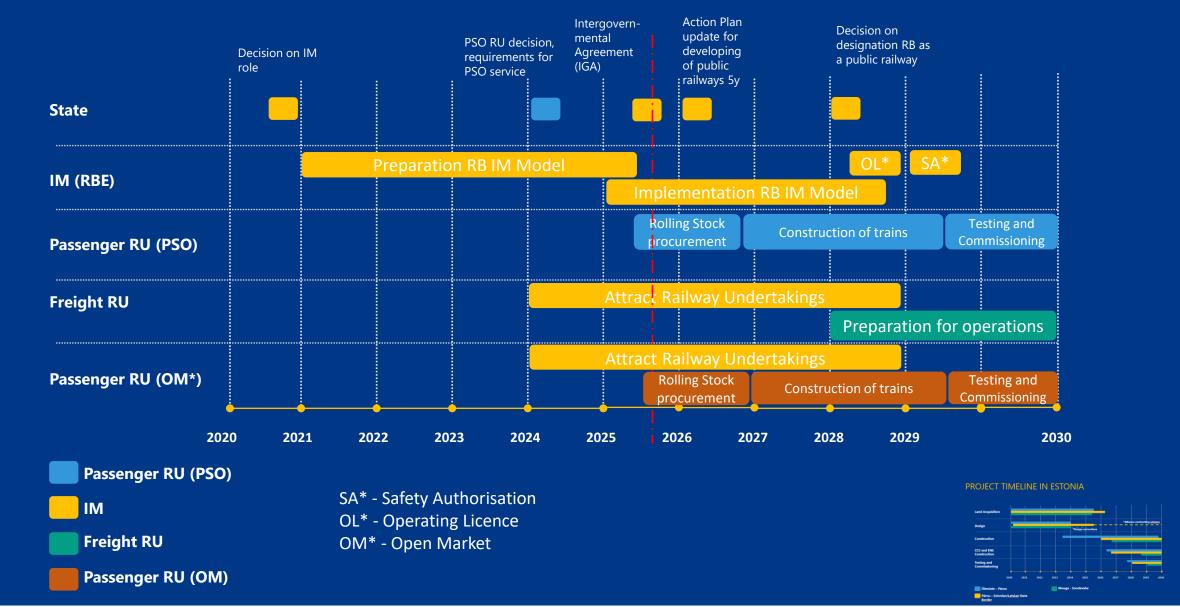
- Approximately 10 million tons of cargo (3M in EE)
- 6 freight trains a day (max 14)
- Travelling time of freight trains
  - Kaunas 9 h
  - Warsaw 15h



## PROJECT TIMELINE IN ESTONIA



## **OPERATION TIMELINE**



## A-Side B-Side 1 2 3 1 2 3

- 1 Railway systems backbone (A)
- 2 Local railway systems connections (A)
- 3 Cross-border digital infrastructure (A)

- 1 Railway systems backbone (B)
- 2 Local railway systems connections (B)
- 3 Cross-border digital infrastructure (B)

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