

PRESS RELEASE

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EUROPE: It is time to help the environment with faster rail market opening

With elections for the European parliament taking place the next few days, ALLRAIL's rail operators are big supporters of the EU single market. After all, evidence shows that wherever a fair and balanced market opening has occurred, the results have benefited passengers, the rail sector and (most importantly) **the environment**.

	Average fare	Demand (Supply)
Sweden 2010-2018 **	-35%	(+53%)
Italy 2011-18 **	-43%	+108%
Austria 2011-2017 ***	-25%	+80%
Czech Republic 2010-2015 ****	-42%	+92%

*Stockholm-Goteborg **on the Italian high-speed network
Vienna-Salzburg *Prague-Ostrava
+ No passenger numbers available; instead supply calculated by growth in no. of departures
Source: Professor Andrea Giuricin, University Milano Bicocca

As you can see above, in the limited number of places where intra-modal (train versus train) competition has already been allowed to happen, this has consistently led to:

- **Innovation and improved service**
- **Lower fares**
- **New jobs** and
- **Modal shift to rail**, away from less sustainable transport modes.

Real passenger rail growth clearly comes from new operators, at **no cost to the taxpayer**. Against this backdrop, it is inexcusable that some EU member states still plan to **keep their home market closed for up to 14 more years (until 2033)!**

ALLRAIL's Secretary General Nick Brooks asks: "with climate activists such as Greta Thunberg calling for immediate action, **what is Europe waiting for?** How can there be a proper EU single market if it still allows for different speeds in the rail sector?"

Therefore, we call on EU and national politicians to make faster market opening a top priority between 2019 and 2024. **Otherwise, we do not believe that Europe's ambitious decarbonisation goals will be achieved – it will be too late.**

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