



THE ŁAŃCUT DECLARATION - II

**OF THE MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT HUNGARY, THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA,
THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND, ROMANIA, THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC, THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY and
UKRAINE**

ON STRENGTHENING THE COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF TRANSPORT IN THE CARPATHIANS AND CONTINUATION OF THE VIA CARPATIA DEVELOPMENT

Ministers responsible for transport issues of Hungary, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic, the Republic of Turkey and Ukraine,

In order to continue, enhance and facilitate cooperation for the development of sustainable freight and passenger transport and related infrastructure for the benefit of present and future generations and the sustainable development while avoiding, minimizing and, where necessary, mitigating and compensating negative environmental and socio-economic impacts of transport and related infrastructure -

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT new developments in global, continental, regional and local dimensions, creating significant challenges for the civilization since the Łańcut Declaration signed in Łańcut, Poland on 22nd October 2010 including the newly adopted in 2015 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals,

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION detailed transport policies introduced and up-dated by international organizations such as the European Union, the TEN-T concept including Neighbouring Policy, aiming at ensuring interoperability of national transport networks, as well as deepening the coherence within the Eastern Regions of the EU, and to improve their transport access with neighbouring ones,

EMPHASIZING the will to develop the UN general principles, developed also in 58 global transport Conventions elaborated under the auspices of the UN Economic Commission for Europe Inland Transport Committee, which are constantly being up-dated and the UN detailed transport programmes Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) and Trans-European Railway (TER), focused at the Central European Region as the core connection node for transport links including inter-continental ones,

HIGHLIGHTING the importance of an integrated, sustainable and efficient transport infrastructure in the Carpathian region which is an important area in the Central Europe demanding a special common policy,

PURSUING the necessity to ensure seamless transport among neighbouring regions located or directly connected to the Carpathian mountains, and further to provide connectivity of such regions to the Baltic Sea macro-region as well as the Danube macro-region in order to facilitate the creation of viable European transport network interoperable with national networks,



TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION the European acquis and the national strategic transport plans and priorities,

TAKING NOTE of the creation of convenient international transport routes linking all parts of the Carpathian region and recognizing the importance of setting up a modern road network that allows efficient road transport in Central Europe and meets EU standards established for communication and mobility among which particularly important is the Via Carpatia road route between Northern and Southern Europe,

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION that the development of transport infrastructure is one of the most significant condition of sustainable development of all European regions,

DESIRING to optimize the utilization of the potential for accelerating the economic growth of the least developed regions of the European Union and neighboring ones and to include such regions into the mainstreams of global economic trade in order to create sustainable foundation for such economic growth,

BEARING IN MIND the need to continue the process of elimination of missing links and bottlenecks in the current transport network, taking into account all the economic, social and environmental factors,

BEARING IN MIND the requirements proposed by the UN General Secretary initiative the Decade of Action – aimed at limiting vast numbers of killed and wounded in road accidents all over the world and introducing safe driving solutions.

DECLARE:

1. **to intensively co-operate** in order to eliminate existing obstacles to seamless international transport in the area of the Carpathians ,
2. **to endeavour** to create such conditions for transport that transit operations of goods and passengers along the Via Carpatia road route are efficient, economically viable and environmentally more friendly than nowadays,
3. **to ensure** close cooperation at interministerial level in terms of the construction of cross-border road sections and apply for financial assistance from International Financial Institutions for building the necessary road infrastructure and within the EU Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) programme or other EU programmes, while respecting the national and European priorities in the road sector,
4. **to strive** to improve the conditions of truck traffic through the construction of adequate infrastructure and the removal of restrictions on tonnage, including cross-border sections of international road routes,
5. **to continue taking up** all possible activities in order to further develop the updated “Via Carpatia” road route established in the Łańcut Declaration dated 22 October 2010 linking: Klaipeda (LT) – Kaunas (LT) – Białystok (PL) – Lublin (PL) – Rzeszów (PL) – Prešov (SK) – Košice (SK) – Miskolc (HU) – Debrecen (HU) – Oradea (RO) – Lugoj (RO) – Calafat (RO) – Sofija (BG) – Thessaloniki (GR) – Alexandroupolis/GR/TR borders - Istanbul, with branches:



- ▶ Gdynia (PL) / Gdańsk (PL) – Warszawa (PL) – Lublin (PL), further on southwards;
 - ▶ Lublin (PL) – Chełm (PL) – Kovel/Lutsk (UA) – Kiev (UA)/Ternopil (UA) – Vinnitsa (UA) – Odessa (UA) and further on in Ukraine;
 - ▶ Lublin (PL) – Zamość (PL) – Lviv (UA) - Ternopil (UA) – Siret (RO)– Bucharest (RO);
 - ▶ Oradea (RO) – Gilău (RO) – Cluj Napoca (RO) – Turda (RO) – Sebeş (RO) – Sibiu (RO) – Bucureşti (RO) – Constanţa (RO);
 - ▶ Rzeszow (PL) – Lviv (UA) – Cernivci (UA) – Suceava (RO) – Bacău (RO) – Galaţi (RO);
 - ▶ Sofija (BG) – Plovdiv (BG) – Svilengrad (BG) – Istanbul (TR), and further on in Turkey,
6. **to take into account** the above mentioned road route as one of the priorities of national transport policies and strengthen its connection with neighbouring regions equally in and out of the area,
 7. **to take** efforts needed to elaborate a cooperation mechanism between Via Carpatia corridor and projects located parallel including also other modes of transport,
 8. **to express**, together with the commitment to the develop the route "Via Carpatia", support for the strengthening of strategic relations of countries and regions on the north-south axis through the implementation of other key road links in Europe including also the implementation of European TEN-T corridors,
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9. **to take** intensive measures to improve the road safety practices to effectively contribute to the reduction of the number of people killed and wounded,
 10. **to analyse** all aspects of implementation of the above multilateral cooperation on the level of experts and to permanently exchange with each other related information,
 11. **to welcome** other initiatives and active participation for any other State willing to fulfill the abovementioned tasks and plans.

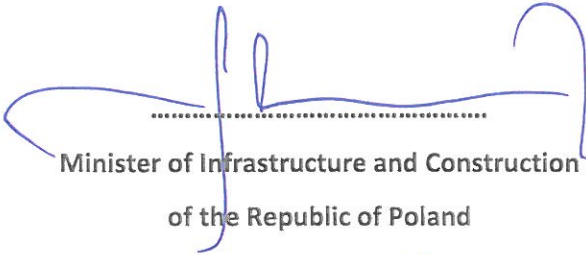
The new Łańcut Declaration II signed on 3 March 2016 in Warsaw is hereby replacing the Łańcut Declaration of 27 October 2006 and the Via Carpatia Declaration of 22 October 2010.



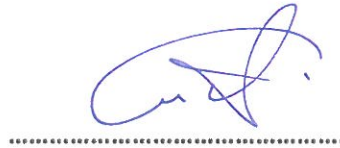
Minister of National Development
of Hungary



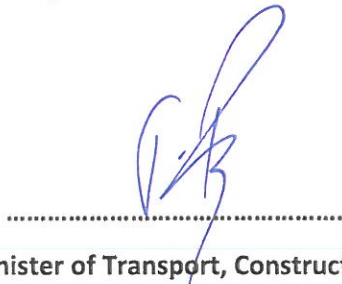
Minister of Transport and Communications
of the Republic of Lithuania



Minister of Infrastructure and Construction
of the Republic of Poland



Minister of Transport
of Romania



Minister of Transport, Construction
and Regional Development
of the Slovak Republic



On behalf of the Republic of Turkey



Minister of Infrastructure
of Ukraine

Done in Warsaw, on 3 March 2016 in seven originals in English.