PROGRAMME OF THE INTERNATIONAL ROUND TABLE

"Ukraine's Railway European Integration: 210 Years of Engineering Education and Contemporary Challenges"

Within the project "European Integration of Ukraine's Railway Sector: Training, Dialogue and Stakeholder Engagement", implemented by the Foundation for the Development of Civil Society Organisations "Western Ukrainian Resource Centre" (ZURC), with the support of the European Union and the International Renaissance Foundation under their joint initiative "Whole of Society Accession"



Date: 4 November 2026

Time: 10:30–16:30

Venue: Lviv Polytechnic National University, 12 Stepan Bandera Street, Main Building, Room 214, Lviv, Ukraine

Working languages: Ukrainian and English. Simultaneous interpretation from Ukrainian into English and from English into Ukrainian will be provided.

Participation format: In person and online

Online participation link:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join: https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/3342030153273686?p=PXPUPzhikj3VOCBbZh

Meeting ID: 334 203 015 327 368 6

Passcode: Yu6DM7yn

Important! When joining, please select your preferred language (Ukrainian or English).
To use simultaneous interpretation, we recommend joining through the Microsoft Teams app. If you join through a browser, please sign in to your Microsoft Teams account to access the interpretation feature.

Organisers:

- The Foundation for the Development of Civil Society Organisations "Western Ukrainian Resource Centre", with the support of the European Union and the International Renaissance Foundation
- **Event partner:** Lviv Polytechnic National University

Purpose of the round table — to provide an open platform for expert dialogue and interaction among representatives of civil society, the railway sector, academia and research, public authorities, businesses, and Ukrainian and European experts on the practical challenges of integrating Ukraine's railway transport into the EU; to consolidate stakeholder views and proposals; and to develop recommendations for strengthening meaningful civil society participation in the EU accession process in the field of railway policy.

10:30–11:00 — Welcome coffee and participant registration

11:00–11:30 — Opening session and welcome addresses

Opening of the event:

Vasyl POLUIKO — Executive Director of the Foundation for the Development of Civil Society Organisations "Western Ukrainian Resource Centre"; Project Manager.

Olha KVASHUK — Programme Manager, International Renaissance Foundation.

Invited to deliver welcome addresses:

Kornelija VASAUSKAITĖ — Programme Officer – Transport, Operations Section "Reconstruction, Energy, Infrastructure and Environment", Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine.

Yurii ROIKO — Candidate of Technical Sciences, Associate Professor, Director of the Institute of Mechanical Engineering and Transport, Lviv Polytechnic National University.

Svitlana ZABOLOTSKA — Deputy Head of the Department for Economics, Investment and Railway Transport Reform, Railway Transport Directorate, Ministry for Restoration, Infrastructure and Transport of Ukraine.

Oleh YAKOVENKO — Director of the Strategy and Transformation Department, JSC Ukrzaliznytsia.

Oana GHERGHINESCU — Executive Director, European Union Agency for Railways (ERA) — video address.

Stepan RUDNYTSKYI — Head of the Transport Directorate, Department of Road Infrastructure, Lviv Regional Military Administration.

Representative of Lviv City Council — name and position to be confirmed.

11:30–12:30 — Discussion Panel 1

"European Integration of Ukraine's Railways: What Is Changing for the Sector and Its Stakeholders?"

Moderator: Vasyl POLUIKO — Executive Director, Western Ukrainian Resource Centre; Project Manager.

Key presentations — up to 35 minutes

1. **Svitlana ZABOLOTSKA** — Deputy Head of the Department for Economics, Investment and Railway Transport Reform, Railway Transport Directorate, Ministry for Restoration, Infrastructure and Transport of Ukraine.

"European Integration of Ukraine's Railway Transport: Legislative Changes, Government Priorities and Next Steps. Roadmap for Railway Transport Reform."

2. **Roman MELNYCHENKO** — Railway Transport Reform Expert, Recovery and Reform Support Team, Ministry for Restoration, Infrastructure and Transport of Ukraine.

"Public Service Rail Transport: From a Lifeline to a Driver of Regional Growth."

3. **Tetiana LIUBKA** — Head of the European Integration Division, International Cooperation Department, JSC Ukrzaliznytsia.

"Ukrzaliznytsia on the Path to European Integration: Practical Tasks, Challenges and Competence Development."

4. **Zinovii BROIDE** — Candidate of Technical Sciences, Director of the State Scientific and Technical Centre "Ecoresource"; Adviser to the Head of Chernivtsi Regional Military Administration.

"Prospects and Opportunities for the Modern Restoration of Eastern European Railway Connections within a 'Vertical Corridor' through Ukraine, with Civil Society Support."

Moderated discussion — 20–25 minutes

Representatives of public authorities, the State Service of Ukraine for Transport Safety (Ukrtransbezpeka), JSC Ukrzaliznytsia, civil society, businesses, research and educational institutions, the National Accreditation Agency of Ukraine, conformity assessment bodies, testing organisations and the professional community are invited to contribute.

Among those invited to the discussion:

Viacheslav LATYSH — Head of the State Supervision Directorate for Railway and Urban Electric Transport, State Service of Ukraine for Transport Safety (Ukrtransbezpeka).

Volodymyr NAUMOV — Chair of the Council of the NGO "All-Ukrainian Centre for Transport Infrastructure Reform"; Transport Policy Expert.

Iryna MANDRYK — Head of the Railway, Aviation and Water Transport Division, Transport Directorate, Department of Road Infrastructure, Lviv Regional Military Administration.

Bohdan LIBER — Head of the Cross-Border Cooperation Division, Lviv Railway Regional Branch, JSC Ukrzaliznytsia.

Rostyslav BILYNSKYI — Director of the Municipal Enterprise "Institute of Spatial Development", Lviv City Council.

Representatives of Zakarpattia and Chernivtsi Regional Military Administrations, Lviv and Uzhhorod City Councils, and other invited experts.

Key issues for discussion: practical changes associated with the European integration of the railway sector; moving from legislative approximation to the practical application of EU requirements; the sector's knowledge and skills needs; stakeholder engagement in railway transport reform; and stronger dialogue between the state, the railway industry, business, research, education and civil society.

12:30–13:45 — Discussion Panel 2

"From European Requirements to Practice: Safety, Interoperability and Technical Integration"

Moderator: Olena BAL — Candidate of Technical Sciences, Associate Professor, Head of the Department of Railway Transport, Lviv Polytechnic National University; Coordinator of the project "European Integration of Ukraine's Railways: Training, Dialogue and Stakeholder Engagement".

1. **Jean-Paul LODZINSKI** — Project Officer, Fixed Installations & Rolling Stock Unit, European Union Agency for Railways (ERA) — 10–15 minutes.

"The European Railway System: From Legislative Requirements to Practical Interoperability."

2. **Viacheslav PETRENKO, PhD** — Deputy Director of the Department of Innovation, Technical Development and Quality Management, JSC Ukrzaliznytsia.

"Development of the Infrastructure TSI in Ukraine: Methodology, Progress and Issues for Discussion" — 10 minutes.

3. **Dr. Julian TORGGLER** — Head of the Railway and Infrastructure Laboratory (RaIL), Graz University of Technology, Austria.

"Railway and Infrastructure Laboratory (RaIL) at Graz University of Technology" — 10 minutes.

4. **Marek PETIOKY, Ph.D.** — Head of the Technical Director's Office, VUZ – Railway Research Institute, Czechia.

"Railway Testing and Conformity Assessment: VUZ Expertise and Opportunities for Cooperation with Ukraine" — 10 minutes.

5. **Yuriy KOZIK, Ph.D.** — Project Manager, Inspector, CERTIFER Deutschland GmbH, Germany.

"Implementing European Interoperability Requirements in Ukraine: Practical Recommendations and the Experience of a Notified Body" — 10 minutes.

6. **Gergely NARDAI** — Area Sales Manager, Axiometrix Solutions / imc Test & Measurement, Germany.

"Modern Measurement Technologies and Digital Solutions for Railway Testing and Safety" — 5 minutes.

Moderated professional discussion — 20 minutes

Representatives of JSC Ukrzaliznytsia, conformity assessment bodies, testing organisations, railway product manufacturers, businesses, research and educational institutions, and Ukrainian and European experts are invited to take part in the discussion.

Among those invited to the discussion:

- Representative of the National Accreditation Agency of Ukraine (NAAU) — name to be confirmed.
- **Oleksandr SAFRONOV** — Doctor of Technical Sciences, Senior Researcher, Director of the State Enterprise "Ukrainian Research Institute of Railway Car Building" (UkrNDIV), Kremenchuk.

- **Andrii PULARIIA** — Candidate of Technical Sciences, NAAU Auditor, Associate Professor, Department of Rolling Stock Management and Operation, Ukrainian State University of Science and Technologies, Dnipro.
- **Yaroslav BOLZHELARSKYI** — Candidate of Technical Sciences, Associate Professor, Department of Railway Transport, Lviv Polytechnic National University; Head of the "Transport Safety Testing Centre" Laboratory.
- Representatives of Ukrainian railway product manufacturers, including DMZ Karpaty, PJSC Kryukiv Railway Car Building Works, TAS Dniprovagonmash LLC, and others.
- Other invited representatives of conformity assessment bodies, testing laboratories, research institutions and the professional community.

Key issues for discussion: the practical meaning of interoperability for Ukraine's railway system; application of the Technical Specifications for Interoperability (TSIs); new requirements and challenges for Ukrainian railway product manufacturers; development of conformity assessment and testing capabilities; training specialists to work under European requirements; and opportunities to apply and adapt European experience to Ukrainian conditions.

13:45–14:00 — Coffee break and group photograph of round-table participants

14:00–15:00 — Open Stakeholder Discussion

"Knowledge, Competences and Cooperation: What Does Ukraine Need for a European Railway System?"

Moderator: Olena BAL — Candidate of Technical Sciences, Associate Professor, Head of the Department of Railway Transport, Lviv Polytechnic National University; Coordinator of the project "European Integration of Ukraine's Railways: Training, Dialogue and Stakeholder Engagement".

Vitalii KOVALCHUK — Doctor of Technical Sciences, Professor, Department of Railway Transport; **Mykola BABIAK** — Candidate of Technical Sciences, Associate Professor, Department of Railway Transport; **Yuliia HERMANIUK** — Candidate of Technical Sciences, Associate Professor, Department of Transport Technologies; **Oleh VOZNIAK** — Candidate of Technical Sciences, Associate Professor, Department of Transport Technologies; Lviv Polytechnic National University (Lviv).

"210 Years of Engineering Education: From the Traditions of Lviv Polytechnic to New Competences for the European Railway System" — 10–15 minutes.

Volodymyr TVERDOMED — Candidate of Technical Sciences, Associate Professor, Acting Director of the Kyiv Educational and Research Institute of Railway Transport, National Transport University (Kyiv).

"Training Railway Transport Specialists in the Context of Ukraine's European Integration: Current Challenges and Prospects" — 5 minutes.

Denys LOMOTKO — Doctor of Technical Sciences, Professor, Head of the Department of Transport Systems and Logistics, Ukrainian State University of Railway Transport (Kharkiv).

"Green Logistics as a Requirement of the European Market: A Fuzzy Environmental Criterion for Containerised Rail Freight Supply Chains" — 5 minutes.

Dmytro KOZACHENKO — Doctor of Technical Sciences, Professor, Department of Transport Services and Logistics, Ukrainian State University of Science and Technologies (Dnipro).

"Competences and Learning Outcomes for Specialty J7 'Railway Transport'" — 5 minutes.

Kateryna DIAKIV — Deputy Head of the Human Resources and Social Policy Service and Head of its Lviv Regional Personnel Management Division, Lviv Railway Regional Branch, JSC Ukrzaliznytsia.

"Ukrzaliznytsia for You"

Representatives of the student community of Lviv Polytechnic National University —

"A Youth Perspective on Professional Development and Career Opportunities in the European Railway System" — 5 minutes.

Open stakeholder discussion — 15 minutes

Representatives of universities and research institutions, JSC Ukrzaliznytsia, conformity assessment bodies and testing organisations, businesses, railway product manufacturers, as well as students and early-career professionals, are invited to contribute.

Among those invited to the discussion:

- Representatives of railway enterprises, higher education and professional pre-higher education institutions, research organisations and the professional community.
- Students and early-career railway professionals.

Participation format: brief contributions by discussion participants (up to 2–3 minutes), responding to a question set by the moderator, followed by a joint discussion.

Key issues for discussion: the competences Ukraine's railway sector will need during European integration; changes in railway specialist education and training; practical challenges for Ukrainian enterprises implementing European requirements; the readiness of conformity assessment and testing systems to operate under the European model; the role of the professional community and civil society; and professional development opportunities for young railway specialists.

Final round — 10 minutes

"One Change for the European Future of Ukraine's Railways"

Participants are invited to identify one specific change that should be implemented within the next year to make practical progress on the European integration of Ukraine's railway sector.

15:00–15:15 — Conclusions: "What Have We Heard from Stakeholders, and What Comes Next?"

Olena BAL — Head of the Department of Railway Transport, Lviv Polytechnic National University; Coordinator of the project “European Integration of Ukraine’s Railways: Training, Dialogue and Stakeholder Engagement”.

Vasyl POLUIKO — Executive Director, Western Ukrainian Resource Centre; Project Manager.

Summary of the key challenges, needs and proposals raised by round-table participants; identification of common positions among stakeholder groups, knowledge and expertise needs, and topics for continued professional dialogue.

A brief outcome document containing stakeholder proposals and recommendations will be prepared following the round table.

15:15–16:30 — Festive Lunch and Informal Networking

On the occasion of Ukrainian Railway Workers’ Day and the 210th anniversary of Lviv Polytechnic.

Informal conversation among participants, development of professional contacts and discussion of opportunities for future cooperation.

For all organisational matters, please contact

the Project Coordinator, Olena BAL, Candidate of Technical Sciences, Associate Professor.

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3 November 2026

Event partner:

Lviv Polytechnic National University