



Rail Regulatory Body
monitors fairness
in the market





A photograph of railway tracks and overhead power lines, partially obscured by a green graphic overlay on the right side of the page.

Rail Regulatory Body monitors fairness in the market

The rail regulatory body established in each EU Member State ensures proper functioning of the market and that all parties involved in the sector are treated equally without discrimination.

The regulatory body, an appellate and monitoring body independent from railway companies and infrastructure managers, settles matters on the basis of appeals submitted to it and on its own initiative.

Core areas of regulatory body functions

Charges and pricing

Charges for the use of infrastructure

Pricing of railway services

Access to the network and entry to the market

Network Statement

Capacity allocation

Availability and scope of railway services

Other actions influencing the functionality of the market and non-discrimination

Market monitoring

Providing and analysing information describing the railway market

Cooperation with stakeholders

Influencing

Cooperation within the EU

Cooperation with regulatory bodies of other sectors and the Finnish Competition and Consumer Authority

Tasks of the regulatory body

The tasks of the regulatory body include the following in particular:

- Availability of railway services and service prices. Infrastructure managers and operators of service facilities are obligated, with certain preconditions, to provide railway user services and training services to other parties (public service obligation). The regulatory body monitors the implementation of the public service obligation and service prices.
- Questions related to railway capacity allocation and network statement. The infrastructure manager decides on the allocation of railway capacity. The network statement includes important information for railway capacity applicants. EU regulations apply to the content of the network statement. The regulatory body monitors e.g. compliance with regulatory obligations related to the allocation of railway capacity and the appropriateness of the network statement.
- Charges collected for the use of the railway infrastructure. The infrastructure manager collects charges for the use of the railway network from railway operators. The regulatory body ensures that charges are collected equally, without discrimination and in compliance with statutory requirements.
- Other actions influencing equality and non-discrimination.

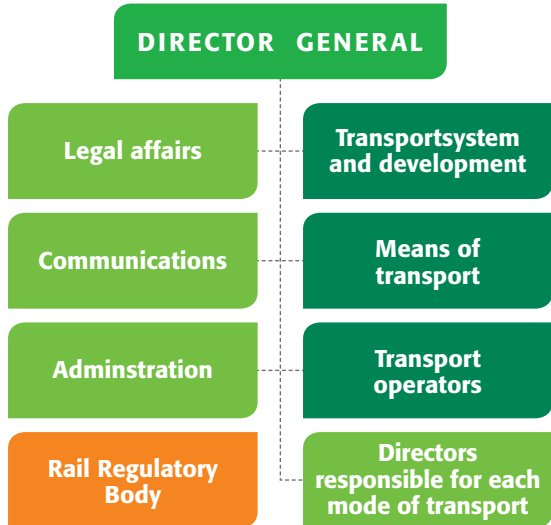
Which parties may submit matters for handling by the regulatory body?

All parties involved in the sector whose interests, rights or obligations are influenced by the matter causing disagreement, may lodge an appeal with the regulatory body. Private persons cannot appeal to the regulatory body.

Rail Regulatory Body in Finland

The regulatory body operates within the Finnish Transport Safety Agency Trafi.

TRAFI'S ORGANISATION:



The Rail Regulatory Body makes decisions independently and its decisions are binding on all parties concerned. In addition to the Head of Unit, the Regulatory Body employs two Special Advisers. Directive 2012/34/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a single European railway area strengthens the position of the Regulatory Body and enhances the requirements for its independence. Moreover, the Directive sets new requirements for the functions of the Regulatory Body and ensures closer cooperation between the regulatory bodies of the railway sector in Member States. One of the new requirements involves the obligation of the regulatory body to consult the representatives of users of the rail freight and passenger transport services.

Regulatory Body cooperation in Europe



Harmonisation and uniformisation of the railway market on the EU level is extremely important. Regulatory bodies of the railway sector engage in active international cooperation on many levels, between the regulatory bodies themselves and with the Commission. One of the key aims of cooperation is to establish a single, competitive, efficient and sustainable railway area in Europe.

IRG-Rail, the Independent Regulators' Group - Rail, a network of independent rail regulatory bodies of EU Member States, was established in June 2011. It acts as a platform for information exchange and sharing of experiences and best practice between national railway regulators. Moreover, IRG-Rail actively influences decision-making within the European Union.

Further information on IRG-Rail is available online at **www.irg-rail.eu**.

**Further
information**

- www.trafi.fi/en/rail/regulatory_body
- e-mail: railregulator@trafi.fi
- Contact information of other EU Member States' Regulatory Bodies:
http://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/rail/market/regulatory_bodies_en.htm



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