



PRESS RELEASE n° 19/2016

---

## **UIC opens its Security Week (from 20 to 24 June) in Paris with the Seminar on Terrorism**

*(Paris, 21 June 2016)* The International Union of Railways, UIC, decided during the last Global Security Congress held in India in December 2015 to organise a seminar on terrorism on an annual basis considering the good results of the first one held on 16 – 17 June 2015, organised with Russian Railways RZD. This year the seminar has opened with around 60 participants from 20 countries in the framework of a whole Security Week dealing with several key current topics: crisis management, interoperability and exchange of security information, training and communication.

Migrations and their consequences are also a hot topic for the rail sector in Europe and will also be addressed within the UIC Security Week.

The seminar is therefore designed with that in mind – actions by national and international authorities, exchanges of experiences, best practices, successes and failures, and the definition of shared priorities and paths to progress. This year, it will focus on the exchange of the various experiences and on stepping out towards the future with the various research projects in which UIC is involved on behalf of its members. Mr Jean-Pierre Loubinoux Director General of UIC insisted on the importance of this common work at the service of our Members, customers and staff.

Rail need to be innovating constantly, because we not only have to avoid the repeat of terrorist acts like the ones that we have already seen, but also – and perhaps even more so – to counter the emergence of new forms of terrorism, and we are fully aware that the aggressors will respond and adapt to any countermeasures that we may develop. Research will therefore play a primary role, but above and beyond that we must keep in step with the evolution of our world and our technological environment.

Indeed, Security belongs among UIC priorities; it is one of its fundamental values supporting rail activities, in an increasingly threatened context. We are facing new challenges: rail needs to find a balance between security and fluidity; its role is to put security as an element of quality of service, but to keep the advantage of its competitively quick boarding. Rail must stay an open system, with an holistic approach, even if it is dependant of national prescriptions (no international rules like the other modes of transport).

New technologies can help to better protect rail transport, some being newly applied. Besides there is interdependence between technologies and Human Factors, which is a crucial point: staff training is an important issue.

Finally, it is UIC's role to ensure an international coherence, to bring together already future solutions for future problems.

*UIC World Security Congress 2016 will be held in Helsinki from 23 to 25 November 2016, organised in partnership with the Finnish Transport Agency, the FTA, on the general topic of security in railway stations.*

**CONTACTS:**

For further information please contact Jacques Colliard, Head of the UIC Security

Division: [colliard@uic.org](mailto:colliard@uic.org)

UIC Communications Department: [com@uic.org](mailto:com@uic.org)