



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT

Directorate C - Land  
**The Director**

Brussels,  
MOVE.DDG2.C/EW/LD

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Dear Mr Vardakastanis,  
Dear Mr Gyselinck,

I am replying on behalf of DG MOVE Director General, Henrik Hololei, to your letter dated 2 July 2020, in which you express concern for the lack of accessibility of rolling stock in some Member States, following the implementation of Commission Regulation (EU) 1300/2014 (PRM TSI).

The objective of the PRM TSI is to enhance the accessibility of rail transport to persons with disabilities and persons with reduced mobility. Against this background, the issues of lack of accessibility related to platform height highlighted in your letter do not derive directly from the implementation of the PRM TSI, but rather from a misaligned interface with legacy infrastructure. On the other hand, the issue of reduced accessibility due to steep ramp gradient in PRM TSI exempted double-decker trains calls for a reflection on the future revision of the Regulation.

In light of the European Union Agency for Railways (ERA) recommendation which mentions “promotion of level access/independent boarding” as one of the areas for improvement which has not been sufficiently tackled in the most recent revision, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss with you and ERA the best possible way to address these issues.

In addition to the technical and regulatory adjustments, the solution of these problems would probably require significant investments on infrastructure, notably on the platform-train interface. For this reason, we may want to explore the opportunities provided by the EU Recovery Plan.

I would like to thank you very much again for your constructive feedback and your active involvement in the ERA Working Party and PRM TSI Advisory Body. The services of DG MOVE will get back to you with a proposal for a meeting after the summer break, in order to discuss the technical details and concrete policy options to address this important issue.

Yours faithfully,

*(e-signed)*  
Elisabeth WERNER