6th CCNR Congress

Speakers
Marc De Decker
Riverius Advocaten

Marc De Decker has a Ph.D. in Law and a degree in maritime sciences and has been a member of the Antwerp bar since 1984. He has also been a guest professor at the University of Ghent since a few years, where he teaches the course “European International River Law”. He also taught before courses on “Maritime and transport law” at the Lessius College (Antwerp) and on “Social transport laws” at the University of Antwerp. Since 2012, he has been president of the Belgian Federation of Inland Navigation, umbrella organization of all Belgian boatmen associations. He completed his Ph.D. thesis on “Legal aspects of codification and harmonization of European international river regimes” and wrote many essays, articles and books on river law, inter alia in 2014 the monography “European International River Law”, for which he received in 2015 the triennial maritime award of the Foundation François Génicot.

Alain Devos
Director of the European Skippers’ Organisation (ESO)

Mr Alain Devos has been active in inland navigation throughout his career. Having started out as an independent inland navigation operator, he has sailed on all of Europe’s waterways. Later on he was also active as a tanker captain with several ship owners. When he finally swapped navigation for a shore job, he headed up an environmental company using tankers to collect maritime liquid waste. For the past 5 years he has been able to bring these multiple backgrounds to bear on his current job as Director of cooperation for tanker transport movements, where his experience and know-how are of direct relevance. Motivated by a cooperative mindset and convinced that tanker transport movements need to be represented to the full, since 2013 he has been an active member of several industry organisations. An extensive network spanning the various facets of inland navigation affords him the opportunity to have a sophisticated and comprehensive view of the sector. He pays particular attention to the “functioning of the market” to “safety and certification” and to “innovation and greening”. He is a member of numerous commissions and working groups related to these fields and provides information born of real world experience. He works to achieve a decision-making process that prioritises results, having regard to the various safety and standards requirements but where the route taken to achieve this decision is far freer given that innovation trends are currently moving at exponential speed.
Bruno Georges

CCNR Secretary General

After studying law in Brussels and Cambridge Bruno Georges practised as a lawyer in Brussels from 1979 to 1986, and was thereafter employed in the civil service with the United Nations in Kigali (Ruanda) and in Bujumbura (Burundi) until 1988. Mr Georges entered the Belgian diplomatic service in 1989. Throughout his career, he gained experience in various embassies, for example as First Secretary at the Embassy in Berlin and Bonn and as Consul General in Shanghai, and in both the Belgian Foreign Ministry and the Permanent Representation to the European Union. Mr Georges served as a member of the diplomatic corps with the OSCE as Ambassador and Permanent Representative until August 2016. Bruno Georges succeeded to the office of Secretary General of the CCNR on 1 November 2016.

Peter Füglistaler

Director of the Federal Office for Transport in the Department for Environment, Transport, Energy and Communication of the Swiss Confederation

Peter Füglistaler (1959) has been Director of the Federal Office for Transport since June 2010. The BAV is responsible for implementing and helping to shape Swiss policy in the public transport arena. Its remit encompasses regulation, permits, planning and supervision in the passenger and freight transport arena, cable cars, buses and ships. Significant activities in which the office is involved include financing and developing the rail infrastructure (FABI), involving designing upgrade packages and managing project implementation (such as NEAT, 4-metre corridor or 2015 upgrade package) or the franchising of rail and bus transport. Together with the cantons, the Office is responsible for regional transport and acts to implement the modal shift target.

Between 1996 and 2010, Peter Füglistaler occupied various positions with the Swiss railways. Between 1999 and 2001 he was Secretary-General and since 2006 he has been leading the finance department of the infrastructure division as a member of the SBS Infrastructure executive board. He represented the SBB on various bodies, for example as Vice Chairman of the SBB’s Historical Heritage Foundation (Stiftung Historisches Erbe), Euroswitch AG and Nant-de-Drance AG.

Peter Füglistaler has a degree in economics. He completed his PhD at the University of St Gallen with a dissertation entitled “Sociopolitical measures to combat poverty in Switzerland”.

14.00

Rail and shipping in the same boat – The importance of navigation of the Rhine for Switzerland

16.45

Summary of contributions and introduction to the next part
Paul Goris

Chairman of the IWT Platform

Paul Goris (1966) has close to 30 years of experience in the port, bulk, inland waterway shipping & rail logistics sectors. He is active in several associations which are related to the Rotterdam, Antwerp and other European ports. He started his career in 1990 in the rail cargo sector where he developed intermodal connections throughout Europe. As Commercial Director of DB Schenker, he was responsible for all rail cargo traffic. In 2003 he joined Europees Massagoed Overslagbedrijf, EMO (joint venture of Thyssen Krupp, Arcelor Mittal affiliate, Sea-invest and HES Beheer) as Commercial Director. In 2009 he became General Manager of EMO’s shareholder Sea-invest where he was responsible for all dry bulk operations. In late 2011, he started up his own Port and Logistics Consulting company where he works for a broad portfolio of companies with Port and logistics related projects. He is active in the fields of renewable energy and E-busses for local city transport. He is President of the Dutch Inland Waterway Branch organisation Centraal Bureau voor de Rijn- en Binnenvaart (CBRB), the European Barge Union (EBU) and the Inland Waterway Transport Platform (IWT).

Thierry Guimbaud

Director General of Voies navigables de France (VNF)

Thierry Guimbaud was appointed Director General of the public body Voies navigables de France by a decree of the President of the Republic dated 4 May 2017. As managing director and former student of the Ecole nationale d’Administration (ENA), Thierry Guimbaud is a transport expert. After a stint at the French Ministry of Economy and Finance as Commissioner at the Ile-de-France regional directorate then at the National Competition Investigations Directorate (DGCCRF), he joined the Ministry of Equipment in 1992 at the Highways Directorate, where he held positions as Deputy then Head of the motorway finance and concessions department. In 1996 he moved to aviation by joining Aéroports de Paris (ADP), first as Head of the Development Department, then as Head of Strategy Department, before becoming Head of the Charles de Gaulle Airport Operations Department. At the end of 2003 he moved to urban transport, this time, as Deputy Director-General – Chief Operating Officer at the Ile-de-France transport association (STIF). With this solid transport experience behind him, in 2011 he was appointed Director of Transport Services at the DGITM (Direction Générale des Infrastructures, des Transports et de la Mer) at the French Ministry of the Environment, Energy and the Sea. Responsible for the smooth running of the organisation and its sound economic and financial management, the Director-General is responsible for all staff irrespective of their status. He has delegated authority from the Minister for transport for the recruitment and management of civil servants and workers in parks and workshops. He recruits and manages public law contract staff and private law employees.
Michael Heinz
Member of the Board of Management of BASF SE

Michael Heinz is a Member of the Board of Executive Directors of BASF SE. He is responsible for the divisions Engineering & Maintenance, Environmental Protection, Health & Safety, European Site & Verbund Management and Human Resources. He is the Industrial Relations Director and Site Director of Ludwigshafen. Mr Heinz has been a Member of the Board of Executive Directors since 2011. During this time he was responsible for the divisions Dispersions & Pigments, Care Chemicals, Nutrition & Health, Performance Chemicals, Advanced Materials & Systems Research, as well as the region South America and perspectives, which supports marketing and sales within the BASF Group. Prior to this, in 2010, he was responsible for the integration of Cognis and, in 2009, he was Chief Executive Officer of Ciba and Integration Lead for Ciba. From 2005 until 2009, he was President of the Agricultural Products division, which was renamed Crop Protection at the beginning of 2008. In 1984, Mr Heinz started his career with BASF as a trainee. After having held several marketing positions from 1986 until 1995, he assumed the position of General Manager of BASF Ecuatoriana, based in Quito, Ecuador. Afterwards, he held several management positions in Mexico, Germany and the United States. Michael Heinz was born in Mannheim, Germany, in 1964. From 1984 onwards, he studied Business Administration at the College of Applied Sciences in Ludwigshafen, Germany, and graduated there in 1987. In 2000, he received his Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Duke University, North Carolina, United States.

Theresia Hacksteiner
General Secretary of the European Barge Union (EBU) and IVR

Theresia Hacksteiner is the General Secretary of the European Barge Union (EBU), the European inland navigation platform, and the IVR, the International Association which represents the common interests of inland shipping and insurance and maintains the register of inland vessels in Europe. After initially studying business administration in Austria (Graz), she studied law at Erasmus University Rotterdam, graduating in international law and Dutch private law. As General Secretary of the international umbrella associations for inland navigation, she champions their interests at pan-European level and represents the European inland navigation sector in all significant international bodies.

11.30
Dialogue with inland navigation players

14.15
Transport and logistics of the future – Opportunities and risks for inland navigation
Winfried Hermann

Transport Minister for the state of Baden-Württemberg

Winfried Hermann was born on 19 July 1952 in Rottenburg am Neckar, where he also grew up. After his A-levels at the Eugen-Bolz Grammar School in Rottenburg, he completed his Zivildienst (community service in lieu of military service) at a children’s home near Haigerloch. From 1973 until 1979 Mr Hermann studied German, political science and sport at the University of Tübingen. Subsequently, between 1979 and 1984, he did his teacher training and worked as a teacher at a grammar school in Stuttgart.

Winfried Hermann has been a member of the party Bündnis 90/Die Grünen since 1982. Two years later his political work began; he was a member of the state parliament focusing on the key areas of schools, youth and sport. This was followed by a further professional post as Head of Department of the Volkshochschule (vhs – adult education centre) in Stuttgart, where he was responsible for health and mobility, vhs coordination both internationally and inter-culturally and Local Agenda. From 1992 to 1997 Mr Hermann was state chairman of Bündnis 90/Die Grünen in Baden-Württemberg and from 1998 onwards he had a seat for thirteen years as a member of the German Bundestag. The focal areas of his work in Berlin were the environment, sustainable development, transport and sport. During his time as a member of the Bundestag, Hermann was the spokesman of the Buendnis 90/the Greens parliamentary group for sports, the environment and later transport policy. In 2009 he then took over as Chair of the transport, construction and urban development committee.

Since 12 May 2011 Winfried Hermann has been Minister of Transport in Baden-Württemberg.
Emile Hoogsteden

Logistics Director, Port of Rotterdam

Mr Emile Hoogsteden (1965) has been vice president Containers, Breakbulk & Logistics at the Port of Rotterdam since 2006. In this role, he is commercially responsible for containers (cargo-) acquisition, logistics, shipping line calls, leases etc.), breakbulk (other general cargo like forest products, steel, fruit, automotive etc. and RoRo) and logistics (i.e. road, rail, barge).

Mr Hoogsteden reports to the CEO of the Port of Rotterdam. Customer relationship management and networking form an important element of the role as well as high level governmental contacts (local, national and international).

Next to the above, Mr Hoogsteden is also Member of the Board of Rotterdam Port Promotion Council, Member of the Board of Blocklab and Member of the Board of Holland Logistics Promotion Platform.

Before joining the Port of Rotterdam, Mr Hoogsteden worked at: APM Terminals International B.V, The Hague (Sr. Director Projects and Business Development, region Europe, responsible for port/terminal development projects); P&O Nedlloyd B.V, Rotterdam (Director Terminal Development. Responsible for PONL’s “global terminal strategy” and General Manager Ports and Terminals, global responsibility for contracts with port authorities, terminal operators, pilots, towage companies etc.); ECT B.V, Rotterdam (Commercial Executive, acquisition of, negotiating, closing contracts/rate agreements with (consortia of) shipping lines).

Mr Hoogsteden studied Dutch (corporate) Law at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam.
**Arnd Köfler**

*Chief Technology Officer (CTO) at thyssenkrupp Steel Europe*

Dr. Köfler has been Chief Technology Officer (CTO) at thyssenkrupp Steel Europe since 1 January 2017, and as such is responsible for so-called "upstream activities", i.e. steel production from pig iron via crude steel to finished steel slab. After studying mechanical engineering, he began working in 1993 with Hüttenwerke Krupp Mannesmann GmbH (HKM) in Duisburg and has worked in thyssenkrupp's steel division since 2013. Dr Köfler’s executive board duties include responsibility for the thyssenkrupp subsidiary Veerhaven, which manages pushed barge Rhine traffic of around 30 mio. t of ores and coal annually. The company also operates one of Europe's most modern and largest handling facilities for bulk cargo, in Rotterdam. After Volkswagen, thyssenkrupp Steel Europe is Germany's second-biggest industrial logistics operator and depends on an intact and functioning tri-modal transport infrastructure. To this end the Rhine is of particular significance in supplying the headquarters location in Duisburg and in shipping to customers.

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**Joris Kerkhofs**

*Chair of the Inland Waterways section of the European Transport Workers Federation (ETF)*

Joris Kerkhofs has been working for the ACV since 1981 (Algemeen Christelijk Vakverband – Confédération des Syndicats Chrétiens (CSC)). With 1.6 million affiliates and 60% of the elected officials, the CSC is Belgium’s biggest trade union. Since 2001 he has been especially active in the inland navigation sector in Flanders, Belgium and at European level. He also sits as an industrial and social affairs adviser at the Antwerp Labour Court and also played an active part in drafting the ILO’s Maritime Labour Convention in Geneva.

In 2017 he became an adviser to the waterways section of the ETF, the official pan-European federation of transport sector workers. The ETF represents more than 2.5 million transport sector workers belonging to more than 230 national trade union organisations in 41 European countries. The ETF is a social partner recognised in seven European Commission social dialogue committees.
Magda Kopczynska
Director for Waterborne Transport Department, DG Move, European Commission

Magda Kopczynska has been Director for Waterborne Transport in the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport within the European Commission, since 16 October 2016. Her Directorate is responsible for the development and follow-up of the implementation of policies in support of logistics, maritime transport, ports, and inland navigation. After joining the European Commission in 2006, to work in the Directorate-General for Internal Market and Services, she was appointed as the Head of Unit for Clean Transport, Urban Transport and Intelligent Transport Systems – between May 2009 and June 2011. In July 2011 she became Head of Unit dealing with Maritime Transport policy and Logistics, until taking up the post of Director for Sustainable and Innovative Mobility in DG MOVE on 1 May 2014 until 15 October 2016.

Yuwei Li
Director of Sustainable Transport Division of the UNECE

Since February 2018, Mr Yuwei Li has been the Director of Sustainable Transport Division at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). Mr Li started his professional career as a transport engineer in 1983. After 13-years’ service in the fields of inland water, maritime and road transport in various transport institutions in China, he joined UNESCAP Transport Division early 1996 as an officer for inland water transport, and then for infrastructure, land transport facilitation and transport policy at different levels. Prior to joining UNECE, he was Director of UNESCAP Transport Division. He played a key role in the UNESCAP’s products on agreements, standards, frameworks, corridor plans, tools, indicators and research.
David Naftzger

Executive Director, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers
(Chicago, USA)

David Naftzger serves as the chief executive officer of the Conference of Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers. The Conference unites eight U.S. Governors and two Canadian Premiers working together to grow the region’s $6 trillion economy and protect its world-class environment.

David Naftzger manages an innovative economic portfolio that includes maritime transportation, tourism marketing and export promotion. He also spearheads an award-winning environmental program to protect about 20% of the world’s surface fresh water.

David Naftzger directs the Conference’s government relations and communications. He has been widely quoted by media including The Economist, New York Times, USA Today, Chicago Tribune and many others.

Separately, David Naftzger was an elected official serving as a City Councilman in Highland Park, Illinois. He served more than 30,000 residents, made local policy and helped steer a $70 million budget.

David Naftzger is a former consultant and worked with a national initiative to improve public health through increased calcium intake. Prior to that, he was a government relations director for the National Conference of State Legislatures in Washington, D.C.

David Naftzger earned a Master’s degree in Economics from the London School of Economics. He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from DePauw University and studied at the University of Freiburg, Germany.
Klemens Rethmann
CEO of Rethmann Group

Klemens Rethmann began his career in the family business in 1990 upon completion of his business administration studies. Until 1998 he managed companies in the recycling industry, in what is now Remondis. Between 1998 and 2007 he developed Saria as Spokesman of the Management Board. From 2007 onward he worked for Rhenus, where he initially assumed particular responsibility for expansion in the CIS countries.
Together with his three brothers he owns and develops the Rethmann Group. Rhenus has been one of the three pillars of the family-owned company since 1998. On 13 November 1912 the “Badische Actiengesellschaft für Rheinschiffahrt und Seetransport” and the “Rheinschiffahrts Actiengesellschaft” created a joint venture. They chose as their name the Latin word for the Rhine. The new company is registered in Frankfurt as Rhenus Transport GmbH. At the same time branch offices were set up in Mannheim, Mainz, Antwerp and Rotterdam.
Nowadays the Rhenus Group is a globally operating logistics company with turnover of EUR 4.8 billion. Rhenus boasts more than 610 sites and 29,000 employees. The Contract Logistics, Freight Logistics, Port Logistics and Public Transport business units represent the management of complex supply chains and innovative value-added services.
Rhenus maintains a dense network of terminals along the Rhine and its tributaries. It supplies shipping on the Rhine with bunkering services, is the market leader in river-sea transport and organises tri-modal containers in the hinterland of the North Sea ports via Contargo.
As the inspiration behind its name, the Rhine does not merely help forge a sense of identity for this globally oriented company; the free navigation of the Rhine is the essential economic basis for the company’s further development.
Judith Schmitz

*Head of the Eurocontrol legal service*

Judith Schmitz studied law in Trier and Norwich, being admitted to the bar in 2000. She worked as an in-house lawyer at DFS Deutsche Flugsicherung GmbH from 2000–2004. Since 2004, Judith Schmitz has been employed with the legal service of the European Organisation for air traffic management, EUROCONTROL, becoming head of the legal service in 2016. Her duties primarily concern the Law of International Organizations, international aviation law with a particular focus on Air Traffic Management, and references to European law as well as employment law pertaining to international officials.

Christian Specht

*First Deputy Mayor of the City of Mannheim, Chair of the Advisory Board of the Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor (EGTC)*

Christian Specht is Lord Mayor of the City of Mannheim and responsible as such for the finance, investments, IT, public safety and order, and municipal and regional public transport portfolios. He is also the Chair of the Rhine-Neckar transport association, which, with 3.2 million inhabitants, is Germany’s seventh largest such association, encompassing three federal states.

As Chair of the Rhine-Neckar metropolitan region’s Planning Committee, Mr Specht’s remit combines both regional urban planning and transport responsibilities. As Director of the Rhine-Neckar Region Association, Mr Specht played a key role in drawing up the new state treaty establishing the Rhine-Neckar metropolitan region. This coincided with him and his colleagues developing the Rhine transport area concept as a predecessor project of CODE24. This collaborative venture gave rise to the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) Rhine-Alps in which Mr Specht played an active role as Chair of the Advisory Board. The goal is to combine trimodal transport movements in the European Union’s most important transport corridor with urban and regional interests to create a common development space in a way that is citizen-centric and sustainable.

Christian Specht currently represents the interests of 250 European cities as Chair of the Eurocities transport forum in Brussels.
Christa Sys

*Professor at the University of Antwerp*

Christa Sys currently is holder of the BNP Paribas Fortis chair on transport, logistics and ports at the Department of Transport and Regional Economics. Until October 2013, Christa Sys was scientific director of the Research Centre on Freight and passengers flows. Next, she is course co-ordinator for the courses ‘Business Environment’, ‘Maritime Economics and Businesses’ and ‘Maritime Supply Chain’ at the Centre for Maritime and Air Transport (C-MAT). She also teaches at the Faculty of Applied Economics, University of Antwerp, the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, University of Ghent and at the University College Ghent, Faculty of Applied Business (Member of Ghent University Association). Her educational activities focus on (operational aspects of) maritime transport, transport economics and inland transportation. Her research centres on maritime economics and co-operation and competition in shipping.

She jointly graduated as a doctor in Applied Economics at the Ghent University and the University of Antwerp (December 2010). Her doctoral research dealt with the competitive conditions, the concentration and the market structure of the container liner shipping industry. This research was awarded by the Section of Technical Sciences of the Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences with the General Manager Fernand Suykens Prize for Port Studies.

Achim Wehrmann

*President of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR)*

Between March 1996 and December 2000 Achim Wehrmann worked in the German Bundestag as the research assistant for Member of the German Bundestag (MdB) Annette Faße, the deputy transport spokesperson for the SPD Parliamentary group. Since 2001, he has held various positions in the Federal German Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMWI), initially as personal adviser to the Parliamentary Secretary of State Angelika Mertens until July 2003. In August 2003, Mr Wehrmann took over as deputy head of the maritime shipping policy, maritime affairs and seaports unit. In September 2004 he was appointed as the head of this unit. This was followed in January 2007 by responsibility for the National maritime and inland navigation policy and port industry unit. Since October 2008, Mr Wehrmann has headed the Shipping section in the BMWI.