




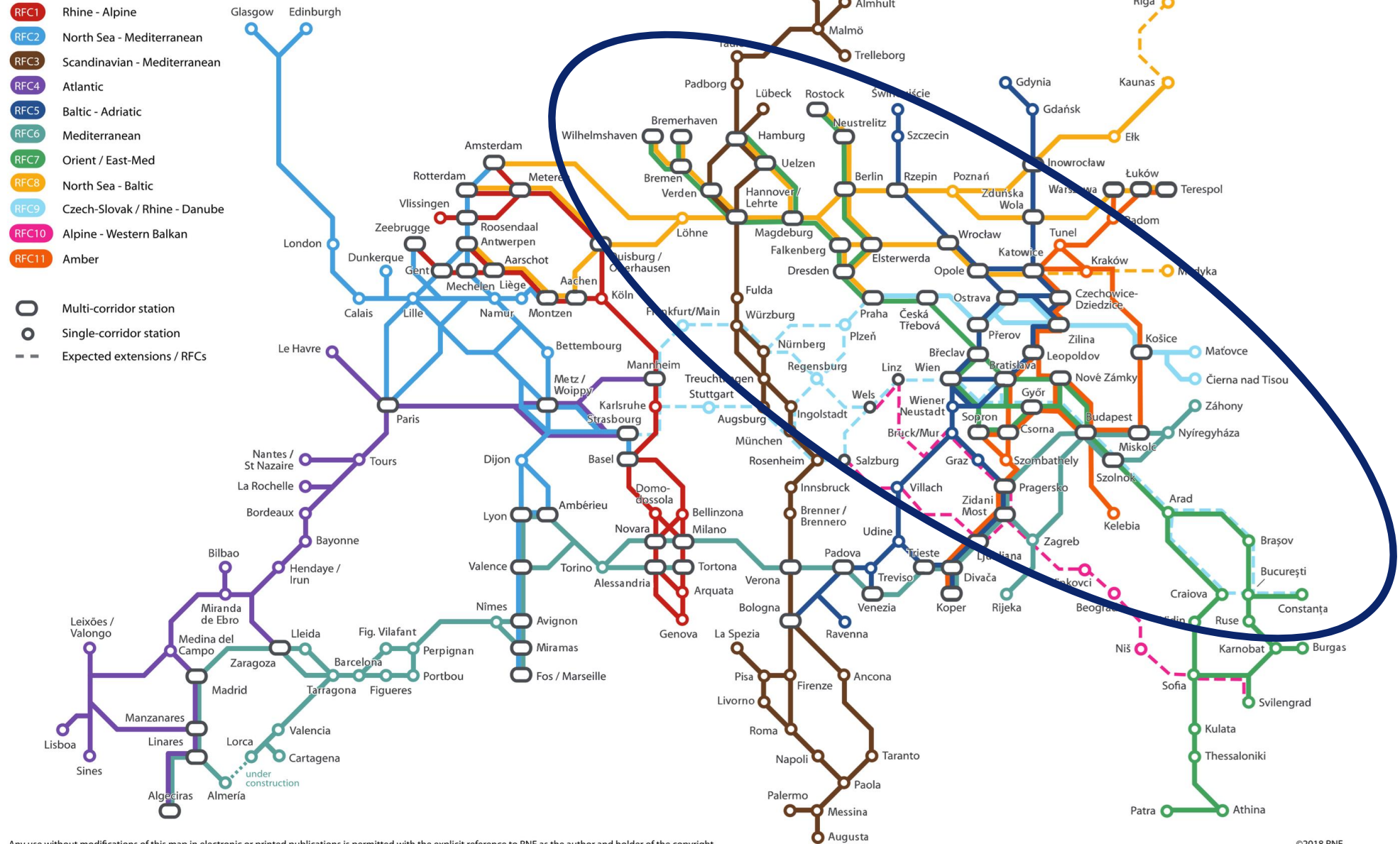
**RAIL
FREIGHT
CORRIDOR
Rhine-Danube**



Increasing relevance of the Rhine-Danube Corridor and inherent effects on European railway networks

 The Rhine-Danube corridor is located on the track section of the European railway network, which due to the war in Ukraine has seen in the last 12 months the largest increase in railway transports since years in Europe. This situation has caused significant repercussions on railway transports throughout Europe, creating partly a collapse of freight traffic across the continent

 For this reason, it is essential for the European Union to improve the fluidity of movements for rail freight on this track section, which over the last few months has become the most decisive of all the European rail corridors



Growing demands for Ukrainian agricultural products

-  It is now certain that this situation will continue, regardless of the outcome of the conflict in Ukraine. In fact, the demand for supply of cereals from Ukraine will increase even faster, as industrial consumers in Europe will find, that the countries products comply with the quality and traceability standards for processing in the European Union
-  Furthermore, the Ukrainian industrial sector will see rapid development after the conflict, by taking advantage of the professional skills of the Ukrainian population, which will cause an influx of traffic for the supply of factories and the transportation of final products after processing



Market effects on European railway networks

-  The size and geography of Ukraine makes rail freight even more attractive for its exchange with the European Union and it is therefore essential, that professions linked to the world of railway transportation take advantage of this situation and to take shares of the market over other means of transport
-  To facilitate this increase of transport volumes, solutions must be put in place to unclog the sectors which decrease the productivity efforts, particularly at the borders, in order to pass a threshold that ensures the development of logistics for the whole European continent

Finding solutions to simplify border controls

 Finally, it is crucial for the European Union to strive for developing a change of procedures for the collaboration between Ukraine and the UIC world, to avoid double handling of goods, which destroys the productivity of the rail transports, lowers the quality of the service, and congests the border stations

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