

In brief

Supporting and Reforming the Transport Operator's Competence - Developing a unified training package for the transport operator in Europe.

The project is implemented by 6 partners from [Finland](#), [Poland](#), [Austria](#), [Italy](#), [Spain](#) and [Bulgaria](#). In addition, the project involves a [Swiss](#) partner who has received separate funding for the project.

The project has started in September 2019 and ends on February 2022.

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ENSURING THE SKILLS OF TRANSPORT OPERATORS

In the transport sector, it has been observed over the last couple of years that the number of national and international road haulage and passenger transport operators is growing and more skills are needed. At the same time, it has been noted that the demand for foremen in the logistics and transport sector is increasing due to the increase in the number of transport companies. To start and operate as a transport operator, a traffic permit is required, in which the competence is determined once. After the approved performance, the permit is valid for the entire life and there is no later professional review. At European level, there is a common directive on Transport Operators Certificate, but implementation may vary from one Member State to another. The transport sector is currently at the center of rapid change and needs more coherence and training to better respond to change. Digitization, robotics, new technologies and environmental thinking are today in the transport sector that need information and training.

In order to support the skills of entrepreneurs and employees in the transport sector, new types of additional training, as well as profession-related information and skills, have been desired to facilitate everyday work. This desire and need was identified in different European countries, and at the same time the unity of the requirements of the whole profession and entry was sought to be clarified.

A group of project partners was formed around this idea, which created a frame of reference for the TOC - Transport Operators Competence project. The project received funding from the Finnish Erasmus + office in 2019 and was launched in October 2019.

To achieve the result, two steps were taken

Step 1. A questionnaire was drawn up on the role of transport professional skills in the development of a transport undertaking's business. The questionnaire was sent to the managers of 20 transport companies in each partner country. The survey reflected expertise in the EU 1071/2009 regulation, which had the following areas of expertise:

- Civil, commercial, fiscal and social law;
- Business and financial management;
- Access to the market;
- Technical standards and technical aspects of operation;
- Road safety.

Step 2. The analysis of the elements and documents of the operating license requirement related to the transport sector was carried out as an inter-operator study.

ANALYSIS OF TRANSPORT COMPANY'S PERFORMANCE PRACTICES AND COMPETENCE NEEDS IN DIFFERENT PARTNER COUNTRIES

In the first phase of the project, the partners have been working on legislation and a comparison of national practices in the transport sector. In addition, the current state of the transport company's competence and the need for additional competence have been clarified and analyzed. The results of this first phase of work are now ready for publication.

The first result is a competence map of the transport company's current and missing competencies. The result is utilized as a starting point for the next phases and results of the project.

The aim of this phase was to identify the areas of competence and skills of the transport entrepreneur and employee that they need in their daily work.

The results of the analysis based on the results of the questionnaire highlighted that many of the mentioned areas of expertise and needs are considered important. The conclusion is that all areas of expertise in EU Regulation 1071/2009 need to be included in further training, taking into account other factors related to today's changes, such as the environment, digitalisation and risk management (unexpected situations).

The result of the analysis of the documents, no major differences were found between partner countries, as most of the areas surveyed were based on Directive 1071/2009, which has been transposed fairly uniformly. The general reports, the national annexes and the comparative table is available at TOC website: <https://toc-project.eu>

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